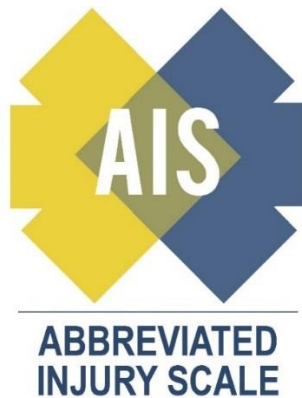


# Certification Examination for AIS Coding Specialists



**AIS Certification Board**

## Candidate Handbook 2021

APPLICATION DEADLINE*	TESTING BEGINS	TESTING ENDS
February 10, 2021	March 13, 2021	March 27, 2021
August 4, 2021	September 4, 2021	September 18, 2021

**\*Late applications will NOT be accepted**  
Apply online at [www.ptcny.com](http://www.ptcny.com)

Administered by:



1350 Broadway, Suite 800 | New York, NY 10018  
[www.ptcny.com/contact](http://www.ptcny.com/contact)

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*This handbook contains necessary information about the AIS Coding Specialist Certification (CAISS) Examination. Please retain it for future reference. Candidates are responsible for reading these instructions carefully. This handbook is subject to change.*

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## CONTACT INFORMATION

<p><b>Professional Testing Corporation (PTC)</b> <a href="http://www.ptcny.com">www.ptcny.com</a> (212) 356-0660</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Apply for examination</li><li>• Obtain general application policy and procedure information</li><li>• Obtain information about testing policies and procedures</li><li>• Transfer to a new testing period</li><li>• Request Special Accommodations</li><li>• Request Hand Score</li><li>• Question about score reports</li><li>• Miscellaneous inquiries</li></ul>
<p><b>Prometric</b> <a href="http://www.prometric.com/AISCB">http://www.prometric.com/AISCB</a> (800) 741-0934</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Schedule test appointment</li><li>• Reschedule test appointment (within a testing period)</li><li>• Cancel test appointment</li><li>• Find directions to test site</li><li>• Questions regarding testing sites and appointments</li></ul>
<p><b>Association for the Advancement of Automotive Medicine – AIS Certification Board (AISC.B)</b> <a href="https://www.aaam.org/abbreviated-injury-scale-ais/">https://www.aaam.org/abbreviated-injury-scale-ais/</a></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Training Course Information</li><li>• Abbreviated Injury Scale FAQs</li></ul>

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## ATTENTION CANDIDATES

This handbook contains necessary information about the AIS Coding Specialist Certification (CAISS) Examination. It is required reading for those applying for and taking the Examination. All individuals applying for the examination must comply with the policies, procedures, and deadlines in this Handbook and attest to this by signing the Candidate Attestation found on the application. Please retain this handbook for future reference. This handbook is subject to change. See [www.ptcny.com](http://www.ptcny.com) for handbook updates.

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## CERTIFICATION



The Association for the Advancement of Automotive Medicine (AAAM) is the parent body of the Abbreviated Injury Scale (AIS)\* and is the sponsor of the AIS Certification Board (AISC.B).

The AISC.B endorses the concept of *voluntary*, periodic certification by examination for all AIS Coding Specialists. Certification is one part of a process called credentialing. It focuses specifically on the individual and is an indication of current competence in a specialized area of practice. Board certification is highly valued and provides formal recognition of AIS coding knowledge and application.

\*AIS® is copyrighted by the AAAM and is used with its permission.

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## PURPOSES OF CERTIFICATION

TO PROMOTE COMPETENCE IN USE OF THE ABBREVIATED INJURY SCALE BY:

1. Recognizing formally those individuals who meet the eligibility requirements of the AIS Certification Board and pass the Certification Examination for AIS Coding Specialists.
2. Encouraging continued personal and professional growth in the practice of injury severity scoring using the AIS.
3. Establishing and measuring the level of knowledge required for certification in injury severity scoring using the AIS.
4. Providing a standard of knowledge requisite for certification, thereby assisting the employer, public, and members of the injury scoring community in the assessment of the AIS Coding Specialist.

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## TARGET AUDIENCE

CAISS is vital to those who are responsible for the collection, reporting, analysis and use of injured patient data, including trauma surgeons, neurosurgeons, orthopedic surgeons, emergency physicians, medical examiners, coroners, advanced practice nurses, trauma program managers, trauma data managers, trauma registrars, county, regional and state researchers, and engineers to name a few.

