

DESCRIPTION OF CPDO® ITEM TYPES

FULL PATIENT CASES begin with a scenario in which the patient history and clinical data are presented. These data usually include at least one visual (e.g., color ophthalmic photographs; visual field plots; other instrumentation printouts). The scenarios are followed by 3-5 related multiple-choice items with 4-10 answer options.

- The patient case section of the CPDO exam appears on a **white background**.
- The scenario is found on the *left side* of the Pearson VUE computer screen. The case images appear at the *bottom of the left side* of the screen, beneath the scenario. The 3-5 items present *one at a time*, on the *right side* of the screen. Candidates are able to view the scenario/images on the left side of the screen at the same time that they work with a case item on the right side.
- Patient case images typically provide a considerable amount of essential patient information. Photos or short video clips may supply normal or abnormal case details; candidates are expected to correctly interpret the visually presented findings. Images may include, but are not limited to, color ophthalmic photographs and such testing results as VFs, FAs, OCTs, ultrasonography, radiologic imaging, etc.
- Questions may be multiple-choice or multiple-response and each is worth 1 point; candidates must choose all of the correct multiple-response answers to receive credit for those items.

SOLO ITEMS are relatively straight forward, knowledge-centric, independent entities. They include a question and 4 - 6 answer options.

- The entire solo item section of the CPDO exam appears on a **pale blue background** to help distinguish this section from the patient case and minicase sections.
- Solo items may be multiple-choice, with a single correct answer, or they may be multiple-response, with up to 4 correct answers.
- Both multiple-choice and multiple-response items are worth one point per item; it is necessary to select all of the correct answers in a multiple-response question to receive credit for that question.
- The 40 solo items, worth a total of 40 points, are presented on the Pearson VUE test center computer screens *one at a time*.

MINICASES are an abbreviated version of a full patient case. They consist of a shortened scenario with 2-4 related questions. Most minicases will also include one or more associated images.

- The minicase section of the CPDO exam appears on a **pale orange background** to help separate this section from the patient case and solo item sections.
- On the *left side* of the Pearson VUE computer screen, the patient findings are presented while on the *right side* of the screen, either of the 2 associated items is shown, *one at a time*.
- Minicase items can be of the multiple-choice or the multiple-response type. To earn credit for multiple-response items, *all* correct answers must be selected.
- The 2 minicase items are worth 1 point each; therefore, each minicase potentially is worth a total of 2 points. The 20 minicases provide 40 total points

MULTIPLE-RESPONSE ITEMS

The question portion (stem) of each multiple-response item indicates to the candidate how many of the options should be selected. For example, when an item stem asks, "Which 3 of the following ...," the stem concludes with the phrase (Select 3) to make it unmistakable to examinees that this is a multiple response item that requires 3 correct responses.

CPDO ITEM SUBJECT MATTER

Type of Test Items	Content
Diagnosis	Most appropriate diagnosis
Related Diagnosis	Relates to data supporting or correlating with the diagnosis; or the correlation of possible additional data; or indicates additional data or the next test needed
Treatment / Management	Most appropriate treatment / management
Related to Treatment / Management	Relates to the treatment mechanism; describes additional data needed to treat effectively; indicates additional next test needed; describes patient education; relates to follow-up; or forecasts prognosis
Clinical Correlation of Basic Science Principles	Pathophysiology / etiology, anatomy, biochemistry, physiology, immunology / microbiology / pathology, optics, epidemiology, or pharmacology