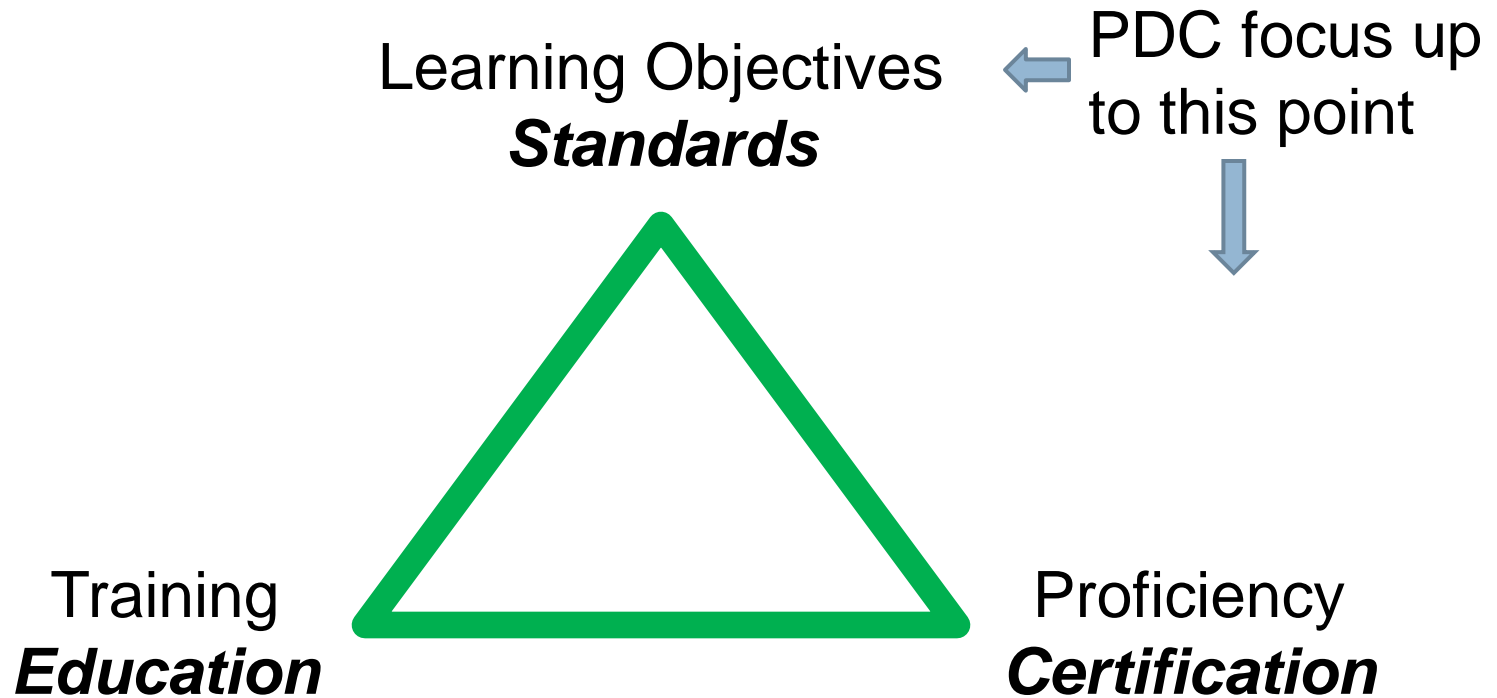


NATIONAL CERTIFICATION PROGRAM PROGRESS REPORT AND RMFD BETA EXAM - INITIAL ANALYSIS

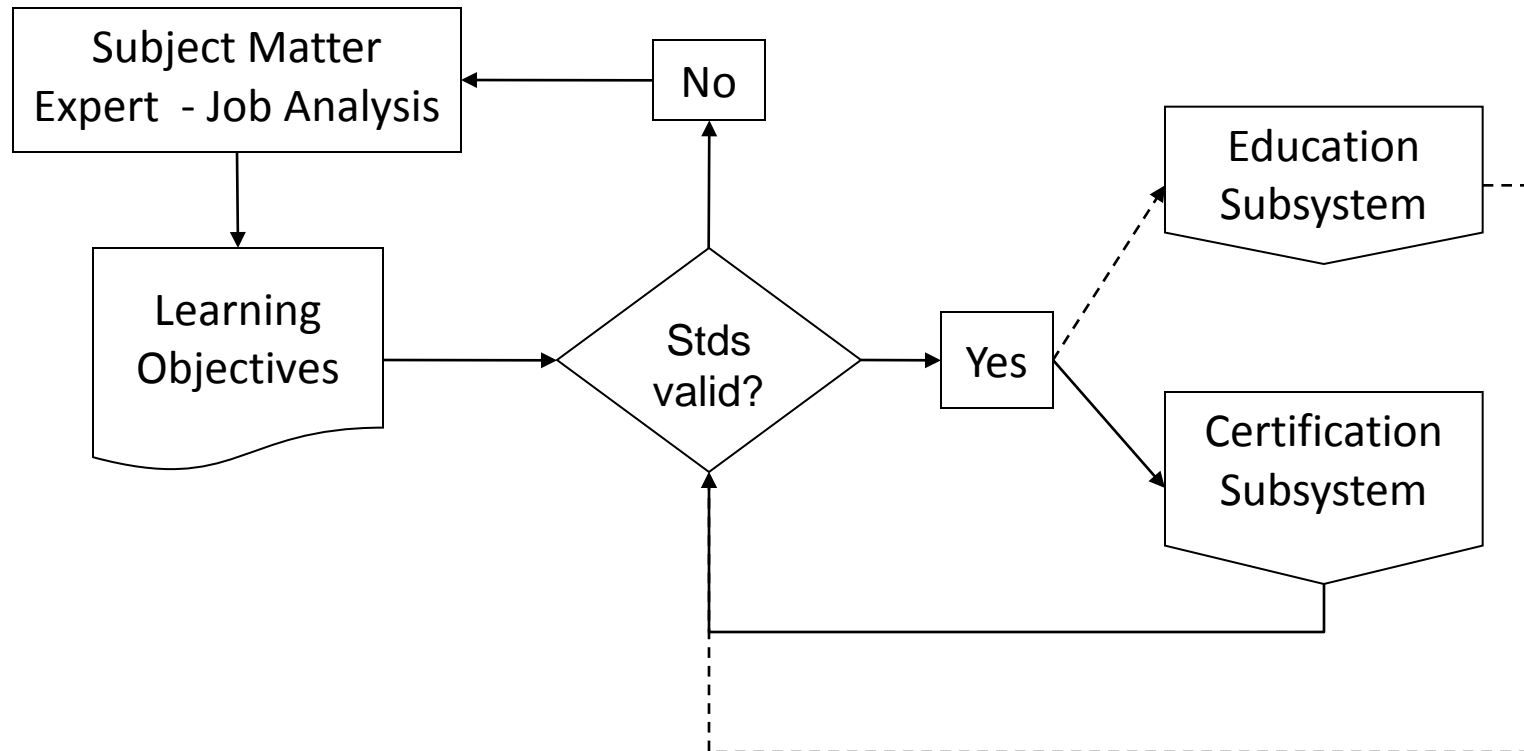
NCWM PDC Committee
July 2010

Certification Triangle



Setting Standards

Standards Subsystem

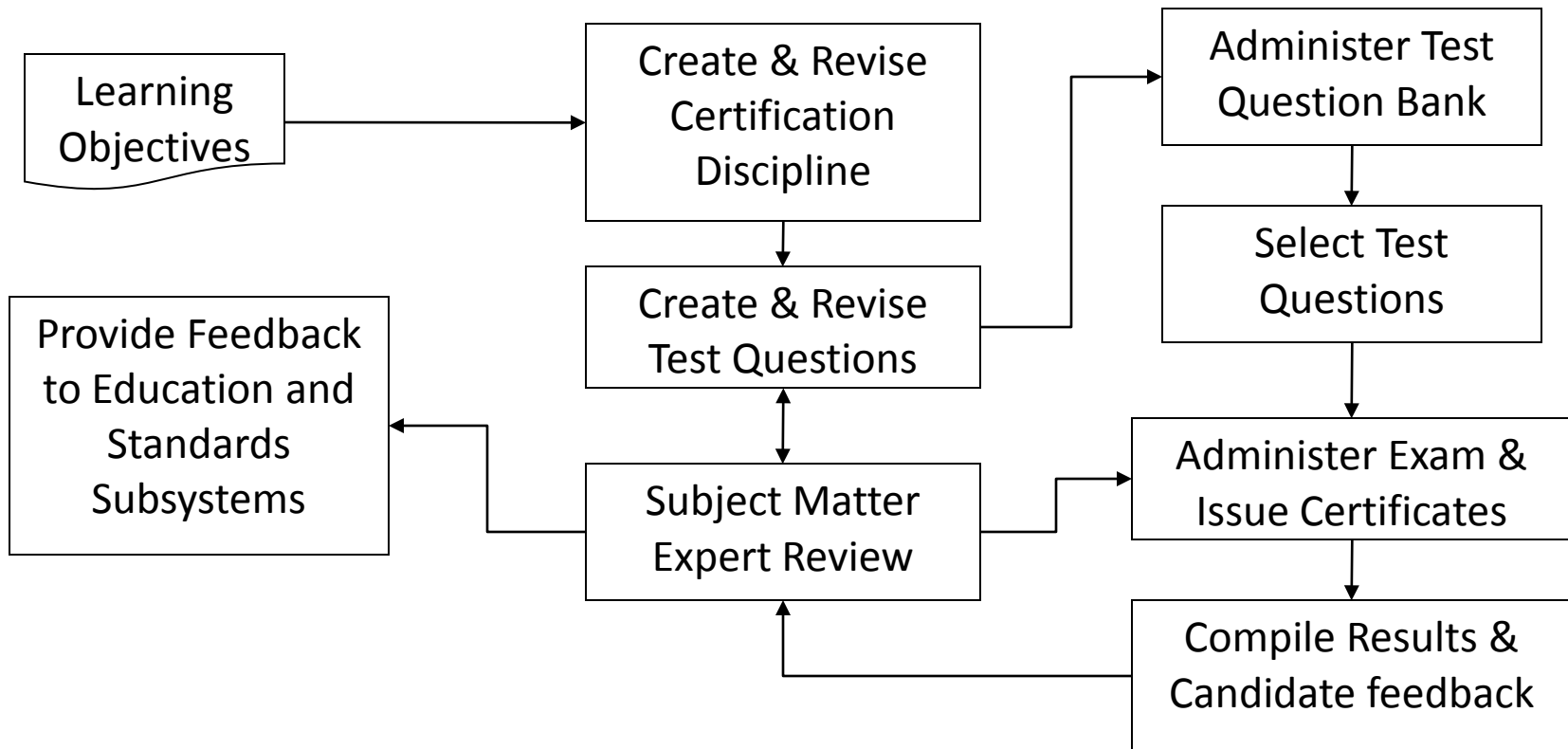


Progress Report - Standards

- Curriculum Outline organizes standards within body of knowledge (done)
- Core Competency Model – guidelines for setting training objectives (done)
- Curriculum segments articulate standards as training objectives (done for RMFD or in progress)
- Find these on the PDC Committee pages of NCWM site or in NCWM reports

Certification Process

Certification Subsystem



Progress Report - Certification

- Certification discipline created for RMFD – defines subject areas for testing (done)
- Guide to writing test questions created – helps translate training objectives to good questions (done)
- Test questions collected from regional sources or new questions created (done for RMFD or in progress)
- Subject matter expert review of test questions conducted (done for RMFD or in progress)
- Beta test conducted
- Find these on the PDC pages of NCWM site or in NCWM reports

What did we learn from Beta Exam?