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## ELIGIBILITY REQUIREMENTS

It is highly recommended that candidates have a minimum of one year of experience using the Abbreviated Injury Scale. Candidates must meet the following requirements:

1. A minimum of a high school diploma or equivalent.
2. Completion and filing of an Application for the Certification Examination for AIS Coding Specialists.
3. Payment of required fee.

In addition, it is suggested that candidates have taken some coursework on the following topics: Human Anatomy, Medical Terminology, Uses and Techniques of Injury Scaling.

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## APPLICATION PROCEDURE

Read and follow the directions on the application and in this handbook; all applications must be completed online. Candidates must complete the examination application in full, using your name exactly as it appears on your current government-issued photo ID such as a driver's license or a passport. The completed application, with all documentation, can be submitted and paid for online at <http://www.ptcny.com/test-sponsors/aiscb>.

**Payment is due at the time of application. All applications will be reviewed for eligibility once payment is received. Candidates found to be ineligible or applications incomplete as of 21 days before the start of the chosen testing period will be refunded their examination fee minus a \$75.00 processing fee.**

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## EXAMINATION ADMINISTRATION AND SCHEDULING

The Certification Application for AIS Coding Specialists is administered during an established two-week testing window on a daily basis, excluding holidays, at computer-based testing facilities managed by Prometric.

### Scheduling Examination Appointments



Approximately eleven (11) weeks prior to the start of the testing window, approved candidates will be emailed a Scheduling Authorization from **notices@ptcny.com**. Please ensure you enter your correct email address on the application and add the 'ptcny.com' domain to your email safe list. If you do not receive a Scheduling Authorization eight (8) weeks prior to the start of your chosen testing window contact the Professional Testing Corporation at (212) 356-0660 or online at [www.ptcny.com/contact](http://www.ptcny.com/contact).

The Scheduling Authorization will indicate how to schedule your examination appointment with Prometric as well as the dates during which testing is available. Appointment times are first-come, first-serve, so schedule your appointment as soon as you receive your Scheduling Authorization in order to maximize your chance of testing at your preferred location and on your preferred date. **Candidates who wait until**

**the last minute run the risk of missing out on their preferred date, time, and testing center. Candidates unable to schedule an appointment will forfeit their fees.**

Candidates unable to take the examination during their chosen testing window will need to reapply for the examination and pay a new application fee.

After you make your test appointment, Prometric will send you a confirmation email with the date, time, and location of your exam. Please check this confirmation carefully for the correct date, time, and location. Contact Prometric at (800) 741-0934 if you do not receive this email confirmation or if there is a mistake with your appointment.

**Note:** International candidates may also schedule, reschedule, or cancel an appointment online at <http://www.prometric.com/AISCB>.

## **Scheduling a Remotely Proctored Examination Appointment**

If you prefer to test via live remote proctoring in your home or another quiet distraction free location you must provide a computer with a camera, microphone, and an internet connection to allow real-time communication with a remote proctor.

Please see our Live Remote Proctoring FAQs for more info: <https://ptcny.com/remote-proctor-faqs/>

**PLEASE BE ADVISED:** It is the candidate's responsibility to be sure their equipment and workspace meet all of the requirements for Live Remote Proctoring. If a candidate makes an appointment for remote proctoring and is unable to test due to not meeting technical requirements or physical requirements of the workspace, the candidate will forfeit their examination fees and will need to reapply for the next available testing window.

### **IMPORTANT!**

You **MUST** present your current driver's license, passport, or U.S. military ID at the test center. Expired, temporary, or paper driver's licenses will **NOT** be accepted.

The first and last name on your Scheduling Authorization **MUST** exactly match the first and last name on your photo ID.

**Fees will not be refunded for exams missed because of invalid ID.**

## **Rescheduling Examination Appointments within a Testing Period**

Candidates are able to reschedule their examination appointments within the same testing period as long as the request is submitted within the timeframe described below. Reschedule within the permitted time frame by calling or going to the Prometric website: <http://www.prometric.com/AISCB>.

