Levy, Mark B

From: Levy, Mark B
Sent: Friday, August 31, 2012 12:30 PM
To: Samlane Ketevong
Subject: Follow-up regarding O&P testing

Importance: High

Ms. Ketevong, thank you for the information you provided under your letter date of August 24, 2012. I would appreciate some clarification. Again, standardized testing is not what I would identify as one of my "fund of knowledge" areas (although that may be changing!), so if you need to explain why an answer might not be able to be provided that "fits" the question exactly, please feel free to provide an additional narrative discussion.

2. In your response to the question "Can you identify and document the date when the current ABC testing regimen for certification in O&P was adopted?" you state

   "The ABC certification examinations for orthotist and prosthetist have included some form of written and practical tests since the 1950's. In 1992 the Written Simulation examination was added as a requirement for certification. In 2006 the Written and Written Simulation exams transitioned to being administered via a computer based testing (CBT) format."

   Q2.1 Are you identifying the year 2006 as the year the current test for certification in O&P was adopted? Does the transition to computer-based testing in and of itself require what is essentially development of a new exam, or does it simply document transfer of exam from paper to electronic media format?

   Q2.2 Does the 2010 publication/updating of NCOPE foundational documents in O&P represent the adoption of a new or updated testing regimen?

4. In your response to question 4, you identify two external entities that review and/or assist in developing appropriate testing items and protocols, but the only documentation you reference is the NCOPE Core Curriculum.

   Q 4.1 Can you document the date, and provide a satisfactory reference to confirm, when NCCA accredited ABC's credentialing program in Orthotics and Prosthetics?

   Q 4.2 Can you document the date, and provide a satisfactory reference to confirm, when PES most recently assisted "with statistical analysis, validation activities, individual exam item analysis and standard setting for establishing the passing points" for the O&P Written and Written Simulation exams.?

Thank you for your cooperation with our fact finding process as regards this matter. I would appreciate a timely response to this additional inquiry.

Respectfully,

Mark B. Levy, Board Director
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