

CRC® Examination Standard Setting Study Summary

A standard setting study is conducted for the first CRC® examination administered following a new practice analysis to ensure that pass/fail decisions are based on sound psychometric practice and theory and are realistic and appropriate in terms of setting standards for evaluating the body of knowledge required for competent practice. The study is conducted by a panel of subject matter experts (Standard Setting Committee) who serve as judges and work under the guidance of the testing agency. Standard Setting Committee members are selected to represent a variety of practice settings, areas of expertise, geographic locations, and other demographic factors so that there is no undue influence by committee members representing a particular group of Candidates. Each Standard Setting Committee member must sign and adhere to the CRC® Confidentiality & Conflict of Interest Agreement.

Criterion-referenced methodologies (such as the modified Angoff method and the Hofstee Estimation Method) are used. The results of the study are presented as a recommendation to the CRC® Board of Standards and Policy Development (BOS). The appropriateness of the recommended score is then discussed and reviewed during a BOS meeting. Previous passing points and passing rates are reviewed and compared to the calculated passing point as a reference. After a discussion of all relevant factors, the BOS determines and approves the passing point. Subsequent CRC® Examination forms created after a standard study will uphold the standard by applying a sound equating methodology.