American Association of Sensory Electrodiagnostic Medicine
Application for NCSs Small Pain Fiber EDX Certification

Mail Completed Application and Fees to:
A.A.S.E.M., PO Box 600, Laguna Beach, CA 92652

Doctor ______________________________________________________
First    Last
Degrees ________ ________ ________ ________

Practice Address _________________________________________________________________

City ____________________________ State_______ Zip__________
Email address to receive certification instructions _______________________________________
Contact phone number _________________________________

Year Graduated __________
State License Number __________________________________________________________________

I understand that once I have fulfilled the requirements and pass the final NCSs Small Pain Fiber
Examination my certification will be enforce for five years. I understand and agree to abide by the
practice guidelines as set forth by the AASEM Committee on Small Pain Fiber EDX, the spirit of which
is to avoid over utilization and over billing. I also agree that technician working under my supervision
shall be qualified with a minimum prerequisite of a certificate as a medical assistant, and have past the
AASEM technician’s certification and examination. After we receive your application, certification
instructions will be emailed to you within 7 days.

Signed_______________________________________________________________________
Date____________________________________

Second Doctor Use Separate Form

Technician(s)

Doctor ______________________________________________________
First    Last
Degrees ________ ________ ________ ________

Practice Address _________________________________________________________________

City ____________________________ State_______ Zip__________
Graduate________________________________________________________________________
Year Graduated __________
Email address to receive certification instructions ________________________________________
1. According to NIH data, pain causes ________% of patients to seek medical consultation.
2. Neck or back pain is the most common and ________% develop chronic symptoms.
3. In ________% to ________% of spine surgeries the symptoms are the same or worse.
4. There are only two types of pain nerve fibers Slow _______ and Fast ________ fibers.
5. The ________ fiber are excellent at allowing patients to localize the source of pain.
6. The ________ fibers are very poor localizers of the source of pain.
7. About ________% of pain is referred to a healthy nerve. 20% is referred to the opposite side.
8. Only about ________% of pain patients have motor weakness or atrophy justifying EMG/NCV.
9. The M in EMG stands for _____________ and the V in NCV stands for ____________
10. EMG/NCV cannot access or assess ________ fiber function.
11. A MRI study in the British Jo. Of Neurosurgery (2002) found in selected patients MRI had ________% sensitivity detecting radiculopathy while EMG/NCV had ________% sensitivity.
12. A 1994 MRI study found ________% of normal healthy subjects had disk pathology
13. Standard pain NCS test sites are located over _______ nerves from with specific ______
14. Pain NCS sensitivity approaches 100% one reason is that the patient is his ________
15. Comparison with population averages (bell-shaped curve) has at best be ________% accuracy.
16. In 72 hours ________ fibers down-regulate after a root or peripheral nerve injury.
17. Higher graph readings are nerves with numb ________ fibers. The highest is ______
18. The ________ and ________ nerves originate from the C6-7 nerve roots.
19. If ________ branches on the back of the hand test normal with two or more branches of the ________ nerve (thumb, index, middle or ½ the ring finger) test hypo-functional then entrapment is very likely in the ________ nerve.
20. Randall Cork, MD, PhD’s peer-review study supported the pain NCS has ________% sensitivity in detecting ________ ________ pathology. Physical neuro exam had only ________%
21. Marsha Howton, MD found injecting where the pain NCS indicates worked even when the symptoms were on the ________ from the symptoms.
22. Robert Odell, MD, PhD finds pain NCS allows blocks to work the 1st time instead of ________%
23. Dr. Cork found pain NCS to be the ________ since imaging is only anatomy.
24. Dr. Howton stopped a patient’s 40 years of pain by injecting ________ sites the pain NCS indicated.
25. EMG/NCV has not changed since the early 1960s. A 1999 State-Of-The-Art-Review in the Journal of Physical Medicine & Rehabilitation (Werner & Cavender) titled:
EVALUATING RADICULOPATHY: HOW USEFUL IS ELECTRODIAGNOSTIC TESTING?
States(251-252): “In chronic cases, particularly in individuals with predominantly sensory symptoms, it is difficult or impossible to clinically estimate the type or severity of nerve injury. Only if there is obvious muscle atrophy can one know for certain that motor axon degeneration has occurred.”
 True_____ False_____ This explains why most EMG/NCV reports are equivocal and state the tests cannot rule out whatever the referring doctor suspects.
On the AASEM web site www.sensorymedicine.org click Practice Guidelines (password help2011) read the guidelines and answer the following questions:
26. It is only necessary to perform a needle EMG with a NCS when ________
27. Pain NCS devices are in FDA Class ______ safe & effective, not Class A investigational experimental
28. The pain NCS has 2 parts: Screen test code ________ and amplitude measurement code ________
29. Online Policies do not determine coverage. Unless a procedure is specifically listed in the section covering ________ in the hardcopy policy issued to the patient, then it is ________
30. If you have an insurance problem get everything in writing and email the ________
American Association of Sensory Electrodiagnostic Medicine
Ethics Pledge

Sign and fax with: 1) a copy of your medical provider license and 2) Photo ID (800) 875-0119

The undersigned hereby pledges to abide by the AASEM rules and ethics set forth herein:

1. I pledge that I will personally perform at least two pf-NCS examinations each month.

2. I pledge to support the AASEM in its efforts to advance the science of pf-NCS and to freely share clinical experiences with my colleagues in a cooperative effort and to endeavor to stay current and open to innovations in this branch of medical science.

3. I pledge to avoid over utilization and keep the welfare of patients my goal.

4. I pledge to uphold my responsibility in supervising and training staff and to carry out periodic assessments of the equipment and staff performance.

5. I endorse and support the AASEM Practice Guidelines.

6. I will endeavor to educate others concerning the diagnostic value of pf-NCS.

7. I pledge to avoid criticism of my pf-NCS colleagues and to work within the AASEM to maintain standards and cooperation with those using other EDX methods.

8. I pledge to maintain adequate records and to keep private my patient’s information and to supervise my staff in this regard.

Name: ______________________________________________________

PRINT FULL NAME

Signed ________________________________Date _____________

© AASEM 2011
CERTIFICATION
DOCTORS NP PA PT L AC
FIRST > GET THE ONLINE MANUAL

Go to www.paindx.net Left click on Physician Support (upper right)
Password – PAIN25 Print the manual.

1. FAX the following to (949) 276-5244
   - Ethics Pledge
   - Copy of your license
   - Picture ID

2. Take the QUIZ while viewing the Pain Fiber NCS DVD or watch it at www.paindx.net.

3. Fax the QUIZ to (949) 276-5244

4. While at PainDX.net, in Physicians Support, watch Parts I, II, III under All Axon II Videos, then perform two cervical & two lumbar exams on staff members.
   DO NOT FAX GRAPHS OR REPORTS

5. Call AASEM Support (949) 201-9787 and review the steps. If you correctly answer the questions Support will fax you the Final Exam.

6. Take the exam and Video you testing a couple of sites - say the right things and turn the dial correctly.

7. Mail the Final Exam and Video to:
   Attention: Valee
   AASEM
   115 Shorebreaker Drive
   Laguna Niguel, CA 92677
   Alternately: Fax the Final Exam to (949) 276-5244 and email the Video to Valee at v.aasem@gmail.com

TIPS ON HOW TO PASS THE FINAL EXAM:
1. Read and completely understand the 1st page of the ANALYSIS section of the manual.
2. Next read page 2 and completely understand it.
3. Only after #1 & #2 read the rest of the Analysis Section.
Certificate will be mailed to you about two weeks after we receive the Final Exam and Video.