



Advanced Dental Admissions Test (ADAT)

March 17, 2016
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Why make a new exam? Why not just use the NBDE scores?

- ▶ The NBDE is given for the purpose of identifying beginning dentists' baseline competency for beginning general practice. This information is for state boards to use in licensure.
- ▶ The NBDE is calibrated and the questions are written with the intent of separating the people who know the **MINIMUM** you need to know to be a safe beginning practitioner from those who do not know the minimum.
- ▶ It is a valid and reliable instrument to do that.
- ▶ The scores are not valid and reliable means to separate the very strong student from the outstanding student.



A New Admissions Test

- ▶ When the National Dental Board Examination became Pass/Fail in 2012, advanced and graduate program directors lost a tool to use in making admissions decisions.
- ▶ The ADAT is a response to this need.



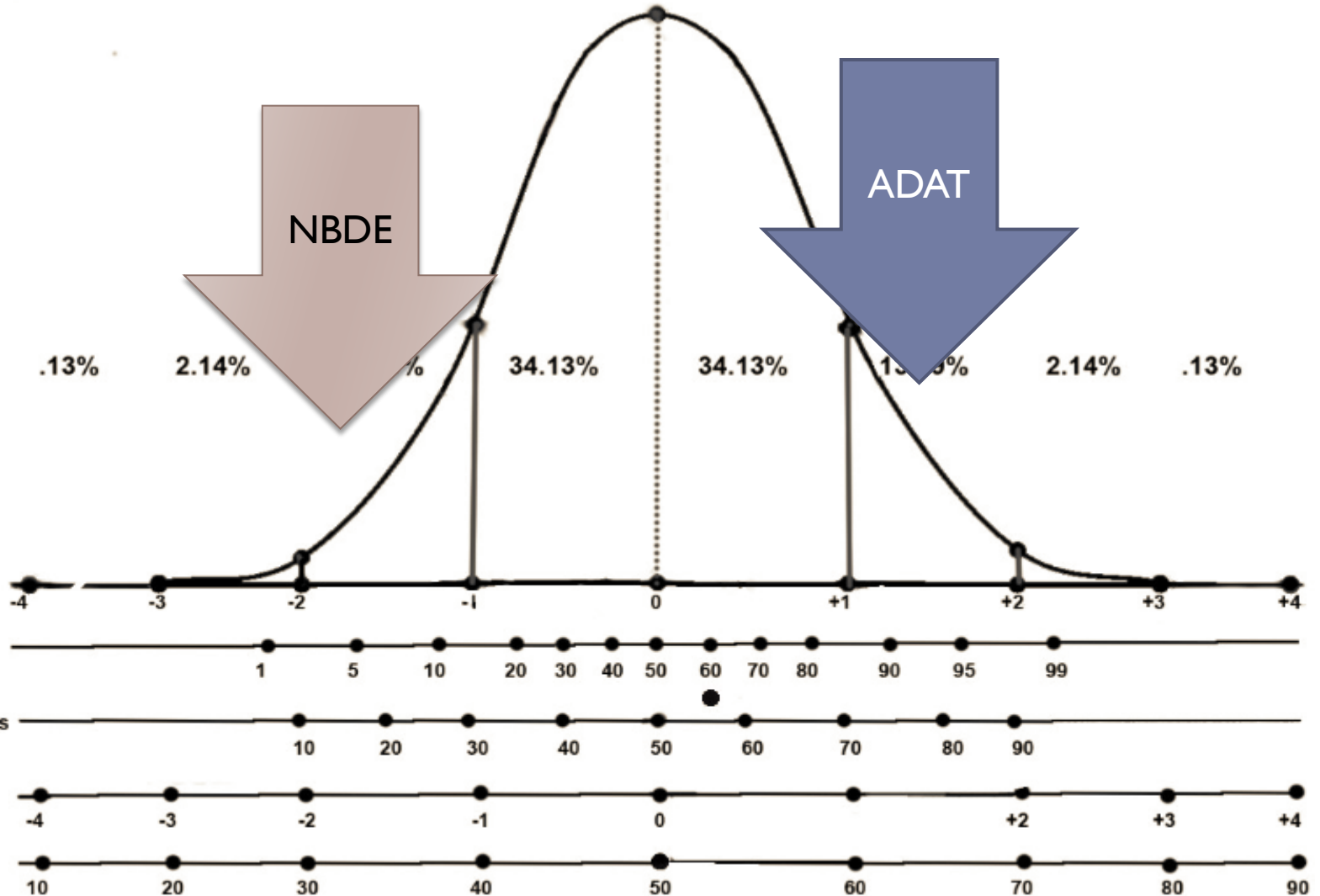
The ADAT

- ▶ The purpose of the ADAT is to develop an exam which is a valid and reliable means of separating the very strong student from the outstanding student.



