



# Clinical Judgment Exams

## Retention & Readiness

Clinical Judgment Exams provides pre-written, high-quality assessments for nursing programs nationwide—created by NurseThink®, the leading experts in nursing education and powered exclusively by ExamSoft. Nursing programs now have access to clinical judgment assessment data necessary to continuously improve student learning outcomes, empower students for NCLEX-RN® success, enable timely feedback, and develop practice readiness.

## Two Ways to Start Using Clinical Judgment Exams

Clinical Judgment Exams offers multiple assessments for each specialty and subject. Each assessment includes results in cohort- and student-level reports to assess clinical judgment at all levels. These separate exam tools include:

### Benchmarked Assessments

Take advantage of pre-written assessments that accurately gauge student learning and competency. Category-based reporting at the program level and student level will measure students' true mastery of concepts against a **national cohort** of nursing students. To help ensure nursing students are on track for practice readiness and NCLEX-RN success, each content area includes three distinct assessment types: Benchmark I, Benchmark II, and Open Check.



### Build-Your-Own Question Bank

Every instructor knows writing professional-level nursing exam questions is difficult and time consuming. That's why each content area of Clinical Judgment Exams pre-written assessments include content that instructors may use to supplement their own exam questions to help improve assessment and instruction. These questions are securely uploaded and saved in the client's ExamSoft database for use at the instructor's discretion.



## Core Solution

The Core solution covers seven distinct subjects, each including three expert-written assessments: Benchmark I, Benchmark II, and Open Check.

## Comprehensive Solution

The Comprehensive solution provides all the content in the Core solution and includes an additional seven subjects. Each subject is assessed via Benchmark I, Benchmark II, and Open Check assessments.

Each subject includes a build-your-own question bank with 100 items (minus readiness) that mirror the quality of the benchmarked assessments to supplement instructor-authored content.

Focus Areas	Core Solution	Comprehensive Solution
Fundamentals	●	●
Pediatrics	●	●
Women's Health	●	●
Community Health	●	●
Pharmacology	●	●
Medical Surgical	●	●
Mental Health	●	●
Health Assessment	●	●
Leadership	●	●
Nutrition	●	●
Research	●	●
Maternal Child	●	●
Medical Surgical II	●	●
Pathophysiology	●	●
Readiness Exam	●	●
Both solutions include the Readiness Exam which serves as a final benchmark of NCLEX-RN preparedness. (The Readiness Exam does not include an additional build-your-own question bank.)		

## Robust Content for Targeted Remediation

All content from Clinical Judgment Exams is categorized in accordance with NCLEX-RN and QSEN so every student performance report highlights specific individual strengths and weaknesses. Additionally, every question includes rationale to help provide detailed guidance for remediation strategies to improve student success.

## Client-Focused Service by ExamSoft

ExamSoft works with clients to ensure a consistent exam experience that preserves benchmark validity and protects the security of all exam questions. Benchmarked assessments are coordinated and scheduled by ExamSoft on behalf of clients, defining the assessment settings and providing faculty and students with the information they need to proctor and complete the assessment.



## Nationally Benchmarked Exams

Clinical Judgment Exams is developed by teams of experts in nursing and education. Experts in assessment work with professional nurses and nursing faculty to ensure each question has a solid clinical judgment focus. Item types include multiple choice, multiple response, graphic, chart exhibit, hot spot, rank order, and calculation.

The Strengths and Opportunities Report provides detailed information on each individual student and a Summary Report is provided for aggregated cohort performance. Performance data also demonstrates learners' percentile rank compared to a national sample of students taking the same exam. These rankings give the program reliable data that can be used for:

- **Individualized lesson plans**
- **Continuous curricular quality improvement**
- **Curricular feedback loops**
- **Benchmark nationally with other programs**
- **Predict readiness for the NCLEX-RN**
- **Predict practice readiness**
- **Systematic plans of evaluation**

## Security and Exam Versions

Exam security is always a priority. ExamSoft's robust backend analytics will help identify variances in national data to best ensure content integrity. With the use of Exemplify®, the industry-leading testing platform by ExamSoft, exams are constantly monitored and securely administered using the latest advances in education technology.

There are four versions for each focus area. Each version is developed with a similar test blueprint allowing faculty to administer different exams and still receive comparable data. After completing all focus areas, there is an additional Readiness Exam.

- **Benchmark 1**

Secure and Proctored – compares individual and cohort data nationally

- **Benchmark 2**

Secure and Proctored – used as an alternative or follow-up exam for Benchmark 1

- **Open Check**

Non-Secure, Non-Proctored – used for students to practice with before taking the proctored Benchmark version

- **Build Your Own**

Question bank for faculty – high-level questions faculty can use on their faculty-made secure exams





# Exam Descriptions

With Clinical Judgment Exams, students have access to the ExamSoft Strengths and Opportunities Report that allows them to address their own personal needs just in time to make a difference. Each student and cohort report are mapped to key professional areas, so remediation is meaningful, efficient, and completed in an effective way. Every exam item is developed using the clinical judgment model proposed by the National Council of State Boards of Nursing (NCSBN) at the application and analysis level.

