

# Content Blueprint for the Physician Assistant National Recertifying Examination (PANRE) and the Pilot Alternative to PANRE (effective January 2019)

Information on how the blueprint was developed may be accessed using the following link:

[PANRE and Pilot Alternative to PANRE Content Blueprint \(effective January 2019\) - Introduction](#)

## Organized by Content Category

The diseases and disorders that may be covered on PANRE and the Pilot Alternative to PANRE are provided below. Also provided is the level at which each disease and disorder will be assessed. The levels are defined as follows:

Level 1: Recognize most likely diagnosis using signs, symptoms, and risks; refer appropriately.

Level 2: Make appropriate diagnosis by recognizing signs, symptoms, risks and/or interpreting results of diagnostic studies, and have knowledge of first-line treatment.

Level 3: Make appropriate diagnosis by recognizing signs, symptoms, risks and/or interpreting results of diagnostic studies and have knowledge of first-line treatment. In addition, have knowledge required to manage well-known comorbid conditions, contraindications, and complications.

In addition to covering the topics listed in the following categories, up to 2% of the questions on PANRE and the Pilot Alternative to PANRE may cover professional practice (legal and ethical) issues. Due to the limited number of questions on PANRE and the Pilot Alternative to PANRE, it is not possible to include all topics on a single exam. The percentage allocations are approximate and may vary slightly with each exam.

The content blueprint arranged by assessment level instead of content category may be accessed using the following link:

[PANRE and Pilot Alternative to PANRE Content Blueprint \(effective January 2019\) – organized by assessment level](#)

## Content Category

Cardiovascular System: 13%*			
<i>Diseases and Disorders</i>	<i>Level 1</i>	<i>Level 2</i>	<i>Level 3</i>
Abdominal aortic aneurysm	●		
Acute myocardial infarction: non–ST-segment elevation myocardial infarction (NSTEMI)	●	●	
Acute myocardial infarction: ST-segment elevation myocardial infarction (STEMI)	●	●	
Acute pericarditis	●	●	
Acute/subacute bacterial endocarditis	●		
Angina pectoris (stable angina)	●	●	●
Aortic dissection	●	●	
Aortic stenosis	●		
Arterial embolism/thrombosis	●	●	
Atrial fibrillation	●	●	●
Atrial flutter	●	●	
Atrioventricular block	●		

Bundle branch block	●		
Cardiac tamponade	●	●	
Cardiogenic shock	●		
Coronary artery disease	●	●	●
Deep venous thrombosis	●	●	●
Diastolic heart failure	●		
Dilated cardiomyopathy	●		
Essential hypertension (in adults)	●	●	●
Hypercholesterolemia	●	●	●
Hypertensive emergency	●	●	
Hypertriglyceridemia	●	●	●
Hypertrophic cardiomyopathy	●		
Iliac artery occlusion	●		
Mitral regurgitation	●		
Mitral valve prolapse	●		
Orthostatic hypotension	●	●	
Paroxysmal supraventricular tachycardia	●	●	
Pericardial effusion	●		
Peripheral artery disease	●	●	
Phlebitis/thrombophlebitis	●	●	
Premature atrial/ventricular contractions	●	●	
Prinzmetal variant angina	●		
Secondary hypertension	●	●	
Sick sinus syndrome	●		
Systolic heart failure	●	●	
Temporal arteritis	●	●	
Thoracic aortic aneurysm	●		
Torsades de pointes	●	●	
Unstable angina	●	●	
Varicose veins	●	●	
Venous insufficiency	●	●	
Ventricular fibrillation	●	●	
Ventricular tachycardia	●	●	

