



THE AMERICAN BOARD OF
ANESTHESIOLOGY

2017 ABA EXAMS REPORT

SOCIETY OF ACADEMIC ANESTHESIOLOGY ASSOCIATIONS

DAVID O. WARNER, M.D.

Chair, ABA Assessments & OSCE Committees

Mayo Clinic
Rochester, MN

QUESTION EDITORS

ITE/BASIC/ADVANCED/PART 1 EXAMS

76 JUNIOR EDITORS

10 were selected in 2016

Write questions (18/year)

Revise questions based on feedback



43 SENIOR EDITORS & COMMITTEE MEMBERS

Edit questions

Mentor junior editors

QUESTION DEVELOPMENT

- Question generation for the examinations: BASIC, ADVANCED, Part 1 and ITE
 - Approximately **1,400** questions generated
 - Three senior editors meetings and 8 webinars to review items
 - ITE and BASIC Exam forms reviewed by exams committees in August and September 2016
 - ADVANCED form was reviewed in January 2017

2018 IN-TRAINING EXAM (ITE)

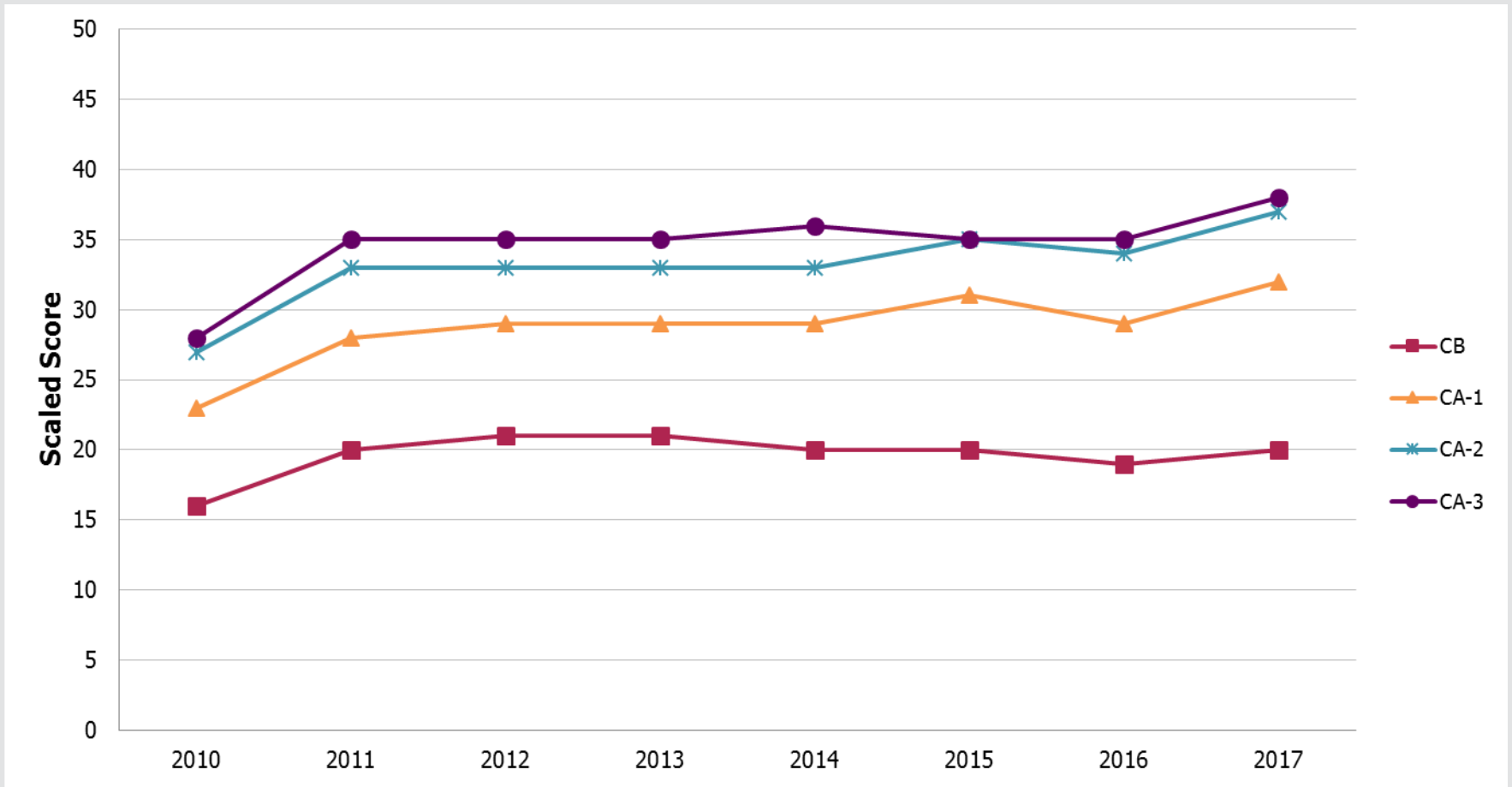
- Internet-based, secure, proctored exam delivered via vendor
 - Exam may be delivered any time from **12 a.m. ET on Thursday, Feb. 15,** to **11:59 p.m. ET on Tuesday, Feb. 20,** with multiple administrations
- Every computer used must pass complete systems check; administration guides delivered in December
- Questions may include graphics, including still shots of a monitor screen and ultrasound images

