



December, 2024 - Academic Integrity

This communication is intended to address a concerning trend regarding academic integrity, specifically related to the sharing of American Board of Cardiovascular Perfusion Perfusion Basic Science Exam (PBSE) and Clinical Applications in Perfusion Exam (CAPE) materials online. This behavior is a direct violation of the American Board of Cardiovascular Perfusion Code of Ethics (sections IV, VI and VIII). **According to this code, unauthorized possession or misuse of the ABCP's credential, examinations, and other intellectual property in any manner is grounds for sanctions against that individual.**

It has come to our attention that some students and postgraduate examinees have been copying items from practice exams and actual certification exams and disseminating them through various online platforms. We had heard rumors of this for some time, but the ABCP recently performed a sweeping review of PBSE and CAPE review materials across multiple study guide sites and were able to confirm that it was occurring. This is a flagrant violation of ABCP ethical standards and the non-disclosure attestation test takers must sign prior to starting the exam. This behavior undermines the integrity of our profession, the value of the certifications we provide, and the safety of the patients we care for.

The ABCP wants to emphasize that such actions will not be tolerated. Students and examinees found to be engaging in this misconduct will face serious consequences, including potential jeopardization of their certification. Individuals in violation of the ABCP ethical standards include those who knowingly share question content online, as well as those who willingly leverage this inappropriate content as they prepare for their exams. It is crucial that we uphold the ethical standards of the perfusion profession and ensure that all students and exam applicants understand the importance of maintaining academic and professional integrity.

The ABCP has already reached out to perfusion programs in order to coordinate this important communication and assist in dissuading unethical distribution of ABCP examination materials. As part of the perfusion community, we are asking CCPs to please relay this message to your students and graduate examinees as well. The ABCP Code of Ethics is applicable to anyone who has signed a Non-Disclosure Agreement in the process of purchasing a practice test, or by completing an application for PBSE or CAPE. Together, we can work to preserve the integrity of our CCP certification and the perfusion profession as a whole.

Thank you for your attention to this matter.

*Best regards,*

*The American Board of Cardiovascular Perfusion*