

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The Vascular Access Certification Corporation (VACC), an organization with the mission to “certify vascular access health care professionals and related disciplines working in the field of vascular access through professional board certification”¹ commissioned a job analysis study from Prometric for the Vascular Access Board Certified (VA-BC™) examination.

A job analysis is designed to obtain descriptive information about the tasks performed in a job and the knowledge needed to adequately perform those tasks. The purpose of this job analysis was to:

- develop and validate the listing of the tasks and knowledge related to work performed by vascular access health care professionals;
- update the test specifications for the VA-BC™ examination; and,
- obtain useful information that can guide educational and professional development initiatives.

Conduct of the Job Analysis

The job analysis consisted of several activities: collaboration with subject matter experts to ensure representativeness of the tasks and knowledge; survey development; survey dissemination; compilation of survey results; and test specifications development. The successful outcome of the job analysis depended on the excellent information provided by vascular access health care professionals in various phases of the study.

Survey Development

Survey research is an efficient and effective way to identify the tasks and knowledge that are important for vascular access health care professionals. The tasks and knowledge included on the survey covered seven task domains and eight knowledge domains. Development of the survey was based on a draft of task and knowledge statements developed from a variety of resources and refined by a committee of subject matter experts appointed by VACC.

Survey Content

The survey, disseminated in April and May 2025, consisted of five sections.

Survey Sections
Section 1: Background and General Information
Section 2: Tasks
Section 3: Knowledge
Section 4: Test Content Recommendations
Section 5: Comments

¹ <https://www.vacert.org/about-us/> Retrieved on June 9, 2025

RESULTS

Survey Response Rate

The VA-BC™ job analysis survey was disseminated using an open participation link. A total of 700 surveys were submitted, 494 of which qualified for inclusion in the data analysis. Based on the analysis of the survey responses, a representative group of vascular access health care professionals completed the survey in sufficient numbers to meet the requirements for conducting statistical analysis. This is evidenced by review of the responses for each of the background and general information questions as well as confirmation by the Test Specifications Committee.

Survey Ratings

Participants were asked to rate the tasks and knowledge by the importance for a vascular access health care professional using a five-point scale (0 = Of no importance to 4 = Very important).

Content Coverage

Evidence was provided for the comprehensiveness of the content coverage within the domains. That is, if the tasks and knowledge within a domain are adequately defined, then it should be judged as being well covered. Most respondents indicated that the content within each task and knowledge domain was *well* or *very well* covered, thus supporting the comprehensiveness of the defined domains.

Test Specifications Development

Throughout May and June 2025, a Test Specifications Committee convened to review the results of the job analysis and to create the test content outline that will guide the update of the VA-BC™ examination.

Summary

In summary, this study used a multi-method approach in identifying the tasks and knowledge that are important for competent performance by vascular access health care professionals. The job analysis process allowed for input from a representative group of vascular access health care professionals and other stakeholders and was conducted within the guidelines of professionally sound practice. The results of the job analysis can be used by VACC to develop the VA-BC™ examination and guide professional development initiatives.

RESULTS AT A GLANCE

WHO COMPLETED THE SURVEY

A total of 494 responses were used for analysis. The majority of respondents indicated working in a hospital. Most of the respondents identified as a Registered Nurses.

TASKS IMPORTANCE RATINGS

All 53 task statements achieved high importance ratings. Respondents indicated that the survey covered the important tasks well or very well.

KNOWLEDGE IMPORTANCE RATINGS

All 45 knowledge statements achieved high importance ratings. Respondents indicated that the survey covered the important knowledge well or very well.