ITE-PAIN MEDICINE (ITE-PM)

- In 2017, **86** programs administered the exam to nearly **320** fellows
- 2018 ITE-PM will be administered at fellowship program sites on **Friday, March 16**
- ITEs for Critical Care Medicine and Pediatric Anesthesiology are expected to be added in **2019**

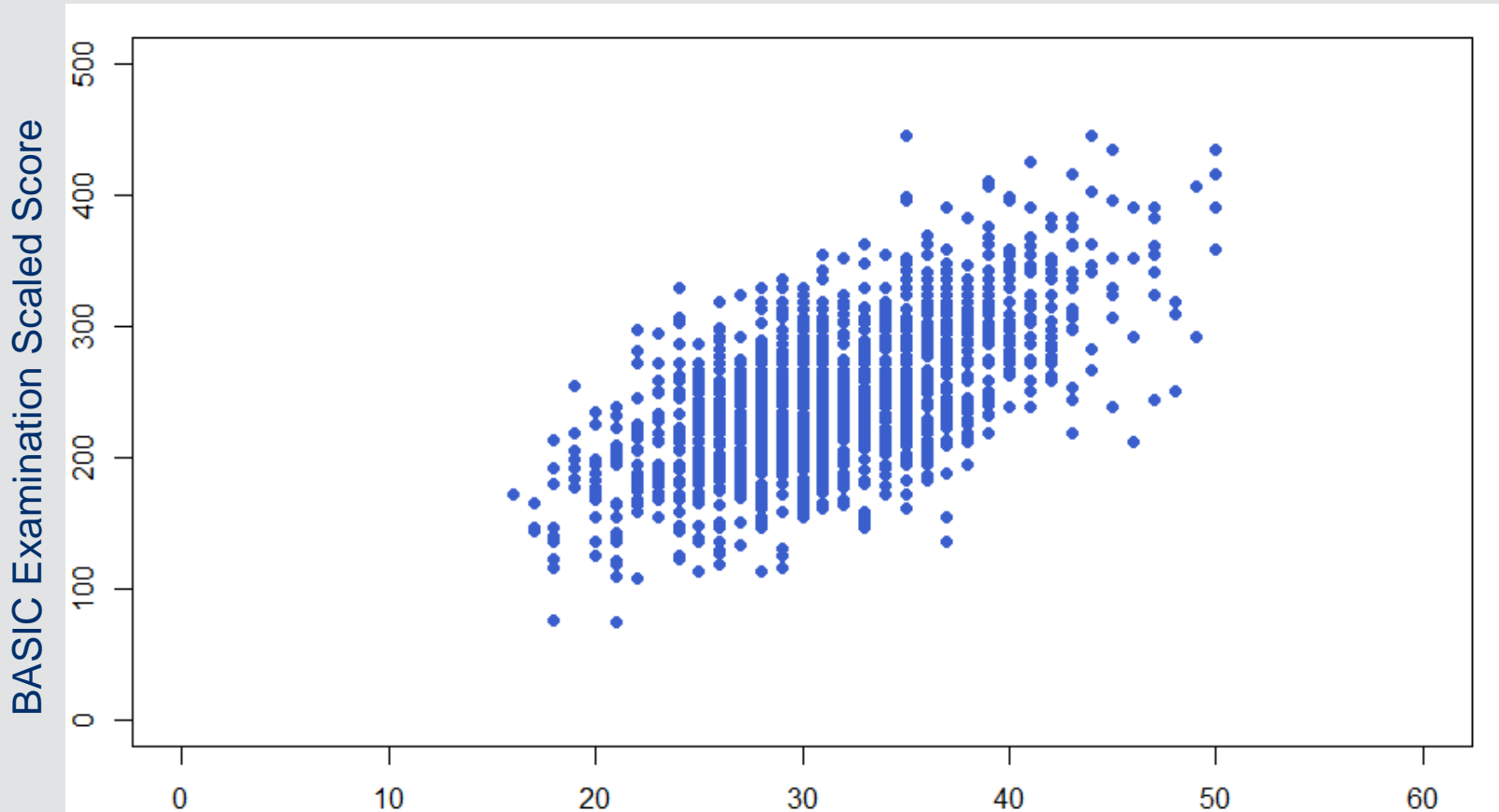
IN-TRAINING EXAM PERFORMANCE

BY TRAINING LEVEL & EXAM YEAR



RELATION OF SCORES

2017 ITE TO 2017 JUNE BASIC EXAMINATION



ITE Scaled Score

The correlation between the 2017 ITE scaled scores and 2017 June BASIC Exam scaled Scores is 0.622, $p < 0.001$

