The POCUS Clinical Certifications are comprised of two assessments: a Clinical Case Based Assessment and a Peer Evaluation. Specialty Certifications include the two assessments plus Clinical Video Submissions.
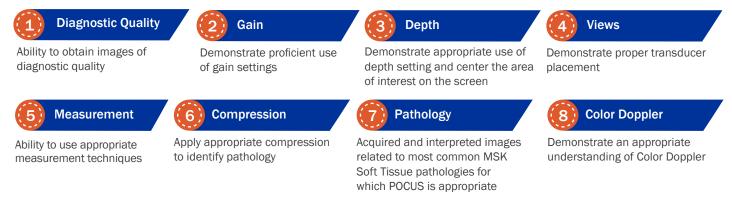
Clinical Case Assessment

The clinical Case-Based assessments are designed to simulate a clinical encounter. They are scenario based exams with question types ranging from multiple choice to hotspots. The questions are designed to assess the following:

7%	Standard POCUS Views	• Familiarity with normal exploration paths • Recognition of when patient condition or presentation requires deviations from the normal exploration paths • Identification of regions or basic POCUS views described in consensus documents or protocols
22%	Anatomical Features	• Ability to recognize and identify various anatomical features in M-mode and 2D/B-mode images, color Doppler, spectral Doppler
30%	Sonographic Findings	• Knowledge of common sonographic artifacts or measurements • Ability to identify artifacts that may aid in diagnosis • Recognition of sonographic patterns and their implications for diagnosis
37%	Diagnostic Findings	• The ability to determine and confirm an initial diagnosis using integrated POCUS media and clinical information • Understanding and recognition when it is not possible to obtain an initial diagnosis through POCUS
4%	Musculoskeletal Soft Tissue Pathologies	• Knowledge of common pathologies and conditions identified through MSK Soft Tissue POCUS (including but not limited to: Abscess, Bursitis, Bursopathy, Cellulitis, Cyst, Fibroma, Foreign body, Ganglion cyst, Hematoma, Intramuscular myxoma, Joint effusion, Muscle tear, Necrotizing fasciitis, Reactive lymph nodes) • Must comprehend that it is sometimes not possible to get a diagnosis and recognize when this is the case • Must know how to determine or confirm a diagnosis using created images • Ability to comprehensively consider all case information (images, patient presentation, labs, etc.) to determine an initial diagnosis

Peer Evaluation

The Peer Evaluation is designed to assess your practical abilities in Point-of-Care Ultrasound (POCUS). Clinicians of your choosing will be sent an anonymous questionnaire to evaluate your POCUS abilities. Assessment results are based on the first two evaluations received. Peer Evaluators will evaluate on the following criteria which will be evenly weighted:

1 Diagnostic Quality
Ability to obtain images of diagnostic quality

2 Gain
Demonstrate proficient use of gain settings

3 Depth
Demonstrate appropriate use of depth setting and center the area of interest on the screen

4 Views
Demonstrate proper transducer placement

5 Measurement
Ability to use appropriate measurement techniques

6 Compression
Apply appropriate compression to identify pathology

7 Pathology
Acquired and interpreted images related to most common MSK Soft Tissue pathologies for which POCUS is appropriate

8 Color Doppler
Demonstrate an appropriate understanding of Color Doppler

Clinical Video Submission

The Clinical Video Submission is designed to assess your ability to acquire POCUS scans. When enrolled in a Specialty Certification that includes this content area, you will be required to upload HIPAA compliant MSK Soft Tissue media. The submitted videos (one normal and one with correctly identified pathology) will be evaluated by clinical reviewers based on POCUS protocols and criteria listed below:

1 Pathology Identified
2 Color Doppler *(if applicable)*
3 Depth
4 Diagnostic Quality
5 Gain
6 Measurement
7 On-Axis
8 Power Doppler *(if applicable)*
9 Transducer Use
10 Ultrasound Machine Preset Use
11 Views