Time Frame	Reschedule Permitted?	Stipulations
Requests submitted 30 days or more before the original appointment	Yes	None
Requests submitted 29 to 5 days before the original appointment	Yes	Candidate must pay Prometric a rescheduling fee of \$50.
Requests submitted less than 5 days before the original appointment	No	Candidates who do not arrive to test for their appointment will be considered a no-show and all their examinations fees will be forfeited. Candidates will need to reapply and pay full examination fees for a future testing period.

### Failing to Report for an Examination



If you fail to report for an examination, you will forfeit all fees paid to take the examination. A completed application form and examination fee are required to reapply for the examination.

## EXAMINATION APPLICATION FEES

Fee Type	Amount	Details
Application Fee	US \$350.00	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Non-refundable<sup>1</sup></li> <li>Non-transferable</li> <li>Includes testing center fees</li> <li>Includes non-refundable \$75 administrative fee</li> </ul>
Rescheduling Fee (29-5 days prior to scheduled appointment; see page 8)	US \$50.00	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><b>Applies to candidates who need to move their appointment within their current testing period</b></li> <li>Payable directly to Prometric</li> <li>Reschedule with Prometric online or over the phone</li> </ul>



**All fees are non-refundable and non-transferable.**

<sup>1</sup> Applicants who are ineligible to take the examination or whose applications are incomplete by the application deadline will have their examination fees returned minus an administrative fee.

There will be no refund of fees. **Please be advised: Prometric does not have the authority to grant transfers to another testing period or refunds.**

There will be no refund of fees except if applicants are ineligible for the examination. Ineligible candidates will be refunded their fees minus an administrative fee. Please be advised: Prometric does not have the authority to grant transfers to another testing period or refunds. All requests must be made through PTC.

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## SPECIAL ACCOMMODATIONS

AISC.B and PTC support the intent of and comply with the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA). PTC will take steps reasonably necessary to make certification accessible to persons with disabilities covered under the ADA. According to the ADA, an individual with a disability is a person who has a physical or mental impairment that substantially limits a major life activity (such as seeing, hearing, learning, reading, concentrating, walking) or a major bodily function (such as neurological, endocrine, or digestive system). The information you provide and any documentation regarding your disability and special test accommodations will be held in strict confidence.

All approved testing accommodations must maintain the psychometric nature and security of the examination. Accommodations that fundamentally alter the nature or security of the exam will not be granted.

Special testing arrangements may be made upon receipt of the Application, examination fee, and a completed and signed Request for Special Needs Accommodations Form, available from [www.ptcnyc.com/PDF/PTC\\_SpecialAccommodationRequestForm.pdf](http://www.ptcnyc.com/PDF/PTC_SpecialAccommodationRequestForm.pdf) or by calling PTC at (212) 356-0660.

This Form must be uploaded with the online application no later than 8 weeks prior to the start of your chosen testing period. Candidates who do not submit their Special Accommodations Form with their application may not be able to test during their chosen testing period and therefore be subject to rescheduling or transfer fees.

**Only those requests made and received on the official Request for Special Needs Accommodations Form will be reviewed. Letters from doctors and other healthcare professionals must be accompanied by the official Form and will not be accepted without the Form. All requests must be made at the time of application. Accommodations cannot be added to an existing exam appointment.**

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## PREPARING FOR THE EXAMINATION

- Check your government issued photo ID (driver's license, passport or U.S. Military ID) when you make your examination appointment. Is it expired? Does the first and last name on your ID match the first and last name on your Scheduling Authorization email? Proctors at the Prometric testing center will refuse admission to candidates with expired IDs, IDs with names that do not match their records, and temporary paper IDs. Candidates will be marked as no-shows and will forfeit their exam fees.



- Check your PTC Scheduling Authorization email and Appointment Confirmation email from Prometric to make sure everything is accurate (i.e. your name, exam name, appointment date, time and location).
- Make yourself familiar with the location of your chosen testing site and any requirements they may have for parking and check the weather and traffic conditions before you leave for the testing center. Make sure you give yourself plenty of time to arrive as late arrival may prevent you from testing.
- In the event of inclement weather, check the Prometric website for site closures: <https://www.prometric.com/closures>.
- Prometric's website provides information on what you can expect on your test day, including a walkthrough of check in and security procedures: <https://www.prometric.com/test-center-security>.
- This Handbook provides the Content Outline for the Examination (see appendix). Use these to help you start studying for the examination.
- Review What to Expect at the Test Center and Rules for the Examination on the next pages before your appointment.