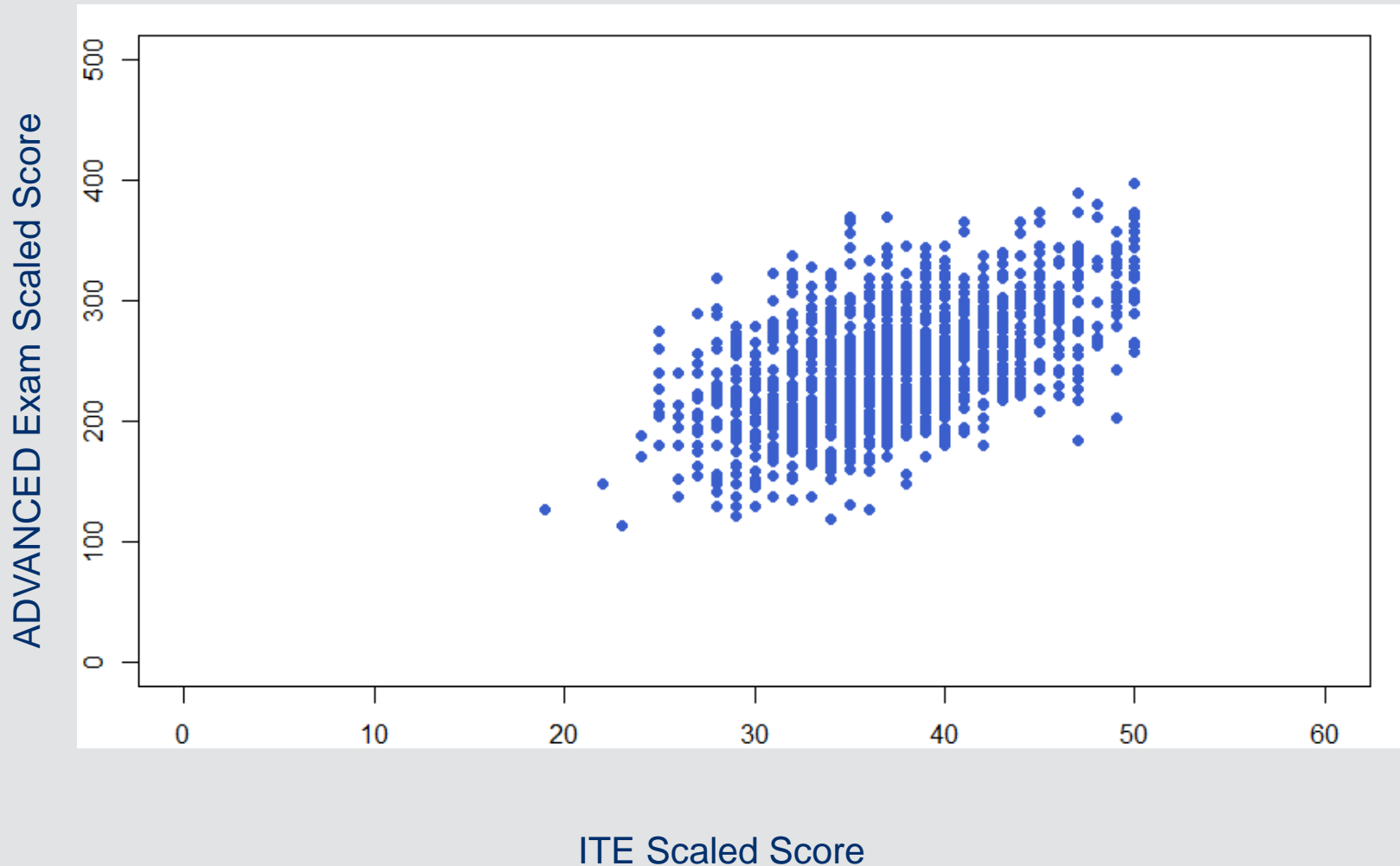
RELATION OF SCORES

2017 ITE TO 2017 JUNE BASIC EXAM

Scaled Score	N	2017 June BASIC Scaled Score Mean (S.D.)	BASIC Pass Rate
≤25	217	201 (44)	64%
26-30	524	228 (41)	85%
31-35	508	250 (43)	94%
36-40	306	283 (45)	99%
41-45	89	325 (47)	100%
≥46	20	341 (61)	100%

RELATION OF SCORES

2017 ITE TO 2017 JULY ADVANCED EXAMINATION



The correlation between the 2017 ITE scaled scores and 2017 July ADVANCED Exam scaled Scores is 0.540, $p < 0.001$.

RELATION OF SCORES

2017 ITE TO 2017 JULY ADVANCED EXAM

Scaled Score	N	2017 ADVANCED Scaled Score Mean (S.D.)	ADVANCED Pass Rate
≤25	15	197 (46)	73%
26-30	126	210 (41)	81%
31-35	392	232 (41)	94%
36-40	562	249 (37)	98%
41-45	310	272 (36)	100%
≥46	120	305 (41)	100%

EXAMINATION SCORING

- Standard-setting study conducted every five years
- Following exam administration, preliminary item analysis conducted (difficulty & discrimination)
- Key validation for items
 - negative discrimination
 - no clear correct answer

2017 JUNE BASIC EXAM RESULTS

- Candidates were assigned to examine on Friday or Saturday
- Key validation eliminated nine items from two forms
- 88.4% of candidates passed

N	Mean Scaled Score	Standard Deviation	Pass Rate	Reliability
1,696	247.6	54.0	88.4%	0.80