- What problems did we encounter with the test site, i.e. limitations in the site options or things regarding the test that needed correction?
- What problems did we encounter with individual users interface, i.e. problems in viewing and operating the test that may be related to the individual's computer or software?

Problems with Test Interface

- 1. Exceeding time limit
- 2. Short answer intolerance
- 3. Navigation Issues – going back to review takes time
- 4. Poor graphic quality
- Where possible PDC will resolve or improve

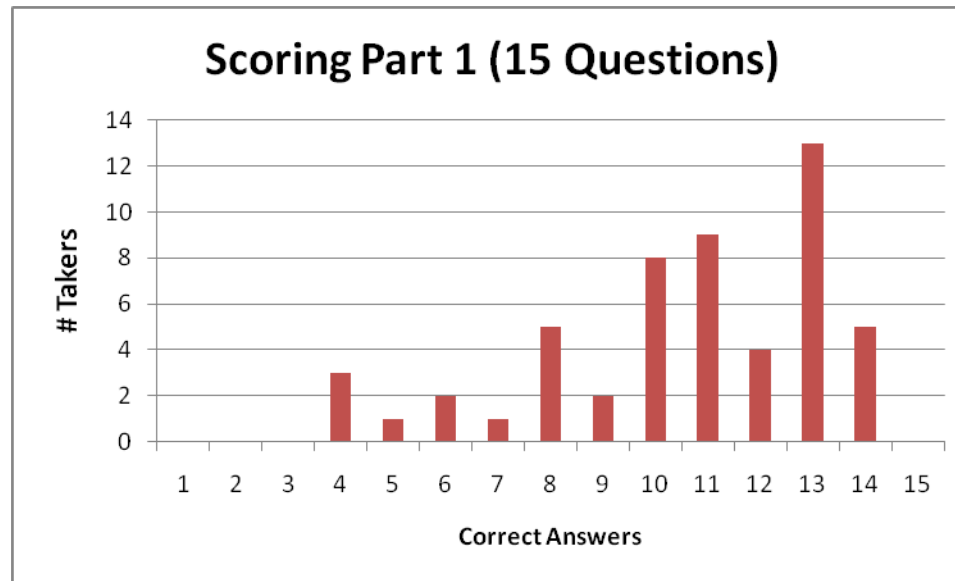
Problems with User Interfaces

- 1. Inability to view the entire question on one screen requires scrolling which is cumbersome and takes valuable time
- 2. Inability to view pictures and graphic figures due to firewall blocking (pop-ups).
- PDC and NCWM will assist but this is typically solved only at the user level with IT help.

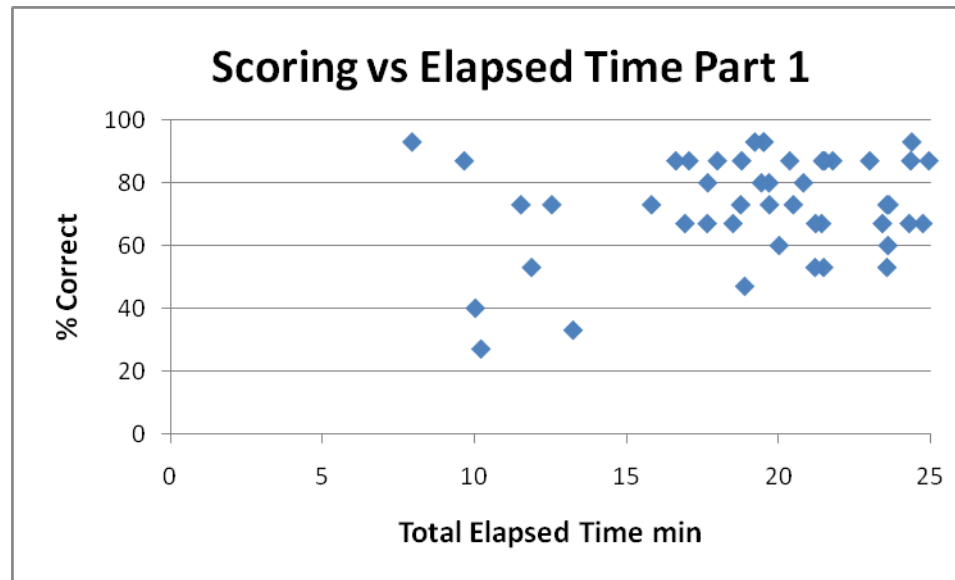
Review of Content and Difficulty

- Results from each section and typical time to complete the section (Did we get the right number of questions and level of difficulty)
- Summarizing overall results from those who completed the beta exam
- Assessment of passing score, i.e. process of selecting the right “Cut Score”

