



**Canadian Physiotherapy Association (CPA)
Advanced Integrated Musculoskeletal Physiotherapy (AIM) Program
Information for Candidates Preparing to Write the
Level 1-3 Quadrant Multiple Choice Examinations**

Introduction

Candidates preparing to write the Level 1-3 Multiple Choice Examination(s) will benefit from the following information, which describes the parameters used to select the 60 questions for the examination. The selection of questions for the examinations is approved by the Education Committee of the Orthopaedic Division of CPA. The questions have undergone review, recategorization and new development to align with the course learning outcomes, the curriculum and revised manuals, and the Dimensions in the 2016 IFOMPT Standards Document. The 2.5-hour MCQ exam is administered online and virtually invigilated within 7 days of the completion of the course.

The questions are categorized into 4 areas:

Body Regions

Upper Quadrant
Head
Craniovertebral
Cervical Spine
Thoracic Spine
Shoulder
Elbow and Forearm
Wrist and Hand
Cervicothoracic Junction - Level 3 Upper
Temporomandibular Joint (TMJ) – Level 3 Upper
Lower Quadrant
Lumbar Spine
SIJ
Hip
Knee
Foot and Ankle
Thoracolumbar Junction – Level 3 Lower

Content Domains

- Application of Research
- Biomedical sciences
 - Anatomy, pathology, functional biomechanics, physiology, pathophysiology, neurophysiology, neurodynamics, myokinematics, exercise physiology
- Assessment Principles
 - Movement science, pain mechanisms (pain science), appropriate selection of tests or clusters, Clinical Prediction Rules (CPRs) (diagnostic, prescriptive, prognostic), indications/contraindications, prognosis, differential diagnosis, and screening (red flag serious spinal pathology, visceral referral, cervical vascular pathologies, inflammatory, non-musculoskeletal)
- Management Principles
 - Integration, clinical application of multimodal evidence informed orthopaedic musculoskeletal interventions including person-centred education, exercise/motor control, exercise physiology, manual therapy (mobilizations/manipulations), preventative strategies as outlined in the specific Course Learning Outcomes

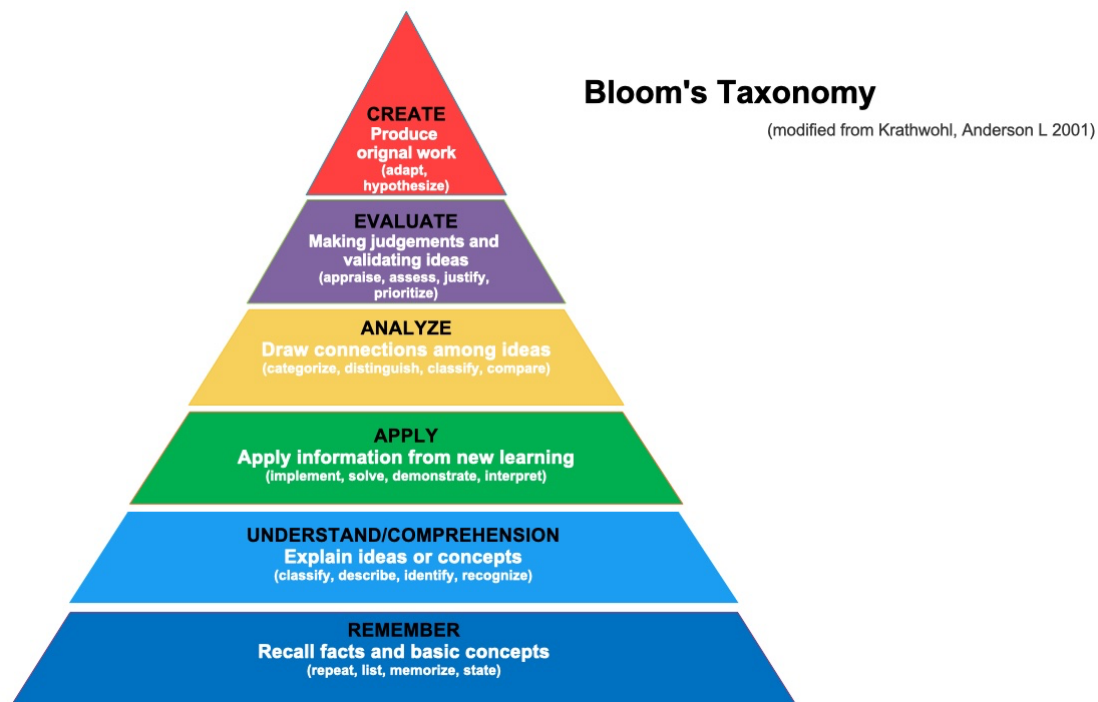
Dimension 1	Demonstration of critical and evaluative evidence informed practice.
Dimension 2	Demonstration of critical use of a comprehensive knowledge base of the biomedical sciences in the specialty of Orthopaedic manipulative therapy (OMT).
Dimension 3	Demonstration of critical use of a comprehensive knowledge base of the clinical sciences in the specialty of OMT.
Dimension 4	Demonstration of critical use of a comprehensive knowledge base of the behavioral sciences in the specialty of OMT.
Dimension 5	Demonstration of critical use of a comprehensive knowledge base of OMT.
Dimension 6	Demonstration of critical and an advanced level of clinical reasoning skills enabling effective assessment and management of patients with NMS disorders.
Dimension 7	Demonstration of an advanced level of communication skills enabling effective assessment and management of patients with NMS disorders.
Dimension 8	Demonstration of an advanced level of practical skills with sensitivity and specificity of handling, enabling effective assessment and management of patients with NMS disorders.
Dimension 9	Demonstration of critical understanding and application of the process of research.
Dimension 10	Demonstration of clinical expertise and continued professional commitment to the development of OMT practice.