## IF YOU ARE TESTING VIA LIVE REMOTE PROCTORING

- Be sure to check your system compatibility BEFORE you schedule and again before your appointment.
- The check in process is about 30 minutes long and is not factored into your appointment. Be sure to log into ProProctor to start your exam at least 30 minutes prior to your appointment time
- **No scratch paper is allowed.** Be sure your workspace is clear of any extra items and electronic devices except for your government issued photo ID.
- Read the Live Remote Proctoring FAQs here: <https://ptcnny.com/remote-proctor-faqs/>

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## WHAT TO EXPECT AT THE TESTING CENTER

PTC has partnered with Prometric Testing Centers to deliver examinations to candidates. Here is what you can expect when you arrive at your Prometric Testing Center.

- Candidate Check-In
  - Candidates will be asked to present their IDs
  - Candidates will be asked to empty and turn out their pockets
  - Candidates will be “wanded” or asked to walk through a metal detector
  - Inspection of eyeglasses, jewelry, and other accessories will be conducted. Jewelry other than wedding and engagement rings is prohibited.
  - Religious headwear may be worn into the testing room; however, it may be subject to inspection by a testing center administrator before entry into the testing room is permitted.
  - Prometric provides lockers for candidates to store their purses, mobile phones, jackets, food, drinks and medical supplies.
- During the Exam
  - No breaks are scheduled during the exam. Candidates who must leave the testing room to take a break will not be given extra time on the exam
  - Accessing mobile phones or study materials during the examination is prohibited
  - Smoking is prohibited at the testing center
  - All examinations are monitored and may be recorded in both audio and video format

Please keep in mind: other exams will be administered at the same time as your examination. Therefore, examinees may hear ambient noises such as typing, coughing, or people entering and exiting the testing room that cannot be avoided. Prometric is unable to provide a completely noise-free environment. However, headphones may be requested to minimize impact.

Please see [Prometric’s website](#) for more information about what to expect on testing day.

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## RULES FOR THE EXAMINATION

Please read the information below carefully. You are responsible for adhering to the examination rules while at the testing center.

- ⇒ You must present your current, government issued photo ID (such as a driver’s license or passport) at the time of your scheduled appointment. Candidates without valid ID will NOT be permitted to test. Temporary or paper copies of your ID will not be accepted.
- ⇒ No Electronic devices that can be used to record, transmit, receive, or play back audio, photographic, text, or video content, including but not limited to, cell phones, laptop computers, tablets, Bluetooth devices; wearable technology



(such as smart watches), MP3 players (such as iPods), pagers, cameras and voice recorders are permitted to be used and cannot be taken in the examination room. The test center may have lockers, or you may be asked to lock your personal items in your car. For this reason, we suggest that you do not bring personal items with you, other than what is specifically needed for your examination.

- ⇒ No papers, books, or reference materials may be taken into or removed from the testing room.
- ⇒ No questions concerning content of the examination may be asked during the examination session. The candidate should read carefully the directions that are provided on screen at the beginning of the examination session.
- ⇒ Candidates are prohibited from leaving the testing room while their examination is in session, with the sole exception of going to the restroom.
- ⇒ Bulky clothing, such as sweatshirts (hoodies), jackets, coats and hats (except hats worn for religious reasons), may not be worn while taking the examination.
- ⇒ All watches and “Fitbit” type devices cannot be worn during the examination. It is suggested that these items are not brought to the test center.
- ⇒ No food/beverages are permitted inside the testing room. Leave these items in your assigned locker.

Contact PTC at (212) 356-0660 or [www.ptcny.com/contact](http://www.ptcny.com/contact) with any questions about the Examination Rules.

**Violation of any of the rules listed above may lead to forfeiture of fees, dismissal from the testing room, and cancellation of your test scores.**

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## TESTING CONDITIONS OR EXAMINATION FEEDBACK

Any candidate who feels that the examination effort was negatively impacted by the test center conditions should notify the proctor immediately. The situation should also be reported to PTC at [www.ptcnyc.com/contact](http://www.ptcnyc.com/contact) within 3 business days of the test appointment. Any comments about the test itself should also be reported to PTC at [www.ptcnyc.com/contact](http://www.ptcnyc.com/contact) within 3 business days of the test appointment.

