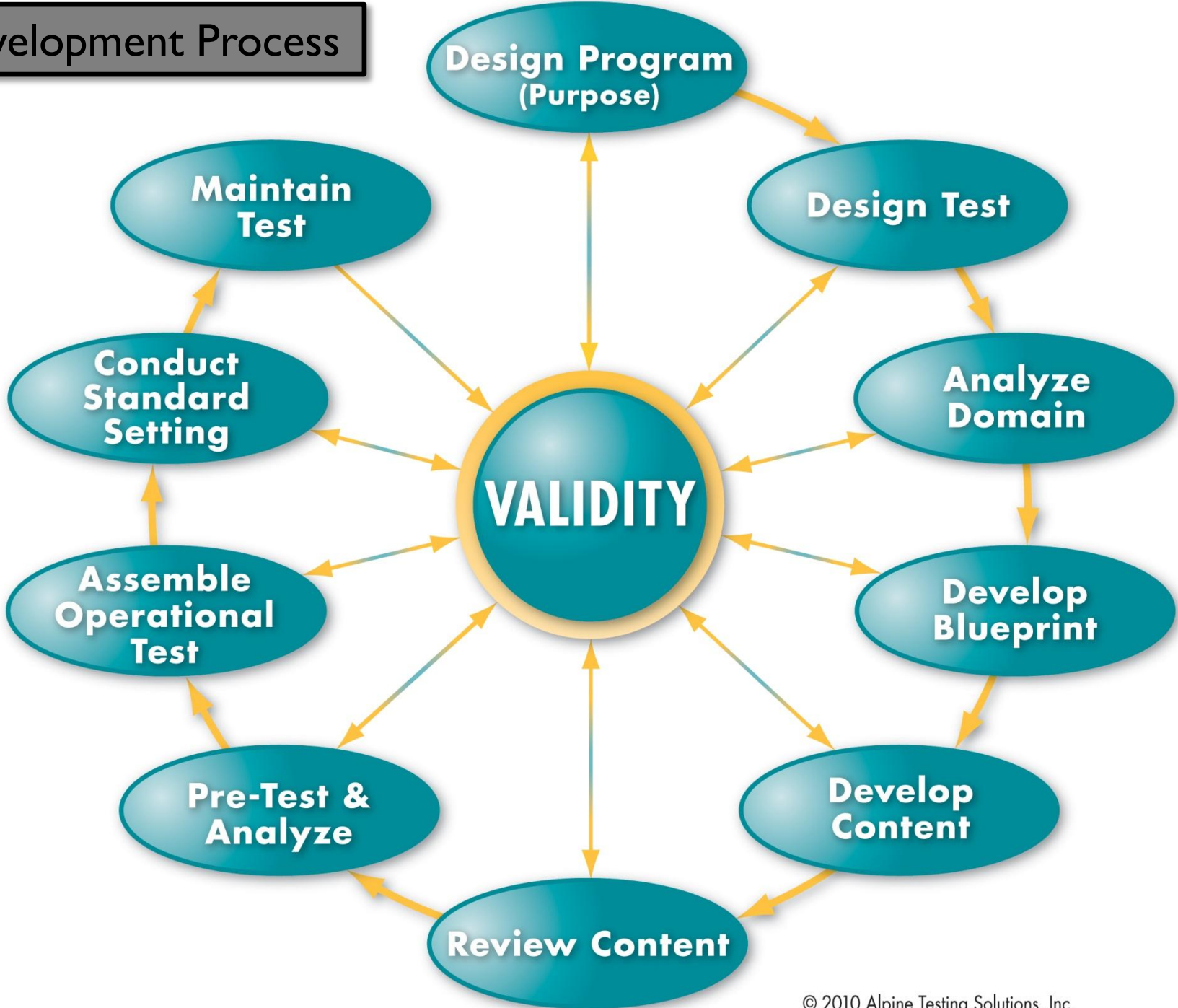


# WHAT'S NEXT? EVALUATING AND UPDATING YOUR CERTIFICATION TESTING PROGRAM

- ▶ Debra Hecker, National Alliance of Wound Care
- ▶ Susan Davis-Becker, Alpine Testing Solutions

