

# INTERNATIONAL TECHNOLOGIST IN GYNECOLOGIC CYTOLOGY, CTgyn(ASCP<sup>i</sup>) EXAMINATION CONTENT GUIDELINE

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## EXAMINATION MODEL

The CTgyn(ASCP<sup>i</sup>) certification examination is composed of 50 examination questions given in a 1 hour 30 minute time frame. All examination questions are multiple-choice with one best answer. The CTgyn(ASCP<sup>i</sup>) international certification examination is administered using the format of computer adaptive testing (CAT).

With CAT, when a person answers a question correctly, the next test question has a slightly higher level of difficulty. The difficulty level of the questions presented to the examinee continues to increase until a question is answered incorrectly. Then a slightly easier question is presented. In this way, the test is tailored to the individual's ability level.

Each question in the test bank is calibrated for level of difficulty and is assigned a content area that matches with the subtest area of the content outline for a particular examination. The weight (value) given to each question is determined by the level of difficulty. Therefore, the examinee must answer enough difficult questions to achieve a score above the pass point in order to successfully pass the certification examination.

## EXAMINATION SUBTESTS

The CTgyn(ASCP<sup>i</sup>) international certification examination questions encompass four different subtests within the area of Gynecological Cytology: Anatomy, Physiology and Embryologic Origins; Histology and Normal Cellular Morphology; Pathology, Cytopathology, Biologic Behavior and Laboratory Operations. Each of these subtests comprises a specific percentage of the overall 50-question certification examination. The subtests for the CTgyn international examination are described in the following table:

SUBTESTS	EXAM PERCENTAGES
<b>ANATOMY, PHYSIOLOGY AND EMBRYOLOGIC ORIGINS</b>	<b>5%</b>
<b>HISTOLOGY AND NORMAL CELLULAR MORPHOLOGY</b>	<b>10%</b>
<b>PATHOLOGY, CYTOPATHOLOGY, BIOLOGIC BEHAVIOR</b>	<b>75%</b>
<b>LABORATORY OPERATIONS</b>	<b>10%</b>

For a more specific overview of the four subtest areas on the CTgyn(ASCP<sup>i</sup>) certification examination, please refer to the **CONTENT OUTLINE** on page 2.

## **INTERNATIONAL TECHNOLOGIST IN GYNECOLOGIC CYTOLOGY, CTgyn(ASCP<sup>i</sup>) EXAMINATION CONTENT OUTLINE**

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**IMPORTANT:** Examination questions, which are related to the subtest areas outlined below, will be both theoretical and procedural. Theoretical questions measure skills necessary to apply knowledge of cytologic criteria, identify/evaluate microscopic findings, and correlate microscopic findings to disease states. Procedural questions measure skills necessary to select appropriate laboratory techniques, evaluate laboratory data, and follow quality assurance protocols.

Body sites to include:

- Cervix
- Endocervix
- Endometrium/uterus
- Fallopian tube
- Ovary
- Vagina
- Vulva

### **I. ANATOMY, PHYSIOLOGY, AND EMBRYOLOGIC ORIGINS (5%)**

### **II. HISTOLOGY AND NORMAL CELLULAR MORPHOLOGY (10%)**

### **III. PATHOLOGY, CYTOPATHOLOGY, BIOLOGIC BEHAVIOR (75 %)**

- A. Congenital anomalies
- B. Benign lesions/reactions
  - 1. Inflammation
  - 2. Organisms and contaminants
  - 3. Benign tumors, hyperplasias and cysts
  - 4. Effects of therapeutic regimens
- C. Functional disorders/endocrinology
- D. ASCUS/Atypical glandular cells/ premalignant epithelial/indeterminate lesions
- E. Malignant tumors, epithelial and nonepithelial

### **IV. LABORATORY OPERATIONS (10%)**

- A. Quality Management
  - 1. Quality control
  - 2. Quality assurance methodology & tools
  - 3. Risk management
- B. Cytopreparation Techniques/Instrumentation (to include collection, processing, and special techniques)
  - 1. Principles
  - 2. Procedures
  - 3. Troubleshooting
  - 4. Fixatives and stains
  - 5. Validation
- C. Safety and Infection Control

**All Board of Certification examinations use conventional and SI units for results and reference ranges.**

***END OF CONTENT GUIDELINE***