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## REPORT OF RESULTS

Candidates will be notified in writing by PTC within four weeks of the close of the testing period whether they have passed or failed the examination. Scores on the major areas of the examination and on the total examination will be reported.

### Setting the Passing Score

To ensure that pass/fail decisions are based on sound testing practices, AISC.B uses a criterion referenced standard setting methodology.

The passing score for the CAISS Examination represents an absolute standard and is determined using the modified Angoff technique, a well-established, and widely adopted, consistent approach in the testing industry. A panel of subject matter experts carefully evaluate each item on the examination and estimate the probability that each individual question will be answered correctly by a minimally competent/just qualified candidate. The recommended passing score is then reviewed and approved by AISC.B.

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## REQUESTING A HANDSCORE

Candidates who fail the examination may request a hand scoring of their data file. Hand scoring is a manual check of the data file by the testing service to determine if there have been any errors in scoring. Although the probability of such an error is extremely remote, this service is available. Requests for hand scoring must be received by PTC no later than 90 days after the date of the examination by completing and returning the Request of Handscore form on [www.ptcnyc.com](http://www.ptcnyc.com) with payment of \$25. Candidates who fail the examination will not be permitted to see the examination questions. For reasons of test security, no candidate is allowed to review the examination or any of its items.

To ensure correct reporting of results, PTC automatically performs handscores of examinations of candidates who score within 3 points of passing as a quality control measure. Thus, it is extremely doubtful that any examination results will change from “fail” to “pass” through handscoring.

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## CONFIDENTIALITY

The AISC.B will release the individual test scores ONLY to the individual candidate. Any questions concerning test results should be referred to AISC.B or the Professional Testing Corporation.

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## REEXAMINATION

The Certification Examination for AIS Coding Specialists may be taken as often as desired upon filing of a new Application and fee. There is no limit to the number of times the examination may be repeated.

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## ATTAINMENT OF CERTIFICATION AND RECERTIFICATION

Eligible candidates who pass the Certification Examination for AIS Coding Specialists are eligible to use the registered designation CAISS after their names and will receive certificates from the AISC.B. A registry of Certified AIS Coding Specialists will be maintained by the AISC.B and may be reported in its or AAAM publications.

Certification is recognized for a period of five years at which time the candidate must retake and pass the current Certification Examination for AIS Coding Specialists or meet such alternative requirements as are in effect at that time in order to retain certification.

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## REVOCATION OF CERTIFICATION

Certification will be revoked for any of the following reasons:

1. Falsification of an Application.
2. Misrepresentation of certification status.

The Appeals Committee of the AISC.B provides the appeal mechanism for challenging revocation of Board Certification. It is the responsibility of the individual to initiate this process.

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## CONTENT OF EXAMINATION

The Certification Examination for AIS Coding Specialists is a computer-based examination composed of a maximum of 250 multiple-choice, objective questions with a total testing time of four (4) hours.

The content for the examination is based on AIS 2005, Update 2008, and is described in the Content Outline below. The questions for the examination are obtained from individuals with expertise in use of AIS and are reviewed for construction, accuracy, and appropriateness by the AISC.B. The AISC.B, with the advice and assistance of the Professional Testing Corporation, prepares the examination.

The Certification Examination for AIS Coding Specialists will be weighted in approximately the following manner:

CONTENT AREA	%
ANATOMY	20%
MEDICAL TERMINOLOGY AS RELATED TO INJURY DIAGNOSES	10%
CODING FUNDAMENTALS	25%
IDENTIFICATION AND CODING OF INJURY DESCRIPTIONS	45%