<b>Dermatologic System: 6%*</b>			
<b><i>Diseases and Disorders</i></b>	<b><i>Level 1</i></b>	<b><i>Level 2</i></b>	<b><i>Level 3</i></b>
Acne vulgaris	●	●	
Actinic keratosis	●	●	
Acute urticaria, Drug eruptions	●	●	
Atopic dermatitis	●	●	
Basal cell carcinoma	●		
Burns	●	●	
Cellulitis, Erysipelas	●	●	●
Contact dermatitis	●	●	
Erythema multiforme	●		
Herpes simplex virus	●	●	
Hidradenitis suppurativa	●	●	
Impetigo	●	●	
Lipomas/epidermal inclusion cysts	●	●	
Melanoma	●		
Molluscum contagiosum	●	●	
Onychomycosis, Dermatophyte infections	●	●	
Paronychia	●	●	
Pilonidal disease	●	●	
Pityriasis rosea	●	●	
Pressure ulcers	●	●	
Psoriasis	●	●	
Rosacea	●	●	
Scabies, Lice infestation	●	●	
Seborrheic dermatitis	●	●	
Spider bites	●	●	
Squamous cell carcinoma	●		
Toxic epidermal necrolysis, Stevens-Johnson syndrome	●		
<b>Endocrine System: 6%*</b>			
<b><i>Diseases and Disorders</i></b>	<b><i>Level 1</i></b>	<b><i>Level 2</i></b>	<b><i>Level 3</i></b>
Benign thyroid nodules	●		
Cushing syndrome	●		
Diabetes insipidus	●		
Hyperparathyroidism	●		
Hyperthyroidism/thyrototoxicosis	●	●	
Hypoparathyroidism	●		
Hypothyroidism	●	●	●
Metabolic syndrome and obesity	●	●	●
Osteoporosis	●	●	●
Primary adrenal insufficiency	●		
Thyroid cancer	●		
Thyroiditis	●	●	
Type 1 diabetes mellitus	●	●	●
Type 2 diabetes mellitus	●	●	●

<b>Eyes, Ears, Nose, and Throat: 8%*</b>			
<b><i>Diseases and Disorders</i></b>	<b><i>Level 1</i></b>	<b><i>Level 2</i></b>	<b><i>Level 3</i></b>
Acute epiglottitis	●	●	
Acute pharyngitis	●	●	●
Acute/chronic otitis media	●	●	●
Acute/chronic sinusitis	●	●	
Allergic rhinitis	●	●	
Aphthous ulcers	●	●	
Blepharitis	●	●	
Cataract	●		
Chalazion	●	●	
Conjunctivitis	●	●	
Corneal abrasion	●	●	
Corneal ulcer	●		
Epistaxis	●	●	
Eustachian tube dysfunction	●	●	
Foreign body in ear	●	●	
Foreign body in eye	●	●	
Foreign body in nose	●	●	
Glaucoma	●		
Hearing loss	●		
Hordeolum	●	●	
Hyphema	●		
Labyrinthitis	●		
Laryngitis	●	●	
Mastoiditis	●	●	
Meniere disease	●	●	
Nystagmus	●		
Oral candidiasis	●	●	●
Oral leukoplakia	●		
Orbital blowout fracture	●		
Orbital cellulitis	●	●	
Otitis externa	●	●	
Papilledema	●		
Parotitis	●		
Peritonsillar abscess	●	●	
Retinal detachment	●		
Tinnitus	●		
Tympanic membrane perforation	●	●	
Vertigo	●	●	

<b>Gastrointestinal System/Nutrition: 11%*</b>			
<b><i>Diseases and Disorders</i></b>	<b><i>Level 1</i></b>	<b><i>Level 2</i></b>	<b><i>Level 3</i></b>
Acute hepatitis	●		
Acute/chronic cholecystitis	●	●	
Acute/chronic pancreatitis	●	●	
Anal abscess/fistula	●		
Anal fissure	●	●	
Appendicitis	●	●	●
Celiac disease	●		
Cholangitis	●		
Cholelithiasis	●	●	
Chronic hepatitis	●		
Cirrhosis	●		
Colon cancer	●		
Constipation	●	●	●
Diverticulitis/diverticulosis	●	●	
Esophageal varices	●		
Esophagitis	●	●	
Fecal impaction	●	●	
Food allergies	●	●	
Foreign body ingestion	●	●	
Gastritis	●	●	
Gastroesophageal reflux disease	●	●	●
Hemorrhoids	●	●	
Hernias	●	●	
Infectious diarrhea	●	●	
Inflammatory bowel disease	●	●	
Ingestion of caustic substance	●		
Intentional overdose of medication	●	●	
Intussusception	●		
Irritable bowel syndrome	●	●	
Ischemic bowel disease	●		
Large-bowel obstruction	●		
Mallory-Weiss tear	●		
Noninfectious diarrhea	●	●	
Peptic ulcer disease	●	●	
Pyloric stenosis	●		
Small-bowel obstruction	●	●	
Toxic megacolon	●		