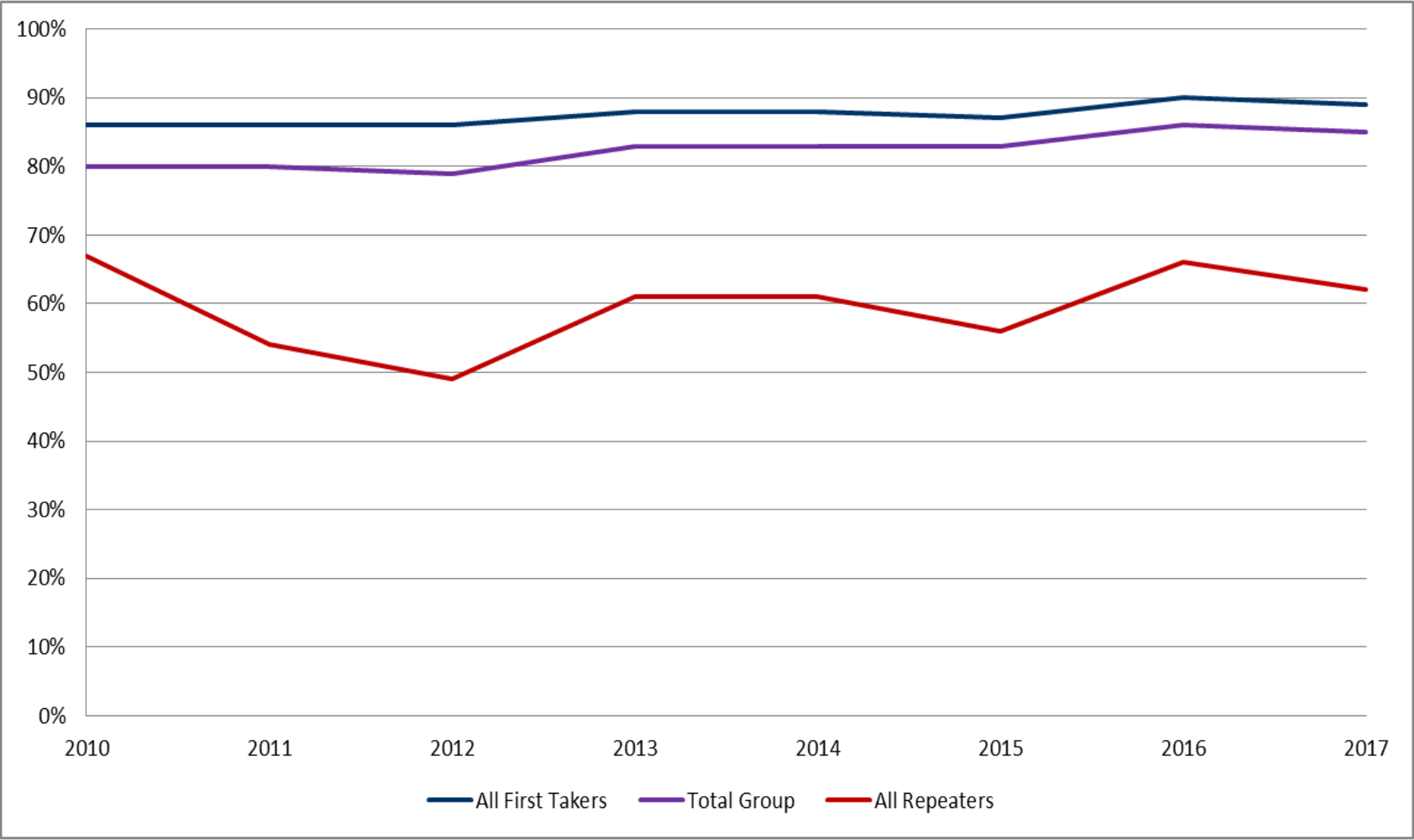
2017 JULY ADVANCED EXAM RESULTS

- Candidates were assigned to examine on Friday or Saturday
- Key validation eliminated 10 items from two forms
- 95.2% of candidates passed

N	Mean Scaled Score	Standard Deviation	Pass Rate	Reliability
1,610	248.9	47.4	95.2%	0.75

