CDH PARAMEDIC ENTRANCE PRACTICE EXAM (SAMPLE)

STUDY GUIDE



SAMPLE STUDY GUIDE WITH LIMITED QUESTIONS

VISIT US ONLINE FOR THE FULL VERSION STUDY GUIDE

https://cdhparamedicentrance.examzify.com

Copyright © 2026 by Examzify - A Kaluba Technologies Inc. product.

ALL RIGHTS RESERVED.

No part of this book may be reproduced or transferred in any form or by any means, graphic, electronic, or mechanical, including photocopying, recording, web distribution, taping, or by any information storage retrieval system, without the written permission of the author.

Notice: Examzify makes every reasonable effort to obtain accurate, complete, and timely information about this product from reliable sources.

SAMPLE

Table of Contents

Copyright 1

Table of Contents 2

Introduction 3

How to Use This Guide 4

Questions 5

Answers 8

Explanations 10

Next Steps 15

SAMPLE

Introduction

Preparing for a certification exam can feel overwhelming, but with the right tools, it becomes an opportunity to build confidence, sharpen your skills, and move one step closer to your goals. At Examzify, we believe that effective exam preparation isn't just about memorization, it's about understanding the material, identifying knowledge gaps, and building the test-taking strategies that lead to success.

This guide was designed to help you do exactly that.

Whether you're preparing for a licensing exam, professional certification, or entry-level qualification, this book offers structured practice to reinforce key concepts. You'll find a wide range of multiple-choice questions, each followed by clear explanations to help you understand not just the right answer, but why it's correct.

The content in this guide is based on real-world exam objectives and aligned with the types of questions and topics commonly found on official tests. It's ideal for learners who want to:

- Practice answering questions under realistic conditions,
- Improve accuracy and speed,
- Review explanations to strengthen weak areas, and
- Approach the exam with greater confidence.

We recommend using this book not as a stand-alone study tool, but alongside other resources like flashcards, textbooks, or hands-on training. For best results, we recommend working through each question, reflecting on the explanation provided, and revisiting the topics that challenge you most.

Remember: successful test preparation isn't about getting every question right the first time, it's about learning from your mistakes and improving over time. Stay focused, trust the process, and know that every page you turn brings you closer to success.

Let's begin.

SAMPLE

How to Use This Guide

This guide is designed to help you study more effectively and approach your exam with confidence. Whether you're reviewing for the first time or doing a final refresh, here's how to get the most out of your Examzify study guide:

1. Start with a Diagnostic Review

Skim through the questions to get a sense of what you know and what you need to focus on. Your goal is to identify knowledge gaps early.

2. Study in Short, Focused Sessions

Break your study time into manageable blocks (e.g. 30 – 45 minutes). Review a handful of questions, reflect on the explanations.

3. Learn from the Explanations

After answering a question, always read the explanation, even if you got it right. It reinforces key points, corrects misunderstandings, and teaches subtle distinctions between similar answers.

4. Track Your Progress

Use bookmarks or notes (if reading digitally) to mark difficult questions. Revisit these regularly and track improvements over time.

5. Simulate the Real Exam

Once you're comfortable, try taking a full set of questions without pausing. Set a timer and simulate test-day conditions to build confidence and time management skills.

6. Repeat and Review

Don't just study once, repetition builds retention. Re-attempt questions after a few days and revisit explanations to reinforce learning. Pair this guide with other Examzify tools like flashcards, and digital practice tests to strengthen your preparation across formats.

There's no single right way to study, but consistent, thoughtful effort always wins. Use this guide flexibly, adapt the tips above to fit your pace and learning style. You've got this!