<b>Genitourinary System: 5%*</b>			
<b><i>Diseases and Disorders</i></b>	<b><i>Level 1</i></b>	<b><i>Level 2</i></b>	<b><i>Level 3</i></b>
Acute prostatitis	●	●	
Bacterial cystitis	●	●	
Benign prostatic hyperplasia	●	●	
Bladder cancer	●		
Chronic prostatitis	●	●	
Epididymitis	●	●	
Erectile dysfunction	●	●	
Fecal incontinence	●		
Hydrocele/varicocele	●		
Nephrolithiasis/urolithiasis	●	●	
Orchitis	●	●	
Paraphimosis/phimosis	●		
Prostate cancer	●		
Testicular cancer	●		
Testicular torsion	●	●	
Urethritis	●	●	
Urinary incontinence	●	●	
<b>Hematologic System: 4%*</b>			
<b><i>Diseases and Disorders</i></b>	<b><i>Level 1</i></b>	<b><i>Level 2</i></b>	<b><i>Level 3</i></b>
Acute/chronic lymphocytic leukemia	●		
Anemia of chronic disease	●		
Factor V Leiden hypercoagulability	●		
Folate deficiency anemia	●	●	
Hemolytic anemia	●		
Hodgkin lymphoma	●		
Hypocoagulable states	●		
Iron deficiency anemia	●	●	
Non-Hodgkin lymphoma	●		
Sickle cell anemia	●		
Thrombotic thrombocytopenic purpura	●		
Vitamin B <sub>12</sub> deficiency anemia	●	●	

<b>Infectious Diseases: 6%*</b>			
<b><i>Diseases and Disorders</i></b>	<b><i>Level 1</i></b>	<b><i>Level 2</i></b>	<b><i>Level 3</i></b>
Acute rheumatic fever	●	●	
Chickenpox/herpes zoster	●	●	●
Chlamydial infections	●	●	
Epstein-Barr virus infections	●	●	
Gonococcal infections	●	●	
HIV infection	●		
Human papillomavirus infections	●	●	
Influenza	●	●	●
Lyme disease	●	●	
Measles	●	●	
Mumps	●	●	
Pinworm infestation	●	●	
Rabies	●		
Rocky Mountain spotted fever	●	●	
Roseola	●	●	
Rubella	●	●	
Syphilis	●	●	
Tetanus	●		
Tuberculosis	●	●	
Vaginal candidiasis	●	●	

<b>Musculoskeletal System: 9%*</b>			
<b><i>Diseases and Disorders</i></b>	<b><i>Level 1</i></b>	<b><i>Level 2</i></b>	<b><i>Level 3</i></b>
Acute/chronic osteomyelitis	●		
Avascular necrosis	●		
Back strain/sprain, Lower back injuries	●	●	
Biceps tendinitis	●	●	
Carpal tunnel syndrome	●	●	
Cauda equina syndrome	●		
Compartment syndrome	●		
de Quervain tenosynovitis	●	●	
Fibromyalgia	●	●	
Fractures and dislocations: knee/patella, ankle/foot, forearm/wrist/hand, shoulder, hip, spine	●		
Ganglion	●	●	
Gout/pseudogout	●	●	
Kyphosis	●		
Lateral and medial epicondylitis	●	●	
Osgood-Schlatter disease	●	●	
Osteoarthritis	●	●	
Rheumatoid arthritis	●	●	
Rotator cuff tear	●		
Scoliosis	●		
Septic arthritis	●	●	
Shoulder bursitis	●	●	
Shoulder tendinitis	●	●	
Slipped capital femoral epiphysis	●		
Soft-tissue injuries: knee, foot/ankle, forearm/wrist/hand	●	●	
Spinal disk herniation	●		
Spinal stenosis	●	●	
Systemic lupus erythematosus	●		