## CONTENT OUTLINE

### I. ANATOMY

- A. Head
  - 1. Intracranial vessels
  - 2. Cranial nerves
  - 3. Meninges
  - 4. Brain stem
  - 5. Cerebellum
  - 6. Cerebrum
  - 7. Skull
  - 8. Other Intracranial Structures
- B. Face
  - 1. Vessels
  - 2. Nerves
  - 3. Eye
  - 4. Ear
  - 5. Nose
  - 6. Mouth
  - 7. Bones
- C. Neck
  - 1. Vessels
  - 2. Nerves
  - 3. Upper airway structures
  - 4. Salivary and thyroid glands
  - 5. Larynx
  - 6. Esophagus
- D. Chest
  - 1. Vessels
  - 2. Nerves
  - 3. Lower airway structures
  - 4. Esophagus
  - 5. Heart
  - 6. Lung
  - 7. Bones
  - 8. Muscles
- E. Abdomen
  - 1. Vessels
  - 2. Nerves
  - 3. Gastrointestinal tract
  - 4. Genitourinary tract
  - 5. Liver
  - 6. Spleen
  - 7. Pancreas
- F. Spine - Cervical/Thoracic/Lumbar
  - 1. Spinal cord
  - 2. Nerves
  - 3. Ligaments
  - 4. Discs
  - 5. Vertebrae

### G. Upper Extremities

- 1. Vessels
- 2. Nerves
- 3. Muscles
- 4. Tendons
- 5. Ligaments
- 6. Joints
- 7. Bones

### H. Lower Extremities

- 1. Vessels
- 2. Nerves
- 3. Muscles
- 4. Tendons
- 5. Ligaments
- 6. Joints
- 7. Bones

### I. External

- 1. Skin
- 2. Subcutaneous tissues

### II. MEDICAL TERMINOLOGY AS RELATED TO INJURY DIAGNOSES

#### A. Injury Descriptors

- 1. Vessel or hollow organ
  - a. Perforation
  - b. Intimal tear
  - c. Circumferential involvement
  - d. Laceration
  - e. Transection
  - f. Aneurysm
- 2. Solid organ
  - a. Contusion/hematoma
  - b. Laceration
  - c. Stellate
  - d. Rupture
  - e. Organ Injury Scale (OIS)
  - f. Avulsion
- 3. Skeletal
  - a. Articular
  - b. Proximal
  - c. Diaphyseal
  - d. Distal
  - e. Complex/comminuted
  - f. Segmental
- 4. Neurologic
  - a. Level of consciousness
  - b. Neurological deficit
  - c. Palsy

- B. Injury Types
  - 1. Head
    - a. Closed head injury
    - b. Shearing injury/diffuse axonal injury (DAI)
    - c. Hemorrhage
    - d. Contusion/hematoma
    - e. Crush
  - 2. Face
    - a. LeFort fractures
    - b. Enucleation
    - c. Panfacial fractures
    - d. Hemorrhage
  - 3. Chest
    - a. Pneumothorax
    - b. Hemothorax
    - c. Flail chest
    - d. Crush
    - e. Sucking chest wound
    - f. Tamponade
  - 4. Extremities
    - a. Amputation
    - b. Crush
    - c. Sprain/strain
    - d. Subluxation
    - e. Dislocation
    - f. Fractures
      - 1. Open/compound/closed/avulsion
      - 2. Stable/unstable
  - 5. External
    - a. Abrasion
    - b. Contusion
    - c. Laceration
    - d. Avulsion
    - e. Degloving
    - f. Penetrating
    - g. Partial/full thickness
  - 6. Spine
    - a. Dislocation
    - b. Fracture
    - c. Herniation
- C. Conditions
  - 1. Head
    - a. Brain edema
    - b. Brain swelling
    - c. Coma
    - d. Concussion
    - e. Herniation
    - f. Loss of consciousness
    - g. Decorticate/Decerebrate Posturing
  - 2. Extremity
    - a. Compartment syndrome
    - b. Palsy/paralysis

- 3. Vessel
  - a. Thrombosis
  - b. Occlusion
  - c. Devascularization
- 4. Spine
  - a. Complete cord syndrome
  - b. Incomplete cord syndrome
- 5. External
  - a. Burns
  - b. Frostbite
  - c. Hypothermia

### III. CODING FUNDAMENTALS

- A. Rules and Guidelines for AIS Coding
  - 1. Generic
  - 2. Organ/structure specific
- B. Injury Scores
  - 1. Predot (Unique Numerical Identifier)
  - 2. Postdot (AIS Severity)
  - 3. Accuracy/specificity of codes
- C. Severity Numbers
  - 1. Minor
  - 2. Moderate
  - 3. Serious
  - 4. Severe
  - 5. Critical
  - 6. Maximal
- D. AIS Uses
  - 1. Maximum AIS (MAIS)
  - 2. Injury Severity Score (ISS)