NBDE VS ADAT

Normal Distribution



The ADA has an ADAT Website

- ▶ <http://www.ada.org/en/education-careers/advanced-dental-admission-test/>
- ▶ The ADA told us this week at the ADEA meeting that they would post list of programs requiring the ADAT in two weeks (early April).
- ▶ Program directors are still deliberating whether to require it or not
- ▶ This is the first year the exam will be offered.



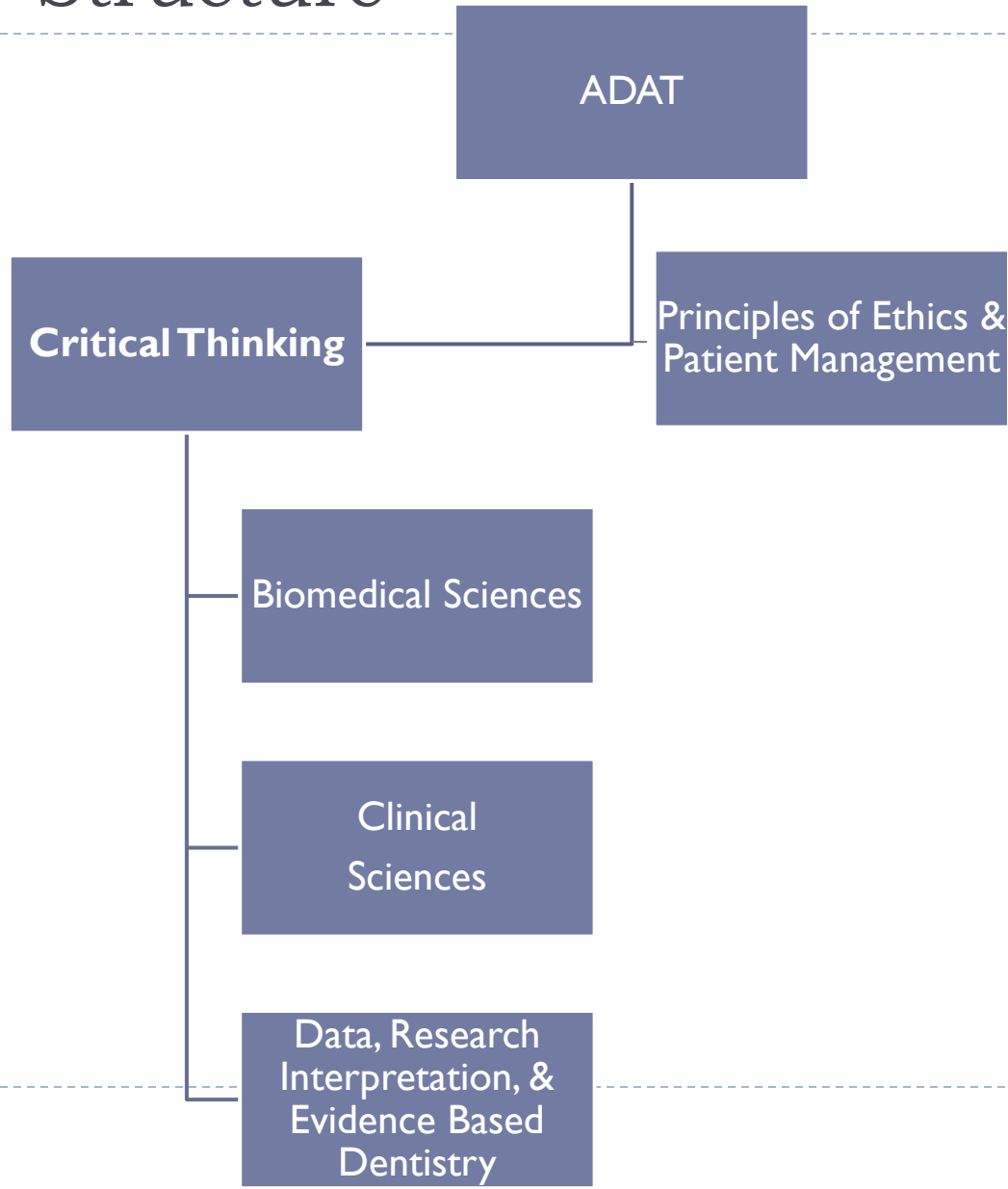
The ADAT Candidate Guide

- ▶ http://www.ada.org/~media/ADA/Education%20and%20Careers/Files/adat_guide_2016.pdf?language=en
- ▶ Just like the DAT and the NBDE exams, the ADA has put together a Candidates Guide to give out important information about the exam.
- ▶ You will be required to certify that you have read the Candidates Guide just like the NBDE.