Part 1 Results – General HB44

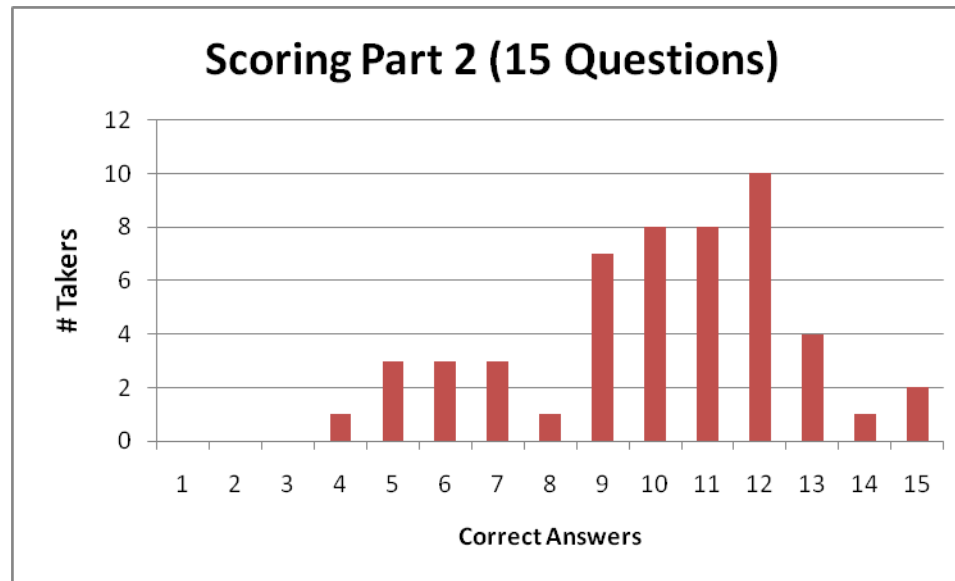


Part 1 Results

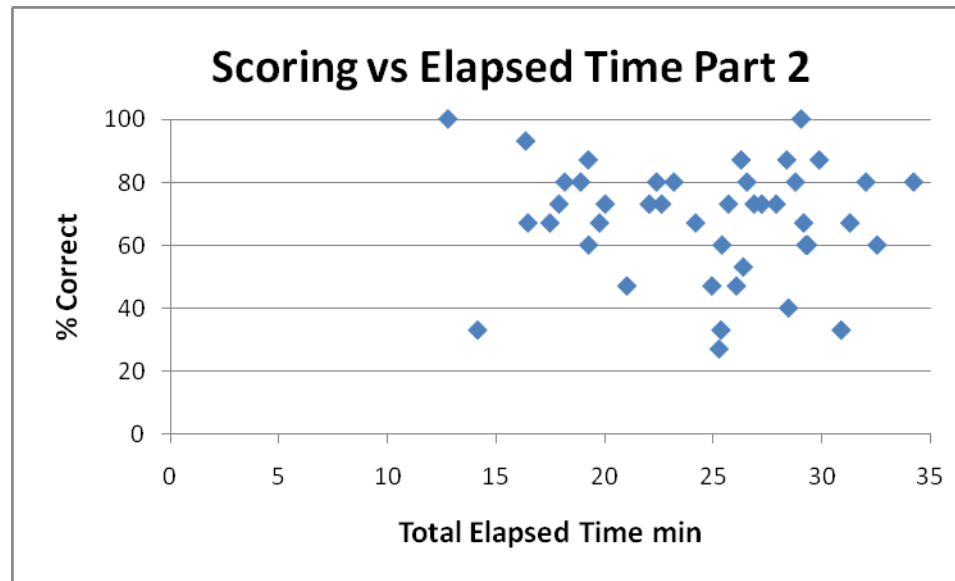


Time for this section may be too short!

