



The Registered Physicians Vascular Interpretation Examination (RPVI)


Picture Archive and Communication Simulator (PACSim) Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs)

 1. How many questions are on the PVI examination?

Answer: There are 185 questions on the PVI examination. This is a reduction from 200 to allow test-takers more time to complete the PACSim questions.

 2. What is the length of time of the examination?


Answer: The examination is 4 hours long (240 minutes).

 3. What percentage of the examination are PACSim questions?

Answer: Less than 3% of the examination consists of PACSim questions. The rest of the examination is made up of traditional multiple-choice questions.

 4. How are the PACSim questions scored?


Answer: The examination utilizes a partial-credit scoring model. The test-taker will receive full credit if all questions has been answered correctly.

 5. Are Advanced Item Types (AITs) new to the PVI examination?


Answer: No. Hotspot items were added to the exam in 2013. Please visit www.APCA.org/AIT to learn more.

 6. Why include PACSim questions instead of continuing with the traditional multiple-choice questions?

Answer: Traditional multiple choice will continue to be the core of all ARDMS exams. PACSim questions move the Registry examinations closer to clinical practice, improving the level of certainty that the test-taker has demonstrated the basic levels of skill, knowledge and abilities when the ARDMS awards a credential. The ARDMS anticipates that test-takers who find traditional multiple-choice questions challenging will prefer the new innovative and more intuitive question formats.

 7. Is there a PVI practice test available?

Answer: Yes.

 8. Whom may I contact if I have additional questions?

Answer: Please send an email to: PVI@ardms.org