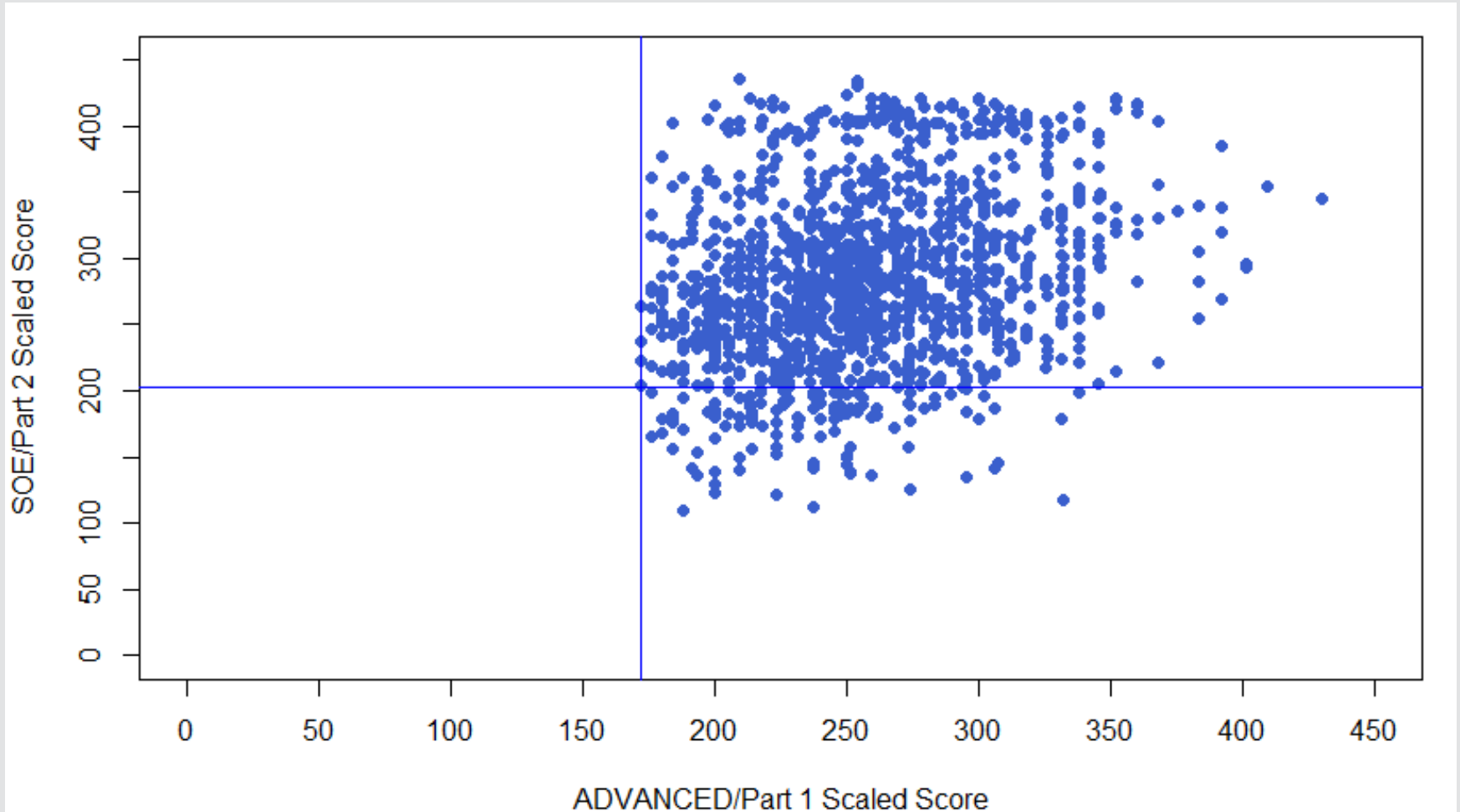
PART 2/APPLIED EXAMINATION

SUCCESS RATES



RELATION OF SCORES

2017 SOE/PART 2 EXAM TO FIRST ATTEMPT ON
2016 ADVANCED/PART 1 EXAM



The correlation between the 2017 SOE/Part 2 Exam scaled scores and first attempt on 2016 ADVANCED/Part 1 Exam scaled scores is 0.266, $p < 0.001$

STAGED EXAMINATIONS

- Staged exams launched in 2014 to replace the traditional Part 1 and Part 2 Exams
 - Candidates who completed residency training on or after Oct. 1, 2016, take the staged exams – BASIC, ADVANCED and APPLIED Exams
- In 2018, the Objective Structured Clinical Examination (OSCE) component will be added to the APPLIED Exam, completing the staged exams rollout



APPLIED EXAM: WHY ADD OSCES?

- OSCES are intended to assess two major domains that are difficult to assess in written or oral exam formats, such as
 - **Communication and Professionalism**
 - **Technical skills related to patient care**
- Evidence that these domains are important in physician performance after training



OSCE FORMAT

- Candidates will participate in a **seven-station circuit** that will evaluate their proficiency in seven of the nine skills from the OSCE Content Outline:
 - Six Communication & Professionalism skills
 - Three Technical skills
- Each station will be **eight minutes long** with four minutes between stations to review their next scenario

OSCE FORMAT

- In some stations the candidate will interact with a **standardized patient actor** as part of the scenario