SAMPLE

Questions

SAMPLE

1. What is characteristic of paradoxical movement of the chest wall?

A. Chest wall decreases in size upon expiration
B. Chest wall exhibits no movement
C. Chest wall increases in size upon inspiration
D. Chest wall increases in size upon expiration

2. What is a common sign of hypoglycemia?

A. Rapid pulse
B. Excessive sweating
C. High blood pressure
D. Low body temperature

3. Where is the liver located in the abdominal cavity?

A. Left upper quadrant
B. Right upper quadrant
C. Left lower quadrant
D. Right lower quadrant

4. Which vital sign change is significant in a patient in shock?

A. Hypertension
B. Bradycardia
C. Hypothermia
D. Tachycardia

5. What does the acronym AVPU stand for in assessing consciousness?

A. Alert, Vital, Pain, Unresponsive
B. Awake, Verbal, Physical, Unconscious
C. Alert, Verbal, Pain, Unresponsive
D. Awake, Vocal, Pain, Unresponsive

6. What are common causes of altered mental status (AMS)?

A. Substances and infections
B. Mental conditions and trauma
C. Substances, mental conditions, TBI
D. Dietary deficiencies and dehydration

SAMPLE

7. Which statement accurately describes the role of EMS personnel under the Ryan White Act?

A. They must perform mandatory testing for all patients

B. They are required to maintain confidentiality without exception

C. They are mandated to determine exposure to life-threatening diseases while providing care

D. They should always refuse to treat AIDS patients

8. What is the typical rate of chest compressions per minute for adults?

A. 80-100 compressions per minute

B. 100-120 compressions per minute

C. 120-140 compressions per minute

D. 60-80 compressions per minute

9. Which term describes the ability to perform tasks without conscious thought?

A. Consciousness

B. Automaticity

C. Reactivity

D. Volition

10. How should a paramedic manage a patient with severe burns?

A. Cover the burns with wet dressings

B. Cover the burns with dry, sterile dressings

C. Apply ice packs to the burns

D. Leave the burns exposed to air

SAMPLE

Answers

SAMPLE

1. D
2. B
3. B
4. D
5. C
6. C
7. C
8. B
9. B
10. B

SAMPLE

Explanations

SAMPLE

1. What is characteristic of paradoxical movement of the chest wall?

A. Chest wall decreases in size upon expiration

B. Chest wall exhibits no movement

C. Chest wall increases in size upon inspiration

D. Chest wall increases in size upon expiration

Paradoxical movement of the chest wall refers to an abnormal movement pattern often associated with respiratory distress or trauma affecting the rib cage or diaphragm. In a typical breathing pattern, the chest wall expands during inspiration and contracts during expiration. However, in cases of paradoxical movement, this pattern is reversed due to underlying conditions, such as flail chest, where a segment of the chest wall moves in the opposite direction of the rest of the chest during breathing. The correct response indicates that during expiration, the chest wall paradoxically increases in size, which signifies that the affected section of the chest wall is moving inwards while the rest of the chest wall expands. This anomaly is counterintuitive, highlighting the severity of the patient's condition and the potential compromise to effective ventilation and gas exchange. In contrast, other choices do not accurately describe this phenomenon. For example, stating that the chest wall decreases in size upon expiration or exhibits no movement does not convey the specific opposite motion that characterizes paradoxical movement. Furthermore, the option that suggests the chest wall increases in size upon inspiration misses the crucial aspect of expiration that is typically observed in paradoxical movement. Therefore, understanding these movements is crucial for recognizing clinical signs and effectively managing patients presenting with this condition.

2. What is a common sign of hypoglycemia?

A. Rapid pulse

B. Excessive sweating

C. High blood pressure

D. Low body temperature

Excessive sweating is a common sign of hypoglycemia. When blood sugar levels drop, the body attempts to compensate through the release of stress hormones like adrenaline. This release can stimulate various physiological responses, including increased perspiration. Patients may exhibit signs of clamminess or sweating due to this sympathetic nervous system activation. In the context of hypoglycemia, other symptoms might include shakiness, anxiety, dizziness, confusion, or palpitations. The body's response to low glucose levels is geared towards regaining balance, and sweating is one of the visible indications of this response. Therefore, recognizing excessive sweating as a symptom is crucial in identifying and managing hypoglycemia promptly.

3. Where is the liver located in the abdominal cavity?

A. Left upper quadrant

B. Right upper quadrant

C. Left lower quadrant

D. Right lower quadrant

The liver is primarily located in the right upper quadrant of the abdominal cavity. This positioning is critical for understanding how various organ systems in the body interact and can assist medical professionals in diagnosing abdominal conditions. The liver's functions, such as producing bile, processing nutrients from the digestive system, and detoxifying harmful substances, occur close to other essential organs found in the right upper quadrant, like the gallbladder and parts of the small intestine. Knowing that the liver occupies this space helps paramedics and healthcare providers anticipate potential complications or conditions that might arise from problems in nearby structures. While other quadrants contain various organs, they do not house the liver, making the right upper quadrant distinctly associated with it. Understanding the anatomy of the abdominal cavity is essential for any medical professional, as it aids in effective patient assessment and care.