Part 2 Results – General LMD

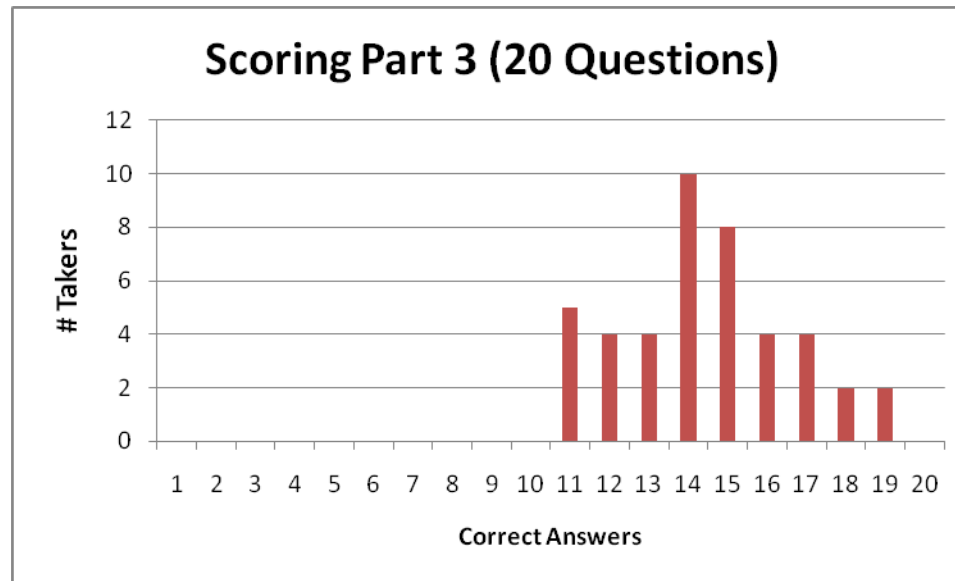


Part 2 Results

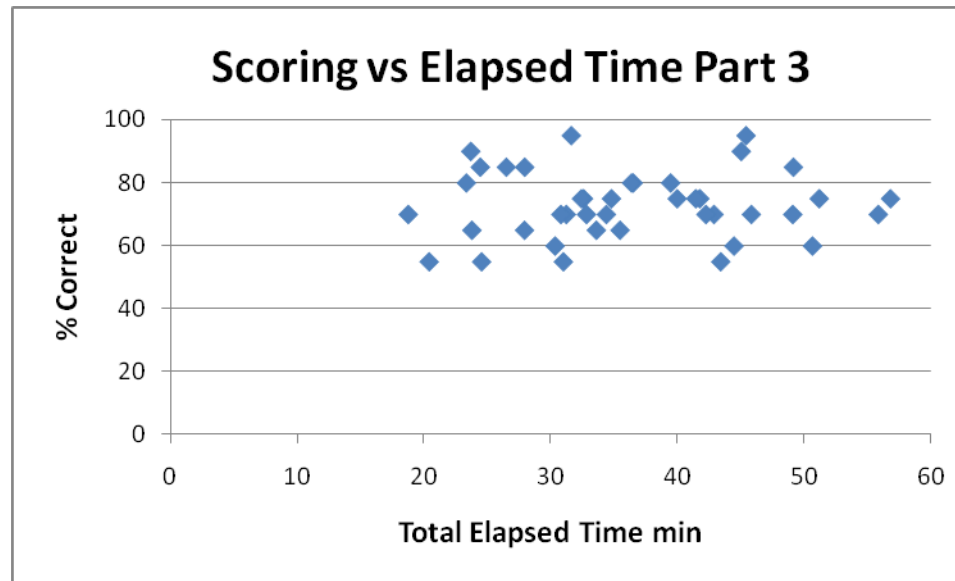


Time for this section appeared about right.

