From the ABR website

• This exam is designed to test your knowledge and fitness to practice applied medical physics in your specified specialty.

• Includes same material as Part 2 computer-based exam, but with strong emphasis on practicing clinical medical physics, clinical judgment, and communication.

• Successful completion of Parts 2 and 3 demonstrate a level of achievement that is necessary for a medical physicist to practice independently.
Test Format

5 examiners will each ask you questions for 25 minutes
• 5 main questions with multiple parts
  • Each main question is from one of the 5 categories outlined in Content Guide
    • The failed category – ‘Conditioned’ exam result and only the failed category retested
  • One failed category
• Composite score from all examiners will determine pass/fail for each category
  • Sub-questions will test your depth on the subject
  • Clinical application, typical protocol, dose estimate, patient safety, etc.

You move from hotel room to hotel room
• Each room has a computer & monitor to display images and questions

Content Categories

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Category</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Radiography, Mammography, Fluoroscopy, IR Imaging</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Computed Tomography</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MRI and Ultrasound</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Informatics, Image Display, and Image Fundamentals</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Radiation, Dosimetry, Protection, and Safety</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Experience

Avoid oversharing or guessing
• ‘Pull of Silence’
• Offer a reference or manual that you would use

Examiner may not react to your response
• Not an adversarial role, but as a safety check
• If the examiner needs more information they will ask follow up questions

Mock Board Exams may help simulate the experience
How to Study

Group Study
• Identify hardware or testing equipment
• Physics involved
• Clinical application
• Patient safety concerns

Hands-On Practice
• Observe clinical procedures
• Participate in QA testing
• Assist in shielding/site planning

Shadow and discuss with other physicists
• If you have no other ABR eligible candidates, ask colleagues
• Allows you to practice delivering your responses verbally

Mock board exams
• Simulates the experience of responding verbally
• Identifies weaknesses in your knowledge or depth

Make notes to review
• Electronic/hand written notes will allow you to regularly review
• Useful for MOC too

Know Your Weak Points – Start Early

Do you specialize in a specific modality?

What do you not see in your own clinical experience?

Do you work or train at a specialty site?

Have you used different types of testing equipment?
Study Materials/References

Textbooks
- Task Groups, NCRP, ICPR, NRC
- AAPM/RSNA Physics Tutorial for Residents
- ACR manuals
- MQSA limits
- Biologic effects of radiation
- DICOM header/overlay information
- Review articles

Questions?