

## Board of Naturopathic Gastroenterology Case Study Guidelines

In preparing case studies, here is a general guideline to help direct you in the areas that should be covered. Please note that we are looking for comprehensive coverage for any and all pertinent bullet points. We expect this to be written in a narrative format.

**\*\*\*IMPORTANT:** *The purpose of these cases is for the board to **understand your clinical thinking and rationale for decisions** for the patient, not just a SOAP note. We want to know what you are doing and why; what you aren't doing and why. Feel free to include references in your case write ups. Cases need to be clearly written so someone who has never seen this patient knows what is happening. In other words, write this case as though you were writing it for a student where you need to point out all of the relevant issues and explain as you go along.*

You are required to submit 5 cases each and will be graded individually. A passing score is 75%. If you earn 50-75% on a case paper you can resubmit up to 2 cases. If you need to resubmit cases you will have 2 weeks to resubmit the cases.

### GENERAL AREAS TO BE COVERED

#### a. Subjective findings (16%)

- Chief complaint and HPI of the chief complaint
- Treatment history
- Diagnostic work up history to date
- Co-morbidities if present
- Current supplement and dietary management ● Current drug management

#### b. Objective findings (16%)

- Appropriate physical examination performed and documented thoroughly (pertinent positives and negatives documented)
- Appropriate laboratory studies ordered or reviewed and documented findings

- Appropriate imaging studies ordered or reviewed and documented findings

c. Assessment (27%)

- ICD10 codes
- Rationale for diagnosis
- Differential diagnosis
- Interpretation of labs, imaging and physical exams
- Prognosis and expected course of treatment/disease

d. Plan (27%)

- Diet and nutrition analysis and counseling
- Lifestyle and risk assessment
- Preventive strategies
- Conventional medical and naturopathic therapeutic options
- Use of naturopathic principles
- Rationale for therapeutic choices (evidence-based, traditional medicine based, or clinical experience)
- Discussion of informed choice
- Appropriate referral when necessary
- Re-assessment criteria, incl. timeframe and future plans ● Contraindications of therapeutics

e. Overall impression (include retrospective analysis, thought process) (14%)

- Retrospective case analysis/perspective (how would you do things differently, what did you learn from the case, what do you know now that you did not know then?)
- Grammar and spelling,
  - Correct grammar and correct spelling throughout the paper
- Professionalism
  - Use of colloquial language
  - Use of professional and medical language throughout the case report
- Comprehensive write up
  - Missing more than 4 items total without clear explanation for omission