Part 3 Results – RMFD Specific

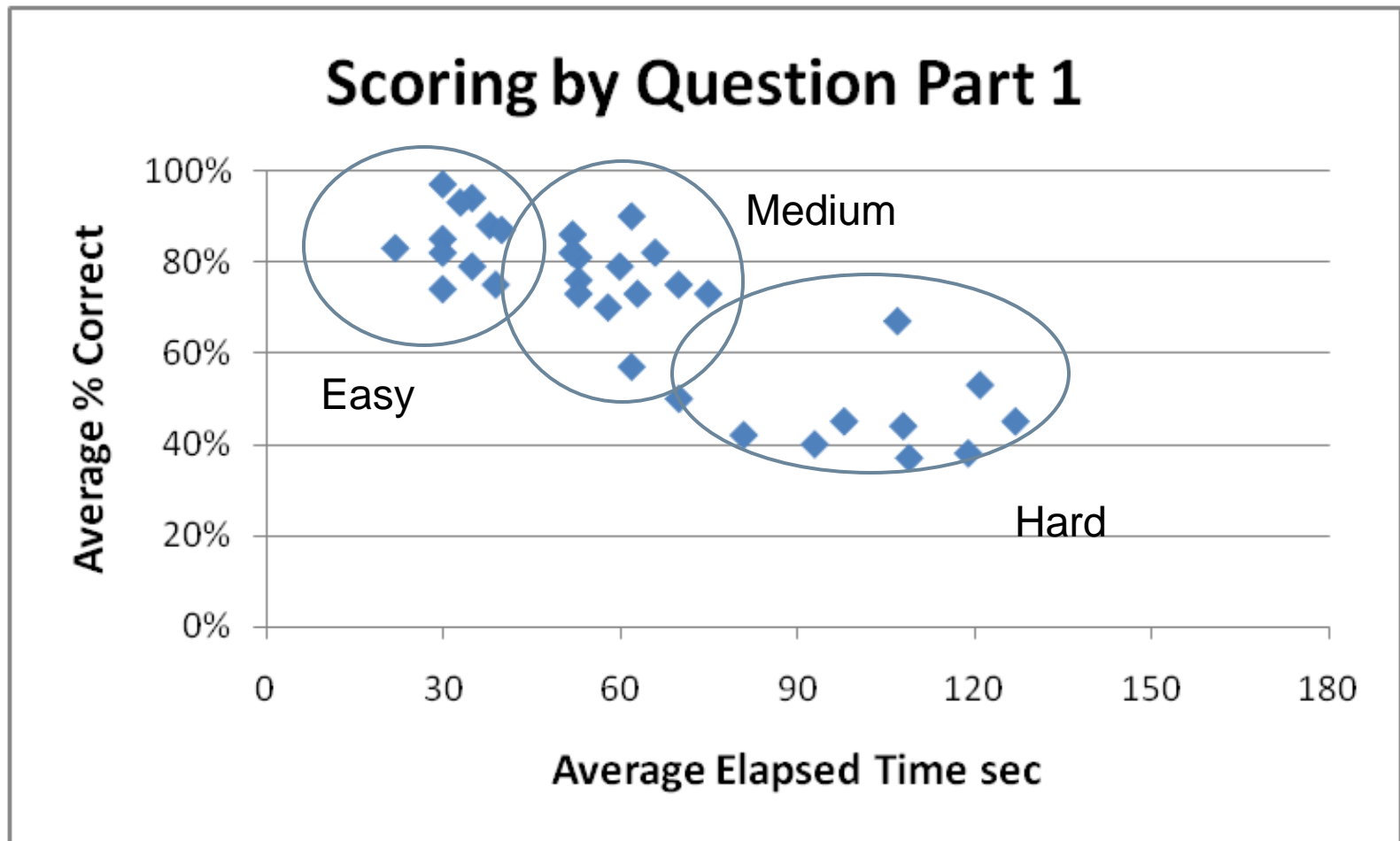


Part 3 Results

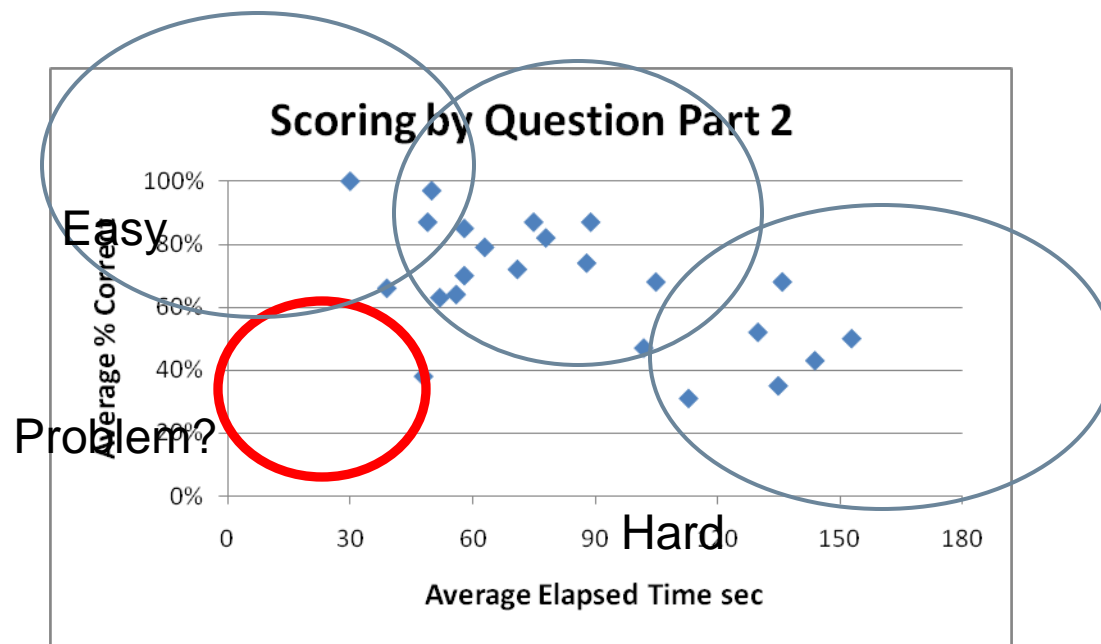


Could we take 5 minutes from this section to increase part 1?