### IV. IDENTIFICATION AND CODING OF INJURY DESCRIPTIONS

- A. Review of Medical Record
  - 1. Identification of pertinent documentation
  - 2. Identification of injuries
  - 3. Substantiation of diagnoses and injury descriptors
- B. Assignment of AIS Code
  - 1. Matching of medical record injury descriptors with dictionary descriptors
  - 2. Application of pertinent rules and guidelines
  - 3. Assignment to ISS body region
- C. AIS Dictionary
  - 1. Structure
  - 2. Content

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## SAMPLE EXAMINATION QUESTIONS

In the following questions, choose the one best answer.

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1. A patient is involved in a motor vehicle crash. After evaluation and testing, the patient went to surgery for repair of a transection of the small bowel. The most appropriate code would be

1. 541420.2 – laceration NFS.
2. 541422.2 – no perforation; partial thickness; < 50% of circumference.
3. 541424.3 – perforation; full thickness  $\geq$  50% of circumference.
4. 541426.4 – massive, complex, avulsion, rupture, tissue loss, transection.

---

2. If a patient has a fracture of T-12 and L-1, how many ISS body regions are involved?

1. 1
2. 2
3. 3
4. 4

---

3. Lamina papyracea is part of the

1. spine.
2. rib cage.
3. pelvic ring.
4. orbit of the eye.

---

4. To what ISS body region should a lower esophageal injury be assigned?

1. Face
2. Chest
3. Abdominal or pelvic contents
4. Head or neck

---

5. The maximum AIS (MAIS) ranges from

1. 1 to 5.
2. 1 to 6.
3. 1 to 9.
4. 1 to 75.

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6. A CT head report states extra-axial blood collection. This should be coded as

1. 140629.3 Cerebrum Hematoma (hemorrhage) NFS.
2. 140630.3 Cerebrum Epidural or Extradural NFS.
3. 140650.3 Cerebrum Subdural NFS.
4. 140699.3 Cerebrum NFS.

CORRECT ANSWERS TO SAMPLE QUESTIONS

1. 4; 2. 2; 3. 4; 4. 2; 5. 2; 6. 1



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## PRACTICE TEST

A practice test consisting of 50 questions with a testing time of 2 hours is available online in order to assist candidates in preparing for the Certification Examination.

The online practice test is an optional tool candidates may use as they prepare for the certification examination. While the practice test may help candidates identify areas of strengths and weakness, it should not be used as the only means to determine candidate preparedness or readiness to test. Since the practice test is NOT intended to be a study guide nor the sole source of preparation for the actual certification examination, candidates are NOT provided with the answer key, rationales for each question, nor notification of which specific items were answered correctly or incorrectly.

Though the specific questions that are on the practice test will not appear on the actual certification examination, it allows candidates to become familiar with the style of questions that may be asked. The instant score report received after practice test submission shows overall test performance as well as performance in each of the content areas. Candidates may find this information useful in determining future study needs. Once the practice test is scored, candidates cannot return to the test to review the questions. Performance on the practice test does not guarantee similar performance on the actual certification examination.

The PTC Online Testing System does not demonstrate the testing software used during the certification examinations. Those who purchase the online practice test should be aware that they will use a different testing platform when they take certification examinations at designated proctored testing centers.

The practice test is not a requirement for certification eligibility nor does it contribute in any way to success on the certification examination. There are many ways candidates should prepare for the certification examination. Candidates should use a variety of resources and consider their own education and experiences. Review the content outline and reference materials listed in the handbook for additional exam-related information.

The practice test can be found at the PTC website at: <http://www.ptcnyc.com/test-sponsors/AISC-B>.

## REFERENCES

The AAAM's AIS Certification Board has prepared a suggested reference list to assist in preparing for the Certification Examination for AIS Coding Specialists. These references include information of significance to AIS coding practice. Inclusion of certain references on this list does not constitute an endorsement by the AISC.B of specific professional literature which, if used, would guarantee candidates successful passing of the certification examination.

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