No Proctoring
(with Candidate Authentication)

Linda A. Althouse, PhD
Vice President, Psychometrics and Testing Services
American Board of Pediatrics
No Proctoring

- Anytime, anywhere testing
- Accessibility to internet and resources not an issue
- Exam could still be timed

Issue: Can we be assured of the test-taker’s identity?
Knowledge-based Authentication

- Uses the knowledge of private information to verify that the person providing the identity information is the owner of the identity.
Knowledge-based Authentication

• Uses the knowledge of private information to verify that person providing the identity information is the owner of the identity

Static

• “Shared secrets”
• Commonly used for password resets
• Information shared ahead of time
• Not as secure
Knowledge-based Authentication

- Uses the knowledge of private information to verify that person providing the identity information is the owner of the identity

**Static**
- “Shared secret”
- Commonly used for password resets
- Information shared ahead of time
- Not as secure

**Dynamic**
- Higher-level of authentication
- No “data” provided by individual
- Uses public databases or proprietary data
- Generates real-time questions
Potential Use of Authentication

• Have question appear at beginning/end of sections.
• Set so that candidate has 30 seconds or less to answer.
• Based on the number of questions answered correctly, ABP can approve or ask additional questions for assurance.
• Can also have a secondary method, such as code to unlock exam, sent to phone.
Suppose a Security Question is Missed

- Scan driver license
- Take picture with smart phone
- Facial comparison to get face match confidence rating
- ABP decides on rating to approve

Document Validation + Face Matching → Additional Assurance
Advantages

• Anytime/anywhere convenience
• Only requirement is access to internet.
• Fewer potential technical issues than online proctoring since there is no software to download, no camera, microphone, etc.
• Delivery cost is less than both online proctoring and test center
Disadvantages

• Not foolproof (eg, sitting next to proxy tester)
• Potential disruption to examinee during testing
• Potential lack of public accountability
• May not qualify for substitute for SPEX for re-entry requirement
Other Considerations

- Items have to be assumed compromised
  - Can’t control for video cameras in room, image captures of screens
- Multi-layered approach provides greater security
  - Could involve more technology (eg, scanning of ID, smartphones)
- New, not yet researched territory for testing
Sample Security Questions

• Which of these people do you know?
• Which of the following is a past address?
• Which of the following is a street near the <<address>> where you once lived?
• Which of the following is a past phone number of yours?
Summary

• As with the testing center and online proctoring, no proctoring this option has pros and cons.
• Ultimately, need to decide the purpose of the exam.
• Delivery of the exam needs to fit the purpose.