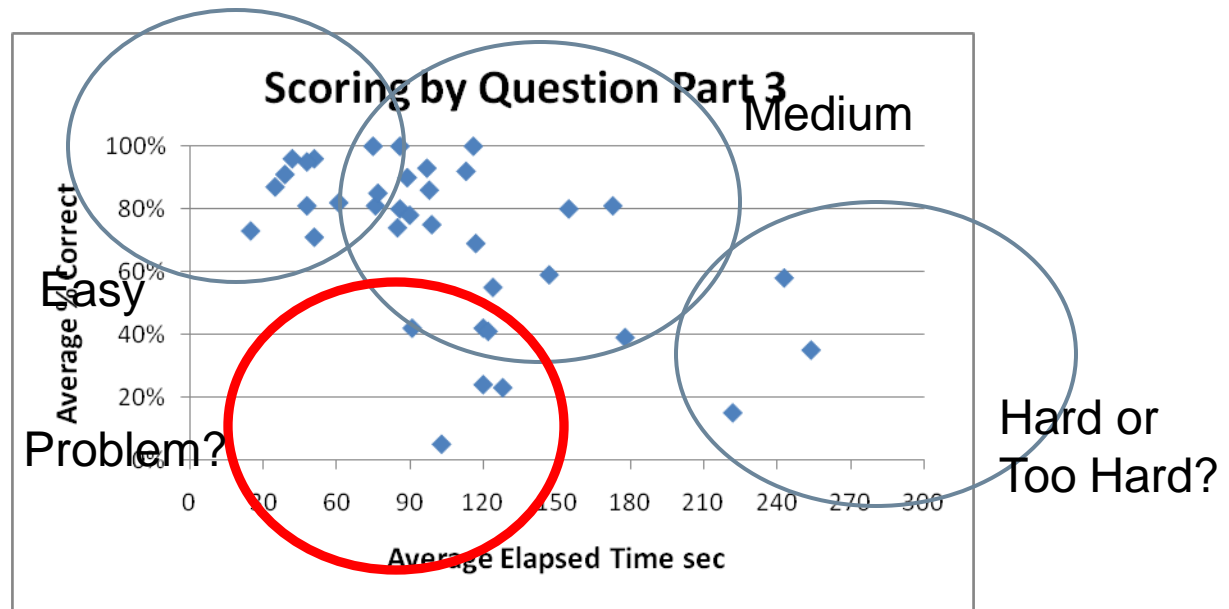
Question Analysis



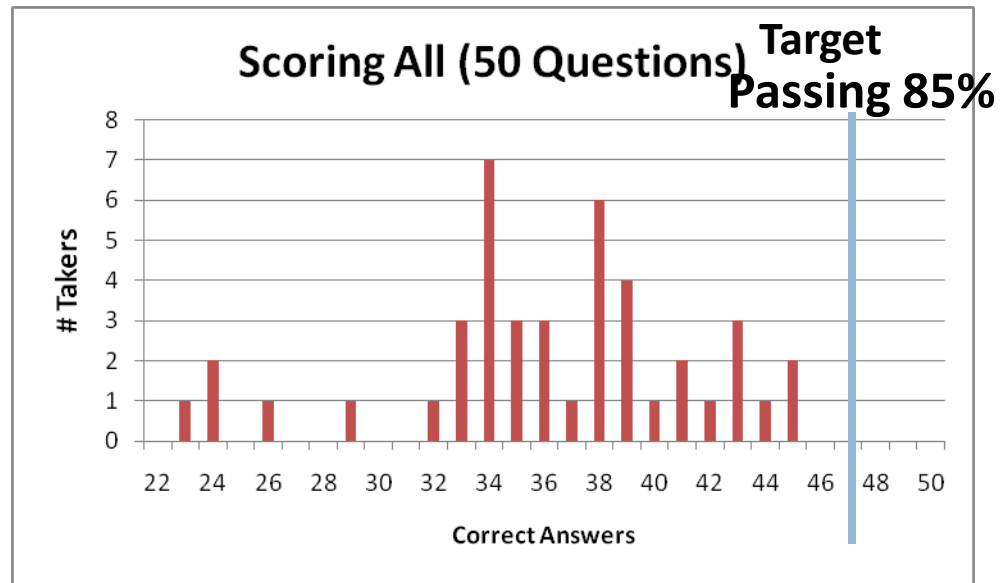
Question Analysis



Question Analysis



Overall Results



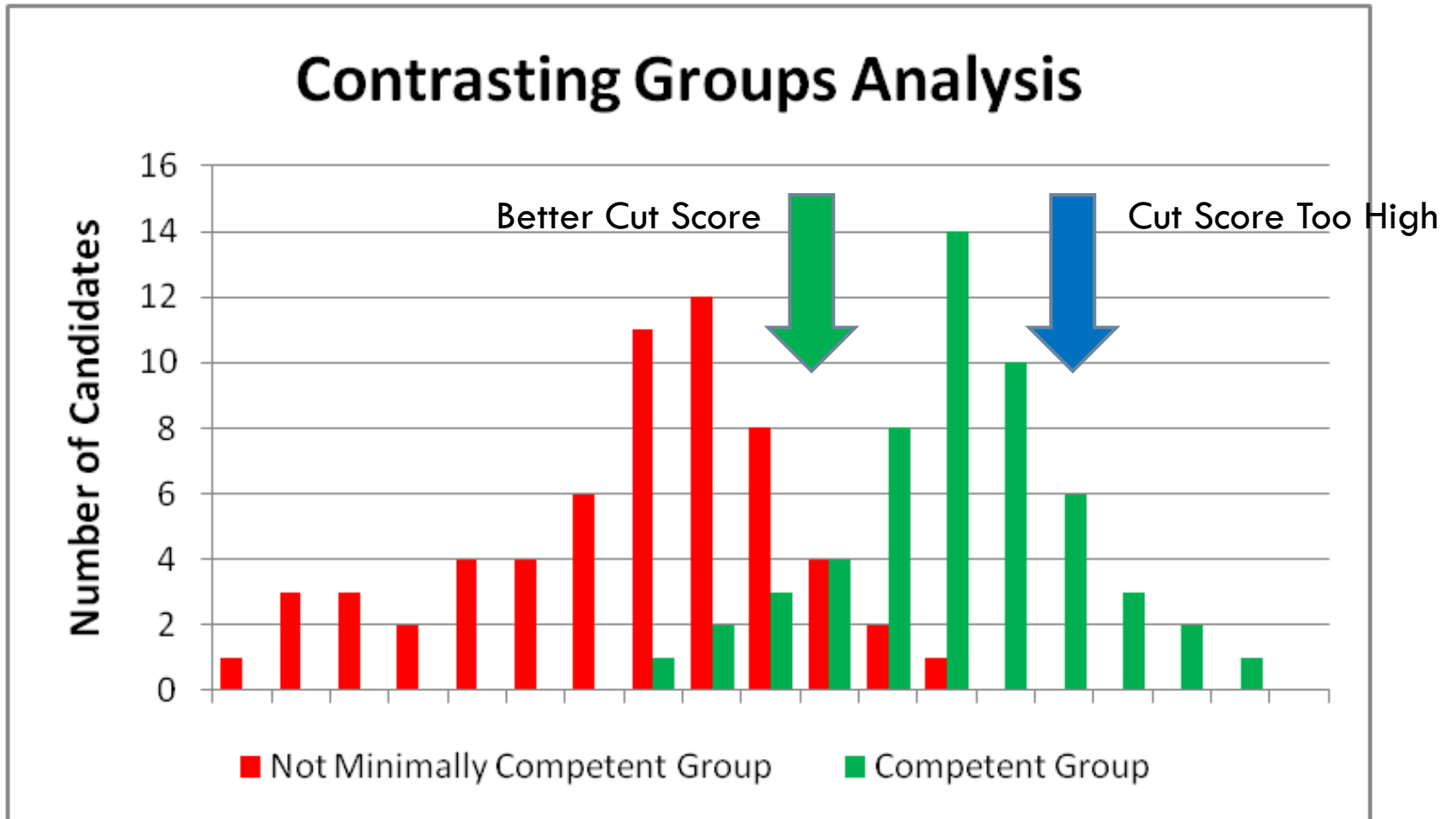
Cut Score Analysis

- Cut Score is the dividing line between candidates that are deemed acceptable and those deemed not acceptable
- Line is drawn based on JUDGMENT!
- Competency usually rated in stages ranging from Basic – Proficient – Advanced
- We are looking for Basic competence, so perhaps 85% is not the appropriate cut score!
- Evaluation is ongoing!