**These key professional areas include:**

- **Systems**
- **Concepts**
- **Exemplar/  
Diseases**
- **Specialty**
- **Nursing Process**
- **NCLEX-RN Client Needs**
- **Quality and Safety  
for Nurses (QSEN)**

# CORE

## Pharmacology

(3 exams, 50 items each + 100-item Build Your Own)

Pharmacology Focused Exams will provide a valid and reliable assessment of the students' clinical judgment skills in providing safe and effective care when helping clients who are in need of pharmacotherapeutics. Safety is the central theme with emphasis on all aspects of the plan of care to include dosage calculation, lifespan, polypharmacy, and more. These exams are well suited for any level of the curriculum.

## Fundamentals

(3 exams, 50 items each + 100-item Build Your Own)

According to research done by the NCSBN, the concepts learned in fundamentals are the most important to the practice of a new nurse. It is for this reason that the Fundamentals-Focused Exams assess students' ability to recognize cues and take action regardless of the context of the client scenario.

## Women's Health

(3 exams, 50 items each + 100-item Build Your Own)

Women's Health Exams focus on the needs of women across their lifespan. From prepubescence to maternal needs and older adulthood, we assess the students' clinical judgment abilities while addressing concepts as they apply to the care of women.

## Pediatrics

(3 exams, 50 items each + 100-item Build Your Own)

Addressing the needs of the fetus through early adulthood is the emphasis of the Pediatrics Exams. Students will receive questions covering multiple competencies, content, and concepts in order to effectively assess their readiness to provide care in pediatrics.

## Mental Health

(3 exams, 50 items each + 100-item Build Your Own)

Psychiatric needs of clients can arise at any point when nurses are providing care. Across the lifespan and across the healthcare industry, mental health concerns are a focus of nursing. These exams emphasize the current state of mental health care in that the learner must be ready regardless of client background or setting.

## Community Health

(3 exams, 50 items each + 100-item Build Your Own)

The work of the nurse, regardless of specialty, requires that there be a solid understanding of needs of the client outside of the healthcare facility. The Community Health Exams cover all aspects of the community to include relevant public health concerns as well. Assessment data from these exams help improve curricular integration of public health principles at all levels.

## Medical Surgical I

(3 exams, 75 items each + 100-item Build Your Own)

The Medical Surgical I Exams provide information on learner readiness for all areas of adult health. These exams are built with a context and safety emphasis to align with the focus of the new NCLEX-RN and help to identify one's readiness for the complex needs of today's client.

## Readiness Exam

(3 exams, 100 items each)

Assessment of clinical judgment ability in context is the whole focus of the NCLEX-RN because of the need for a valid and reliable evaluation of practice readiness. Just the same, Readiness Exams are designed to not only predict readiness for NCLEX-RN but the readiness for practice as well. This clinical-based assessment series provide the student and faculty with high-quality data on how best to develop a culminating lesson plan for both the NCLEX-RN and preparation for that first job.

# COMPREHENSIVE

## Health Assessment

(3 exams, 50 items each + 100-item Build Your Own)

Recognizing cues for focused assessment is the foundation for the clinical judgment model used by the NCSBN. This model is the focus of the Health Assessment Exams. Emphasis is placed on problem solving during the assessment process and identifying priorities when there is a change or trend that is most concerning.

## Nutrition

(3 exams, 50 items each + 100-item Build Your Own)

Every nurse needs to be able to apply clinical judgment skills to address the nutritional needs of the client. Using the applying and analyzing levels of Nursing Process, the Nutrition Exams assess the readiness of the student to help clients across the lifespan and the healthcare continuum with all aspects of nutritional concepts and needs.

## Leadership

(3 exams, 50 items each + 100-item Build Your Own)

Being a leader and manager of care is an essential function of all nurses. The Leadership Exams focus on the generalist nurse using clinical judgment, while engaging in everything from conflict resolution to delegation to interprofessional collaboration.

## Medical Surgical II

(3 exams, 75 items each + 100-item Build Your Own)

The Medical Surgical II Exams build upon the Medical Surgical I Exams to provide even more information on learner readiness for all areas of adult health. These exams are built with a context and safety emphasis to align with the focus of the new NCLEX-RN and help to identify one's readiness for the complex needs of today's client.

## Pathophysiology

(3 exams, 50 items each + 100-item Build Your Own)

Understanding why the client has needs related to concepts across the lifespan is an essential part of clinical judgment. With a complete focus on nursing care, these exams provide data on how learners are synthesizing the rationale for many of the actions taken by the nurse.

## Maternal-Child

(3 exams, 50 items each + 100-item Build Your Own)

Building on the Pediatrics and Women's Health Exams, emphasis is placed on the needs of the maternity client, conception, fetus, and subsequent pediatrics. These high-level exams are ideal for programs where the two classes are combined.

## Research

(3 exams, 50 items each + 100-item Build Your Own)

Understanding that the application of evidence-based practice is a vital aspect of the work of the novice nurse, Research Exams will focus on integration in the nurses' workflow. There is an emphasis on the application of clinical judgment as it relates to using research and related principles in practice. Concepts are assessed through test items that demonstrate the principle in the context of the workflow of the generalist nurse.



- [examsoft.com](http://examsoft.com)



- 866.429.8889



- [info@examsoft.com](mailto:info@examsoft.com)