# Test Development Process



# WHY REDEVELOP?

## ▶ Content

- ▶ Notable change in content area
- ▶ Redefinition of credential

## ▶ Psychometric

- ▶ Content issues identified by item- and test-level data

## ▶ Professional Expectations

- ▶ NCCA Standard 21: *The certification program must demonstrate continued compliance to maintain accreditation*
- ▶ NCCA Standard 10 (Guideline): *On average, a job analysis is performed every 5-7 years. It may be more frequent if the field changes rapidly.*

# REDEVELOPMENT: POLICY CONSIDERATIONS

1. Review Target Population
2. Review Intended/Unintended Uses
3. Determine Relationship Between Existing and New Credential
4. Provide Adequate Notice to Stakeholders

# REDEVELOPMENT PROCESS

1. Review Domain Analysis
2. Review Test Content
3. Develop New Test Content
  - a. Create
  - b. Review
  - c. Pre-test
4. Develop New Test Forms
5. Conduct Standard Setting

# EXAMPLE: NAWC WOUND CARE CERTIFIED

## ▶ Program History

- ▶ 2003: Beginning of the WCC program
- ▶ 2005-2007: Psychometrically sound test development
- ▶ 2007: Initial operational administration of new exam
- ▶ 2008: NCCA Accreditation achieved
- ▶ 2009: New test forms rolled out
- ▶ 2009-2010: Ongoing development of new test content
- ▶ 2011: New test forms rolled out
- ▶ Need for Redevelopment: Substantial time had passed since the original domain analysis

# REVIEW/REVISE DOMAIN ANALYSIS

## ▶ Step 1: Focus Group

- ▶ Subject matter experts met to review the list of knowledge and skills generated from the 2006 domain analysis.
- ▶ Original list was revised and reorganized substantially

## ▶ Step 2: Survey

- ▶ Existing certified population was surveyed to gather opinions on the relative importance of each knowledge and skill
- ▶ Survey results were used to create a revised test blueprint

# REVIEW EXISTING TEST CONTENT

## ▶ Step 1: Alignment of Existing Test Content

- ▶ Subject matter experts met to review existing test content
- ▶ All items were either
  - ▶ aligned to the new test blueprint,
  - ▶ identified as not aligning to the new test blueprint, or
  - ▶ Identified as needing revision to align to the new test blueprint

## ▶ Step 2: Analysis of Content Needs

- ▶ Alignment of existing items was compared to new blueprint
- ▶ Areas where additional content was needed were identified



# CREATE & REVIEW NEW TEST CONTENT

- ▶ Subject matter experts
  - ▶ Trained to create new test content
  - ▶ Given individual assignments
  - ▶ Worked independently to create items
- ▶ Group of subject matter experts meets virtually to review new content
- ▶ Reviewed content is pilot tested on operational test forms

# CREATE NEW TEST FORMS

- ▶ Review of pilot item statistics
  - ▶ Acceptable item statistics: Item is ready for operational use
  - ▶ Questionable item statistics: Item will be reviewed by subject matter experts to determine if it can be used operationally
  - ▶ Problematic item statistics: Item must be revised and re-piloted
- ▶ Test forms will be created
  - ▶ Based on new blueprint
  - ▶ Using existing items aligned to new test blueprint and newly created items

# SET PERFORMANCE STANDARDS

## ▶ Process

- ▶ Subject matter experts meet and provide input on
  - ▶ Expectations (in terms of knowledge and skills) of an entry-level wound care professional who is minimally competent
  - ▶ Expectations as to how this minimally competent professional will perform on the new exam forms

## ▶ Final Decision

- ▶ Policy makers at NAWC review the recommendations from the subject matter expert panel and available data to select the final cut score

# EXAMPLE REDEVELOPMENT SCHEDULE

## ▶ 2011

- ▶ Reviewed/Revise Domain Analysis

## ▶ 2012

- ▶ Review Existing Test Content
- ▶ Create & Review New Test Content

## ▶ 2013

- ▶ Create New Test Forms
- ▶ Set Performance Standards/Cut Scores
- ▶ Inform candidate population of forthcoming new test structure

## ▶ 2014

- ▶ New Test Forms Published

# CHALLENGES: POLICY

- ▶ Maintaining recertification levels
- ▶ Consideration of proposed new item types, i.e. photographs with scenarios
- ▶ Possible changes in eligibility criteria

# CHALLENGES: PSYCHOMETRIC

- ▶ Balancing desire to maintain existing program and need to incorporate changes in the expectations for the profession
- ▶ Determining needed relationship between existing test design/content and new test design/content

# CONTACT FOR MORE INFORMATION

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