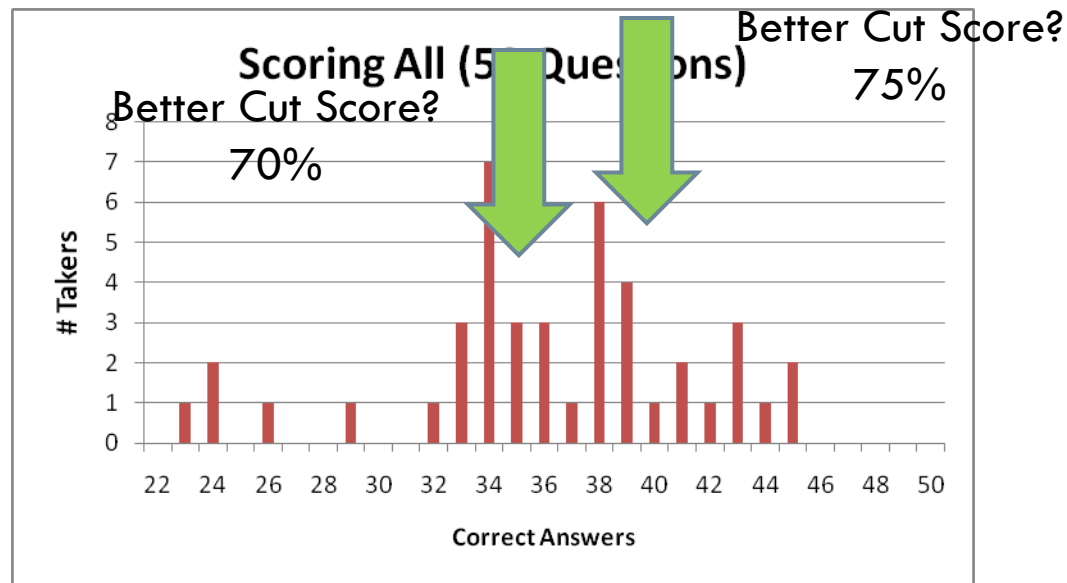
Cut Score Analysis

- Various tools exist to evaluate and set cut scores (many used to evaluate standardized tests)
- PDC is working on methods using Subject Matter Experts, evaluating cut scores based on the borderline expectation
- “Borderline candidate” is the one expected to just meet the minimum criteria – We want that candidate to have a good chance to pass the test.
- This also allows some unqualified people to pass!

Cut Score Analysis



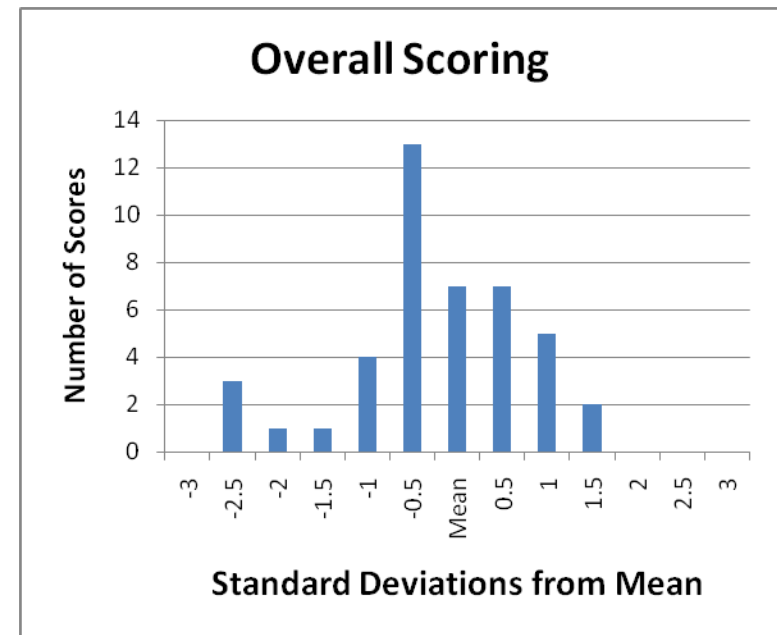
Cut Score Analysis



PDC expects general improvement with test experience.

Beta Exam Scoring Statistics

□ Count	43
□ Average	72.5
□ Median	72
□ Std Dev	11
□ Max	90
□ Min	46



Conclusions from feedback

- Subject matter was mostly appropriate in scope
- Subject matter difficulty was greater than expected
- Number of questions and time mostly appropriate
- Time limits by section may need to be tweaked
- A few questions may need to be either revised or replaced
- There is a need for practice questions for training
- Need to set cut score, and NCWM wants to set the bar high!

Conclusions from Results re: Training

- Weakness may exist in the training component!
- Candidates may not have seen or understood the training objectives
- Trainers probably didn't use the training objectives in preparation for training
- Trainers may not understand the different levels of outcomes in the training objectives
- The setting of the higher bar may require some adjustment in training practices

Relating Objectives to Training

Assessments	Multiple Choice	Multiple Choice	Practical Examples Short Answer
Training Activities	Lecture Videos Examples	Discussion Review Learner Presentation	Exercises Simulations Demonstrations
Cognitive Levels	Knowledge	Comprehension	Application
	Define Relate List	Restate Discuss Describe Identify	Employ Apply Use Illustrate

Cognitive levels defined in Core Competency Model

Education Process

Education Subsystem

