Writing Assessment Questions & Feedback

Activities that offer Maintenance of Certification (MOC) credit or Enduring credit require learners to complete assessment questions about the content presented at the activity[*]. This assessment component measures the impact of the activity on the learners' knowledge, strategies/skills, and performance. The speaker or other expert in the content area will prepare the questions and feedback, then provide them to the coordinator to enter as part of the session approval process.

Questions and feedback must meet the following standards:

1) **One assessment question per objective is required.**
   a. Each learning objective must be represented by one or more assessment questions.
   b. Do not ask assessment questions that do not pertain to any of the learning objectives.

2) **Use multiple-choice questions only**.
   a. No other formats are allowed--no true/false, no open-ended answers, etc.
   b. Provide four or five answer choices.
   c. Only the single best correct answer may be selected. Do not require the learner to select multiple answers.
   d. "All of the above" or "None of the above" responses are not permitted.
   e. Ideally, questions will include a clinical vignette to move beyond testing for knowledge.

3) **Feedback must be provided.**
   a. In 2-3 sentences, use evidence or data presented in your talk to explain why the correct answer is correct without telling learners explicitly what the answer is.
   b. References can be included in the feedback as well as mention of the slides that covered the material.

Follow this example of a compliant question and feedback:

Question: A three-week old baby is undergoing a lumbar puncture for fever workup. In addition to pacifier with sucrose, what additional method would be the most effective procedural pain management for the lumbar puncture?
   1. Midazolam
   2. Acetaminophen
   3. Topical lidocaine and/or lidocaine injection
   4. Nitrous oxide

Correct answer: 3

Feedback**:** Anesthesia for lumbar puncture in neonates is a highly debated topic, as there are many different approaches from no anesthesia, to sucrose, to topical lidocaine and/or lidocaine injection. Research has shown that lidocaine injection is an effective anesthesia method, and also improves success rate by threefold. Midazolam is not necessary in most cases, as non-pharmacological interventions such sucrose and pacifier should be adequate. Acetaminophen has not been studied for lumbar puncture specifically, and nitrous is not a routine intervention for neonates.

Witt N, Coynor S, Edwards C, Bradshaw H. A guide to pain assessment and management in the neonate. *Curr Emerg Hosp Med Rep*. 2016;4:1–10.

*To offer MOC credit, a series must consistently meet the requirements for live RSS and all additional MOC requirements.
H:JA-PARS-MOC