This is the First Year for the ADAT.

ADAT Structure



Test Specifications Overview

		Tutorial	15 minutes
Critical Thinking	Biomedical Sciences	80 Questions	90 minutes
		Break	10 minutes
	Data, Research Interpretation, and Evidence Based Dentistry	30 questions	30 minutes
		Break	10 minutes
	Clinical Sciences	60 questions	70 minutes
		Break	10 minutes
Principles of Ethics and Patient Management		30 questions	30 minutes
Total Questions		200 questions	220 minutes w/o breaks

Administration dates:

- ▶ Administration will occur during a testing window that is 3 ½ months in duration.
- ▶ May 16, 2016 through August 31, 2016
- ▶ Will be given April through July in subsequent years
- ▶ Given at Pearson Testing Centers, not Prometric.



Test Specifications (# Questions)

- ▶ **Biomedical Sciences (80)**
 - ▶ **Anatomic Sciences**
 - ▶ **Biochemistry-Physiology**
 - ▶ **Microbiology-Pathology**
 - ▶ **Dental Anatomy-Occlusion**



Test Specifications (# Questions)

▶ **Clinical Sciences (60)**

- ▶ **Endodontics**
- ▶ **Operative Dentistry**
- ▶ **Oral and Maxillofacial Surgery / Pain Control**
Oral Diagnosis
- ▶ **Orthodontics / Pediatric Dentistry**
- ▶ **Periodontics**
- ▶ **Pharmacology**
- ▶ **Prosthodontics**
- ▶ **Case-based items**



Test Specifications (# Questions)

- ▶ **Principles of Ethics and Patient Management (30)**
 - ▶ **Professional Ethics**
 - ▶ **Communication & Interpersonal Skills**
 - ▶ **Anxiety & Pain Control**
 - ▶ **Health Behavior Change**
 - ▶ **Disabled & Medically Compromised**
 - ▶ **Epidemiology**
 - ▶ **Prevention of Oral Diseases**
 - ▶ **Infection Control**
 - ▶ **Materials & Equipment Safety**
 - ▶ **Professional Responsibility/Liability**



Test Specifications (# Questions)

- ▶ **Data, Research Interpretation, and Evidence Based Dentistry (30)**
 - ▶ **Study Design**
 - ▶ **Data Analysis**
 - ▶ **Result Interpretation**
 - ▶ **Inference and Implication**



New Test Item Type: The Patient Box

SAMPLE TESTLET		SCENARIO
Age	65 YRS	<p>The patient presents for replacement of a filling in tooth 19. He reports that he lost the filling over a year ago, but he delayed seeking care because the tooth has not been sensitive. Upon examination, tooth 19 has a missing occlusal restoration and a fractured ML cusp.</p> <p>Extraoral examination revealed mild actinic damage of his lower lip vermilion border.</p>
Sex	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Male <input type="checkbox"/> Female	
Height	5' 09"	
Weight	240 LBS	
B/P	170/100	
Chief Complaint	"I lost the filling in my back tooth."	
Medical History	last saw his physician 2 years ago father died of heart attack at age 52	
Current Medications	diuretic for hypertension statin for hypercholesteremia low dose aspirin	
Social History	married, grown children retired construction foreman has smoked a pipe daily for 25 years	

Patient BOX

- ▶ **Patient**

- ▶ Female, 28 years old.

- ▶ **Chief Complaint**

- ▶ “I haven’t been able to open my mouth for two days.”

- ▶ **Background and/or Patient History**

- ▶ Three days prior, left mandibular third molar extraction.

- ▶ **Current Findings**

- ▶ Maximum opening is 10 mm



Which graph best shows the patient's likely plaque pH response after drinking a sugary beverage?