**IFOMPT
Dimensions**
([IFOMPT Standards Document 2016](#))

Questions primarily involve Dimensions 2, 3 and 5 - demonstration of critical use of a comprehensive knowledge of:

- Biomedical Sciences (Dimension 2)
- Clinical Sciences (Dimension 3)
- Musculoskeletal Physiotherapy (Dimension 5)

Cognitive Levels



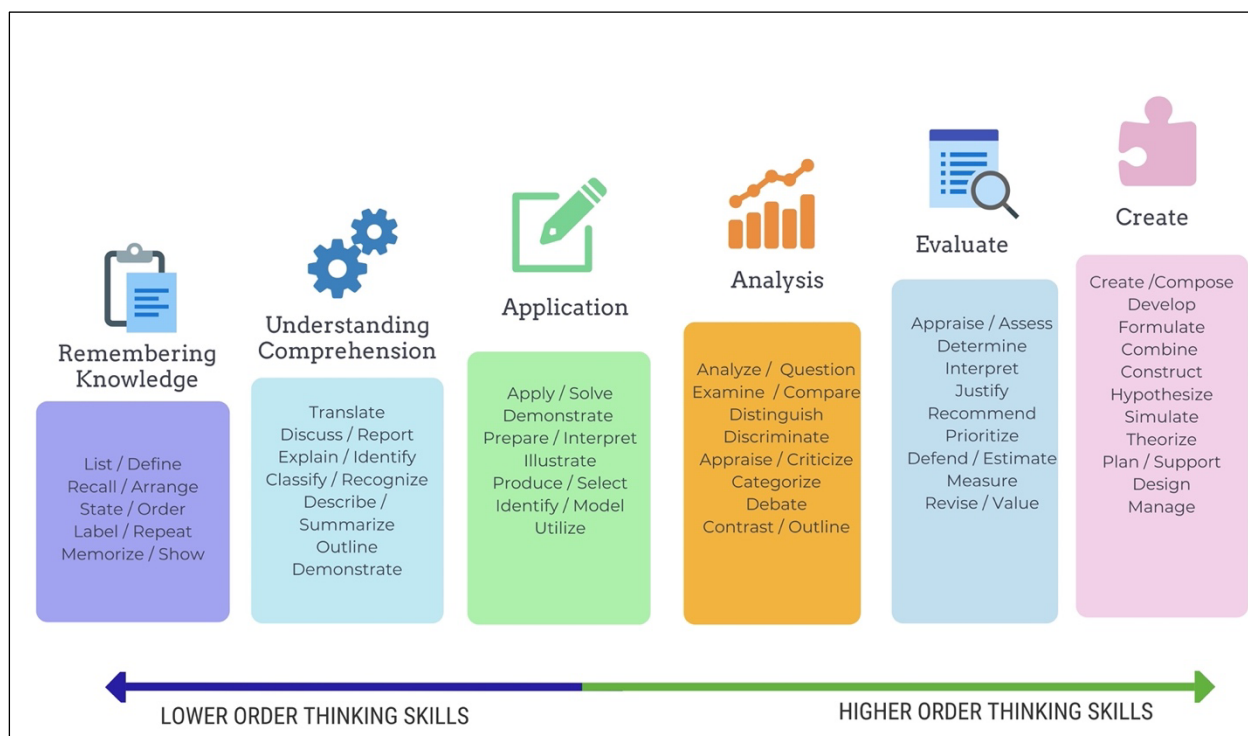
MCQs are developed using the principles of Bloom's Taxonomy and include both lower order and higher order thinking skills.

Lower Order Thinking Questions:

- Remembering (list, find, state, memorizing)
- Understanding (interpret, summarize, explain, discuss)

Higher Order Thinking Questions:

- Applying (use info in a new but similar form, apply, solve, calculate)
- Analyzing (categorize, examine, compare / contrast)
- Evaluating (judge, critique, defend, criticize)



The MCQ exams will include both independent and case questions that may have 2 or 3 questions related to a specific case scenario. The purpose of the examinations is to assess your knowledge base as well as your clinical reasoning, clinical application, and critical analysis.

Pass Rates

Level 1 – 50%

Level 2 – 55%

Level 3 – 60%

Sample questions

A link will be provided with sample questions, which are typical of the type of questions selected for your specific Level course.

These questions will give candidates an indication of the format, level of difficulty, and content that will be on the examination. Below each of the sample questions are annotations for the question. The annotations provide the correct answer, the specific categorizations for that question, and the manual reference for the question. These annotations will not be present on the examination.

<https://www.orthodiv.org/wp-content/uploads/2023/02/L1-MCQ-Sample-Questions.pdf>
<https://www.orthodiv.org/wp-content/uploads/2023/02/L2L-MCQ-Sample-Questions.pdf>
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