SAMPLE

4. Which vital sign change is significant in a patient in shock?

A. Hypertension

B. Bradycardia

C. Hypothermia

D. Tachycardia

Tachycardia is a significant vital sign change in a patient experiencing shock because it indicates the body's compensatory response to a state of inadequate perfusion or oxygen delivery to tissues. When a person is in shock, the body attempts to maintain vital organ function despite a decrease in blood volume or blood pressure. One of the primary compensatory mechanisms is an increase in heart rate, which helps to enhance cardiac output and improve blood flow to critical organs. In shock, the heart may speed up to deliver more blood and oxygen as a response to various types of shock, such as hypovolemic, cardiogenic, or septic shock. This elevated heart rate is often crucial for early identification of a shock state and can signal the severity of the patient's condition. Monitoring for tachycardia is an essential part of the assessment for a patient in shock, as it can aid in the timely administration of treatments to stabilize the patient. Other vital sign changes may not indicate the same urgency. Hypertension, for instance, is typically not observed in shock; bradycardia can occur in some cases but is not a general indicator of shock, while hypothermia might result from shock but is not a direct sign of the compensatory mechanisms at work.

5. What does the acronym AVPU stand for in assessing consciousness?

A. Alert, Vital, Pain, Unresponsive

B. Awake, Verbal, Physical, Unconscious

C. Alert, Verbal, Pain, Unresponsive

D. Awake, Vocal, Pain, Unresponsive

The acronym AVPU is a critical tool used in the assessment of a patient's level of consciousness. It stands for Alert, Verbal, Pain, and Unresponsive, and is utilized primarily in emergency medical settings to quickly evaluate how alert and responsive an individual is. When someone is categorized as "Alert," they are fully conscious and aware of their surroundings, able to engage appropriately with questions and stimuli. The next category, "Verbal," indicates that the person may not be fully alert but can respond verbally to questions or prompts. "Pain" refers to a situation where the person does not respond to verbal stimuli but does respond to a painful stimulus, which shows some level of consciousness. Lastly, "Unresponsive" signifies that the individual shows no response to verbal or painful stimuli, indicating a more severe level of altered consciousness or unresponsiveness. This method provides a clear and straightforward approach for paramedics and first responders to assess and communicate a patient's mental status rapidly, which is crucial in emergencies when time is of the essence. Understanding these categories clearly is essential for effective patient care in critical situations.

SAMPLE

6. What are common causes of altered mental status (AMS)?

A. Substances and infections

B. Mental conditions and trauma

C. Substances, mental conditions, TBI

D. Dietary deficiencies and dehydration

Altered mental status (AMS) can arise from a variety of underlying causes, and the correct answer encompasses several critical categories that contribute to this condition. Substances, such as drugs or alcohol, can affect brain function and consciousness, leading to confusion or altered perception. Mental conditions, including psychiatric disorders, can also result in changes to mental status, presenting symptoms such as disorientation or a lack of responsiveness. Traumatic brain injury (TBI) is another significant factor, as direct physical trauma to the head can disrupt normal brain function and cognition, resulting in AMS. Together, these elements highlight the multifactorial nature of altered mental status, with each contributing condition having the potential to cause significant changes in cognitive function and awareness. The inclusion of substances, mental conditions, and TBI in the correct answer reflects a comprehensive understanding of the possible causes of AMS, making this choice the most applicable to the question.

