

# GH – Specialty Exam

Spring 2021/Fall 2021

## Important Exam Information:

### [Exam Registration](#)

Candidates may register online or with an application.

### [Order Study Notes](#)

Study notes are part of the required syllabus and are not available electronically but may be purchased through the online store.

### Syllabus Readings

Readings listed in this syllabus may include study notes, online readings and textbooks. Candidates are responsible for all readings in their entirety, including sections such as Appendices, unless it is stated otherwise in the syllabus.

### [Introductory Study Note](#)

The Introductory Study Note has a complete listing of all study notes as well as errata and other important information.

### [Case Study](#)

A case study will not be provided for this examination.

### [Past Exams](#)

Past Exams from 2000-present are available on SOA website.

### [Updates](#)

Candidates should be sure to check the Updates page on the exam home page periodically for additional corrections or notices.

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**1. Topic: Claims and Disease Management**

**Learning Objectives**

The candidate will understand how to evaluate healthcare intervention programs.

**Learning Outcomes**

The Candidate will be able to:

- a) Describe, compare and evaluate programs
- b) Estimate savings, utilization rate changes and return on investment
- c) Apply the actuarially adjusted historical control methodology
- d) Calculate chronic and non-chronic trends in a manner that reflects patient risk

**Resources**

- *Managing and Evaluating Healthcare Intervention Programs*, Duncan, Ian G., 2<sup>nd</sup> Edition, 2014
  - Ch. 3: Care Management Programs and Interventions
  - Ch. 8: Understanding the Economics of Care Management Programs
  - Ch. 9: Applying the Economic Model: The Example of Opportunity Analysis
  - Ch. 11: The Use of Propensity Scoring in Program Evaluation
  - Ch. 12: An Actuarial Method for Evaluating Care Management Outcomes (excluding Appendix 12.2-12.3)
  - Ch. 13: Understanding Patient Risk and Its Impact on Chronic and Non-Chronic Member Trends
- GHS-125-19: Program Management and Evaluation Guide: Core Metrics for Employee Health Management, Ch. 2
- GHS-129-21: Effects of a Population Health Community-Based Palliative Care Program on Cost and Utilization
- [Valuation of Care Management Vendors](#), Health Watch, May 2020

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<b>2. Topic: ERM</b>
<b>Learning Objectives</b>
The candidate will understand how to evaluate health insurance organization risk and mitigation strategies.
<b>Learning Outcomes</b>
The Candidate will be able to: <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>a) Evaluate an enterprise risk management (ERM) system</li><li>b) Complete a capital needs assessment</li><li>c) Integrate reinsurance arrangements within an overall risk management strategy</li><li>d) Understand how Own Risk Solvency Assessment (ORSA) compares to traditional risk assessment</li><li>e) Apply applicable Actuarial Standards of Practice</li></ul>
<b>Resources</b>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• <i>Group Insurance</i>, Skwire, Daniel D., 7<sup>th</sup> Edition, 2016<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>○ Ch. 39: Risk-Based Capital Formulas</li></ul></li><li>• <i>Financial Enterprise Risk Management</i>, 2<sup>nd</sup> Edition, Sweeting, Paul, 2011<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>○ Ch. 7: Definitions of Risk</li><li>○ Ch. 8: Risk Identification</li><li>○ Ch. 18: Economic Capital</li></ul></li><li>• GHS-116-19: NAIC Own Risk and Solvency Assessment (ORSA) Guidance Manual, NAIC, Dec 2017 (excluding Appendix)</li><li>• GHS-117-16: Ch. 18 of <i>Life &amp; Health and Annuity Reinsurance</i>, 4<sup>th</sup> Edition</li><li>• GHS-121-18: Enterprise Risk Management, Ratings Direct</li><li>• GHS-122-18: Why are Many Coops Failing</li><li>• GHS-123-18: Enterprise Risk Management: Parts One, Two and Three</li><li>• GHS-128-19: RBC Calculation Examples</li><li>• <a href="#">ASOP 23: Data Quality</a> (excluding Appendices)</li><li>• <a href="#">ASOP 41: Actuarial Communications</a> (excluding Appendices)</li><li>• <a href="#">ASOP 46: Risk Evaluation in Enterprise Risk Management</a>, pp. 1-14 (excluding Appendices)</li><li>• <a href="#">ASOP 47: Risk Treatment in Enterprise Risk Management</a> (excluding Appendices)</li><li>• <a href="#">ASOP 55: Capital Adequacy Assessment</a> (excluding Appendices)</li><li>• <a href="#">Understanding ORSA Before Implementing It</a>, Risk Management, Aug 2012</li><li>• <a href="#">Risk Considerations for Innovative Products – A Case Study of the Long-Term Care Industry</a>, Feb 2020</li></ul>

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**3. Topic: Risk Adjustment**

**Learning Objectives**

The candidate will understand how to apply risk adjustment in actuarial work.

**Learning Outcomes**

The Candidate will be able to:

- a) Describe and compare risk adjustments based on commonly used clinical data and grouping methods
- b) Apply risk adjustment to underwriting, pricing, claims and care management situations
- c) Apply applicable Actuarial Standards of Practice

**Resources**

- *Healthcare Risk Adjustment and Predictive Modeling*, Duncan, Ian G., 2<sup>nd</sup> Edition, 2018
  - Ch. 4: Clinical Identification Algorithms
  - Ch. 5: Grouper Models
  - Ch. 6: Development and Construction of DRGs, DCGs, and ETGs
  - Ch. 13: Medicaid Risk Adjustment
  - Ch. 14: Risk Adjustment in Medicare (excluding Appendix 14.1 & 14.2)
  - Ch. 21: Risk Adjustment on the ACA Exchanges
  - Ch. 22: Intro to Risk Adj: Accountable Care Organization (sections 22.1-22.5 only)
- GHS-119-17: The HHS-HCC Risk Adjustment Model for Individual and Small Group Markets under the Affordable Care Act (pp. E1-E26, excluding Exhibits 1, 2, 5, 6, 8, 9 and text describing those exhibits)
- GHS-120-17: HHS-Operated Risk Adjustment Methodology Meeting Discussion Paper, Ch. 4 (pp.35-69, excluding section 4.2.4)
- [ASOP 12: Risk Classification](#) (excluding Appendices)
- [ASOP 45: The Use of Health Status Based Risk Adjustment Methodologies](#) (excluding Appendices)
- [Creating Stability in Unstable Times – A Look at Risk Adjustment and Market Stabilization](#), The Actuary, Dec 2017