- In others, the candidate will interact directly with an examiner, but examiners will not be in most exam rooms



WHY ARE WE DOING THIS?

- **Assessment**

- To better assess competencies important for diplomates to possess; better align with expansion of competencies reflected by the ACGME milestones
- Desire to improve the discrimination and external validity of our overall assessment process and assess whether there is significant collinearity with the SOE

- **Training**

- To drive improved training in these domains within residency programs

PREPARATION FOR OSCES?

- Extensive exam prep/training should not be necessary
 - **Communication & Professionalism scenarios:** Based on OSCE formats that medical school grads have experienced – enter a room and talk with a standardized patient/clinician
 - **Technical Skills scenarios:** Mimic common clinical teaching settings (e.g., explaining what the candidate sees on a monitor, showing faculty relevant ultrasound anatomy, interpreting an echo)

HOW WILL OSCES BE SCORED?

- Scoring method similar to that used for the current Structured Oral Examination
- Standards for passing the OSCE component will account for the novel nature of the exam

OSCE RESOURCES

- Published these resources on the ABA website to help programs help residents prepare for the first OSCE administration in 2018:
 - OSCE Content Outline
 - OSCE administration schedule
 - OSCE example scenarios with links to TEE resources
 - OSCE overview video



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QUESTIONS?

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