7. Which statement accurately describes the role of EMS personnel under the Ryan White Act?

A. They must perform mandatory testing for all patients

B. They are required to maintain confidentiality without exception

C. They are mandated to determine exposure to life-threatening diseases while providing care

D. They should always refuse to treat AIDS patients

The statement that accurately describes the role of EMS personnel under the Ryan White Act is that they are mandated to determine exposure to life-threatening diseases while providing care. This act is primarily focused on ensuring that emergency medical personnel receive important information regarding potential exposures to infectious diseases, such as HIV. The EMS personnel must assess situations where they may be at risk of exposure while delivering medical aid, which is vital in protecting both the healthcare providers and the patients they serve. The requirement to assess exposure is rooted in the need to ensure the safety of first responders and to facilitate appropriate medical follow-ups, if necessary. This aspect of the Ryan White Act underscores the importance of situational awareness in providing care and managing potential risks associated with various medical conditions, including those that may involve exposure to bloodborne pathogens. Confidentiality is certainly a critical element in healthcare, but the statement about maintaining confidentiality without exception is overly broad and doesn't reflect the nuances involved in managing patient information under specific legal frameworks like the Ryan White Act. Similarly, mandatory testing for all patients and refusal to treat AIDS patients do not align with EMS protocols and ethical standards, which emphasize care for all individuals regardless of their health conditions.

SAMPLE

8. What is the typical rate of chest compressions per minute for adults?

A. 80-100 compressions per minute

B. 100-120 compressions per minute

C. 120-140 compressions per minute

D. 60-80 compressions per minute

The typical rate of chest compressions during cardiopulmonary resuscitation (CPR) for adults is indeed 100-120 compressions per minute. This rate is recommended by the American Heart Association and other emergency response organizations because studies have shown that this tempo is optimal for maintaining blood flow to the vital organs during cardiac arrest. Compressing at this rate maximizes coronary and cerebral perfusion pressure, which is crucial for the effectiveness of resuscitation efforts. Compressing too slowly may fail to provide sufficient blood flow, while compressing too rapidly can lead to inadequate diastolic filling time in the heart, reducing overall effectiveness. Therefore, maintaining the compressions within the 100-120 per minute range strikes the right balance necessary for increased chances of survival and better outcomes.

9. Which term describes the ability to perform tasks without conscious thought?

A. Consciousness

B. Automaticity

C. Reactivity

D. Volition

The term that describes the ability to perform tasks without conscious thought is automaticity. This concept highlights how certain actions can become automated through repetition and practice, allowing individuals to execute them without the need for deliberate cognitive effort. For instance, tasks like driving a car or typing on a keyboard can become second nature after sufficient practice, enabling a person to focus on other aspects of their environment while they perform these activities. In contrast, the other terms listed convey different meanings. Consciousness refers to the state of being aware of and able to think about one's own existence and environment. Reactivity involves responding to stimuli, which may not necessarily be automatic and can require conscious thought and decision-making. Volition pertains to the process of making conscious choices or decisions, which contrasts with the idea of performing tasks without conscious thought. Thus, automaticity specifically captures the essence of executing tasks effortlessly and with minimal conscious awareness.

10. How should a paramedic manage a patient with severe burns?

A. Cover the burns with wet dressings

B. Cover the burns with dry, sterile dressings

C. Apply ice packs to the burns

D. Leave the burns exposed to air

In managing a patient with severe burns, it is crucial to protect the affected area from contamination and further injury. Covering the burns with dry, sterile dressings is the best practice because it helps to prevent infection and allows for the healing process to begin while keeping the area clean. Dry dressings also minimize pain by acting as a protective barrier, reducing exposure to air and environmental factors that could exacerbate the injury. Using wet dressings may seem helpful but can lead to hypothermia, especially in extensive burns, as the moisture can draw heat away from the body. Applying ice packs, while sometimes thought to alleviate pain, is inappropriate for burn injuries since cold can cause additional tissue damage and worsen the injury. Leaving burns exposed to air can also lead to a higher risk of infection, increased pain, and potential complications associated with open wounds. Thus, covering the burns with dry, sterile dressings strikes the right balance between protecting the injury, managing pain, and preventing infection, making it the preferred approach in emergency treatment.

EXAMPLE

Next Steps

Congratulations on reaching the final section of this guide. You've taken a meaningful step toward passing your certification exam and advancing your career.

As you continue preparing, remember that consistent practice, review, and self-reflection are key to success. Make time to revisit difficult topics, simulate exam conditions, and track your progress along the way.

If you need help, have suggestions, or want to share feedback, we'd love to hear from you. Reach out to our team at hello@examzify.com.

Or visit your dedicated course page for more study tools and resources:

https://cdhparamedicentrance.examzify.com

We wish you the very best on your exam journey. You've got this!

SAMPLE