Patient

Female, 75 years old

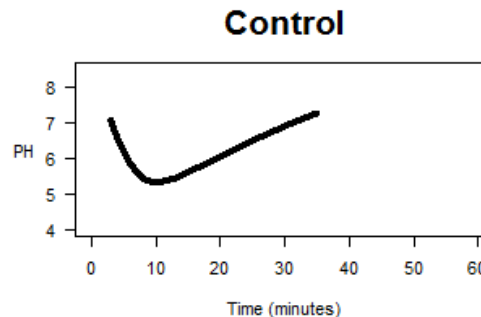
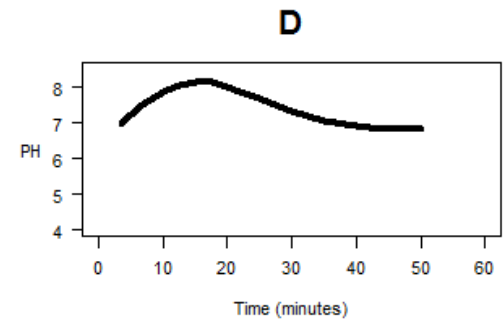
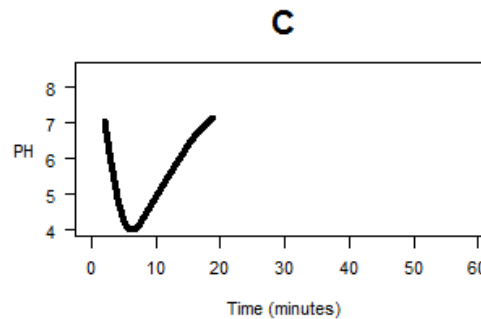
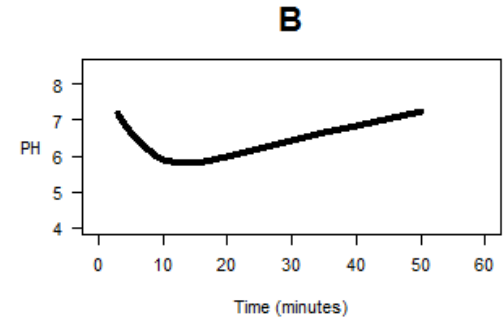
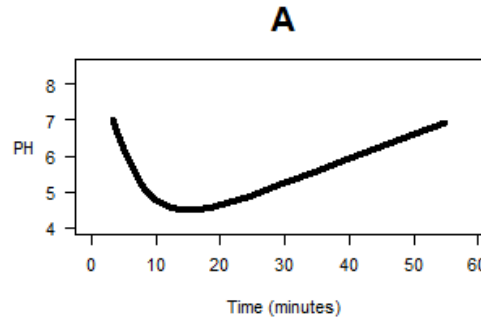
Chief Complaint

“My mouth has been dry for over a month.”

Background and/or Patient History

Oropharyngeal cancer treated by radiation.

Current Findings



Test Fees

- ▶ 2016 ADAT fees: Examination fee: \$250
- ▶ Additional ADAT score reports^{**}: \$35
- ▶ ^{**} This Score Report fee covers score report requests made after the time of application.
- ▶ Score report requested at the time of application are processed at no additional charge



Score Reporting: Complicated this year

PRELIMINARY SCORE RESULTS

Test Administration Period	Results posted in ADAT Candidate's "My Account"	Results available to Advanced Dental Education Program Directors
May 16, 2016 to June 30, 2016	July 15, 2016	July 15, 2016
July 1, 2016 to July 31, 2016	August 12, 2016	August 12, 2016
August 1, 2016 to August 31, 2016	September 9, 2016	September 9, 2016

OFFICIAL SCORE RESULTS

Test Administration Period	Results posted in ADAT Candidate "My Account"	Results Available for Advanced Dental Education Program Directors and Dental School Deans
May 16, 2016 to August 31, 2016	September 15, 2016	September 15, 2016

Scoring – Complicated this year

- ▶ **Official Final ADAT scores** will be reported as scale scores ranging from 200 to 800, with a target mean of 500 and a target standard deviation of 100. Scores will be reported in increments of 10.
- ▶ Scores will be reported for six scales: ADAT Score: an overall score computed based on performance on all ADAT items
- ▶ Critical Thinking
- ▶ Principles of Ethics and Patient Management
- ▶ Biomedical Sciences
- ▶ Clinical Sciences
- ▶ Data, Research Interpretation, and Evidence Based Dentistry.



Unofficial Preliminary Scores

- ▶ Preliminary score results will be reported as percentiles (not scale scores).
- ▶ **THESE PERCENTILES WILL CHANGE WITH EACH TEST ADMINISTRATION PERIOD, AS THE TOTAL NORM GROUP INCREASES.**
- ▶ Reported candidate percentiles will thus change at each reporting interval (July, August, and September).
- ▶ Final scale scores will be reported on September 15, 2016



Retest Policy

- ▶ Candidates may test two times per calendar year, and are limited to two testing attempts separated by a minimum of 45 days.
- ▶ •After two testing attempts, candidates must provide DTS with proof that they are actively applying to advanced dental education programs.



Scoring

- ▶ The number of correct responses will not be reported. Examinees will not receive immediate feedback concerning their test results.
- ▶ Scores will be reported to the programs selected by the candidate at the time of application.
- ▶ Programs added after you sign up will cost an additional fee of \$35 per program.



Contact Programs Directly

- ▶ Urge you to contact programs directly regarding their decisions on the ADAT.
- ▶ The ADA website list and the PASS information can be different from what the program has actually decided to do.
- ▶ This is the first year so there are bound to be last minute changes.
- ▶ Contact the program for the latest.



Questions?

Everyone's Irish
On March 17th.

