

UCNS Offers Second Neural Repair and Rehabilitation Certification Examination

The United Council for Neurologic Subspecialties (UCNS) is offering a second Neural Repair and Rehabilitation certification examination. Applications will be available beginning April 1, 2014, at *UCNS.org*.

Both the American Society for Neurorehabilitation and the American Academy of Neurology Section on Neurorehabilitation and Neural Repair have enthusiastically recommended this credentialing examination for their physician members. The credentialing process is open to Physiatrists and Neurologists with prerequisite Neurorehabilitation specialty training. It will document the specialist's qualifications for managing the medical, neural repair and neurologic rehabilitation care needs of patients with stroke, traumatic brain injury, spinal cord injury, and other disorders affecting the central and peripheral nervous system. UCNS-NNR Credentialing will specifically document the physician's mastery of the Neuroscience Base of Neurorehabilitation. The examination will cover relevant knowledge of neuroepidemiology, neuroanatomy, neuroimaging, neurobehavior, neuropsychiatry, neurophysiology, neuropharmacology, neurorehabilitation and neural repair mechanisms. The credentialing process stresses the interdependency of neural processing from cortex to subcortical to spinal cord and peripheral nerve function. UCNS-NNR Certification is unique in this respect. It documents the physician's mastery of neural control systems which are variably affected by any form of injury at any level of the neural axis. UCNS-NNR certification is intended to be more encompassing than for Brain Injury or Spinal Cord Injury alone.

The UCNS offered its first Neural Repair and Rehabilitation examination in 2012, making it the newest UCNS program. "We believe that this is a subspecialty of the future because it involves a team process, highly dependent on the interaction of multiple disciplines and treatment agents," said Michael Reding, MD, director of the UCNS-accredited program at the Weill Medical College of Cornell University at Burke Rehabilitation Hospital, and one of the subspecialty's founding fathers. "We use advanced techniques to reduce impairments and disabilities, ultimately improving quality of life for persons with neurologic disorders."

For the first time, applicants can use the UCNS' new online application interface to complete their applications and pay by credit card.

Added Reding, "A strong turnout for the upcoming examination will demonstrate the strength of this new subspecialty."