<b>Neurologic System: 7%*</b>			
<b><i>Diseases and Disorders</i></b>	<b><i>Level 1</i></b>	<b><i>Level 2</i></b>	<b><i>Level 3</i></b>
Cerebral aneurysm	●		
Cluster headache	●	●	
Concussion	●	●	
Delirium	●		
Encephalitis	●		
Essential tremor	●	●	
Guillain-Barré syndrome	●		
Major neurocognitive disorder/dementia	●		
Meningitis	●	●	
Migraine	●	●	●
Multiple sclerosis	●		
Parkinson disease	●		
Peripheral neuropathy	●	●	
Postconcussion syndrome	●	●	
Radiculopathy	●	●	
Seizure disorders	●		
Spontaneous intracranial hemorrhage	●		
Status epilepticus	●	●	
Stroke/transient ischemic attack	●	●	●
Syncope	●	●	
Tension headache	●	●	●
Traumatic intracranial hemorrhage	●		
<b>Psychiatry/Behavioral Science: 5%*</b>			
<b><i>Diseases and Disorders</i></b>	<b><i>Level 1</i></b>	<b><i>Level 2</i></b>	<b><i>Level 3</i></b>
Anorexia nervosa, Bulimia nervosa	●		
Attention-deficit/hyperactivity disorder	●		
Bereavement/grief reaction	●	●	
Bipolar disorder	●		
Child/elder abuse, Spouse/partner abuse	●		
Generalized anxiety disorder	●	●	
Major depressive disorder	●	●	
Non-substance-related addictive disorders	●		
Panic disorder	●	●	
Post-traumatic stress disorder	●		
Substance use disorders: illicit substances, prescription drugs, alcohol, tobacco	●		
Suicide risk	●	●	

<b>Pulmonary System: 10%*</b>			
<b><i>Diseases and Disorders</i></b>	<b><i>Level 1</i></b>	<b><i>Level 2</i></b>	<b><i>Level 3</i></b>
Acute bronchiolitis	●	●	
Acute bronchitis	●	●	
Acute respiratory distress syndrome	●	●	
Asthma	●	●	●
Bacterial pneumonia	●	●	●
Chronic bronchitis	●	●	●
Croup	●	●	
Emphysema	●	●	●
Foreign body aspiration	●	●	
Lung cancer	●		
Pertussis	●	●	
Pleural effusion	●	●	
Pneumothorax	●	●	
Pulmonary embolism	●	●	●
Pulmonary nodules	●		
Respiratory syncytial virus infection	●	●	
Sleep apnea	●	●	
Viral pneumonia	●	●	●
<b>Renal System: 3%*</b>			
<b><i>Diseases and Disorders</i></b>	<b><i>Level 1</i></b>	<b><i>Level 2</i></b>	<b><i>Level 3</i></b>
Acid-base disorders	●		
Acute kidney injury (acute renal failure)	●		
Chronic kidney disease	●	●	
Electrolyte disorders	●	●	
Pyelonephritis	●	●	

<b>Reproductive System: 7%*</b>			
<b><i>Diseases and Disorders</i></b>	<b><i>Level 1</i></b>	<b><i>Level 2</i></b>	<b><i>Level 3</i></b>
Abruptio placentae	●		
Amenorrhea	●		
Breast abscess	●	●	
Breast cancer	●		
Cervical cancer	●		
Cervicitis	●	●	
Contraception	●	●	
Dysfunctional uterine bleeding	●		
Dysmenorrhea	●	●	
Ectopic pregnancy	●	●	
Endometriosis	●		
Gestational diabetes	●		
Hypertension disorders in pregnancy	●		
Mastitis	●	●	
Menopause	●	●	
Ovarian cysts	●		
Pelvic inflammatory disease	●	●	
Placenta previa	●		
Postpartum hemorrhage	●		
Premature rupture of membranes	●		
Premenstrual syndrome	●	●	
Prenatal diagnosis and care/preconception counseling	●		
Rh incompatibility	●		
Sexual/physical abuse in pregnancy	●		
Vaginitis	●	●	

\* The percentage allocations are approximate and may vary slightly with each exam.