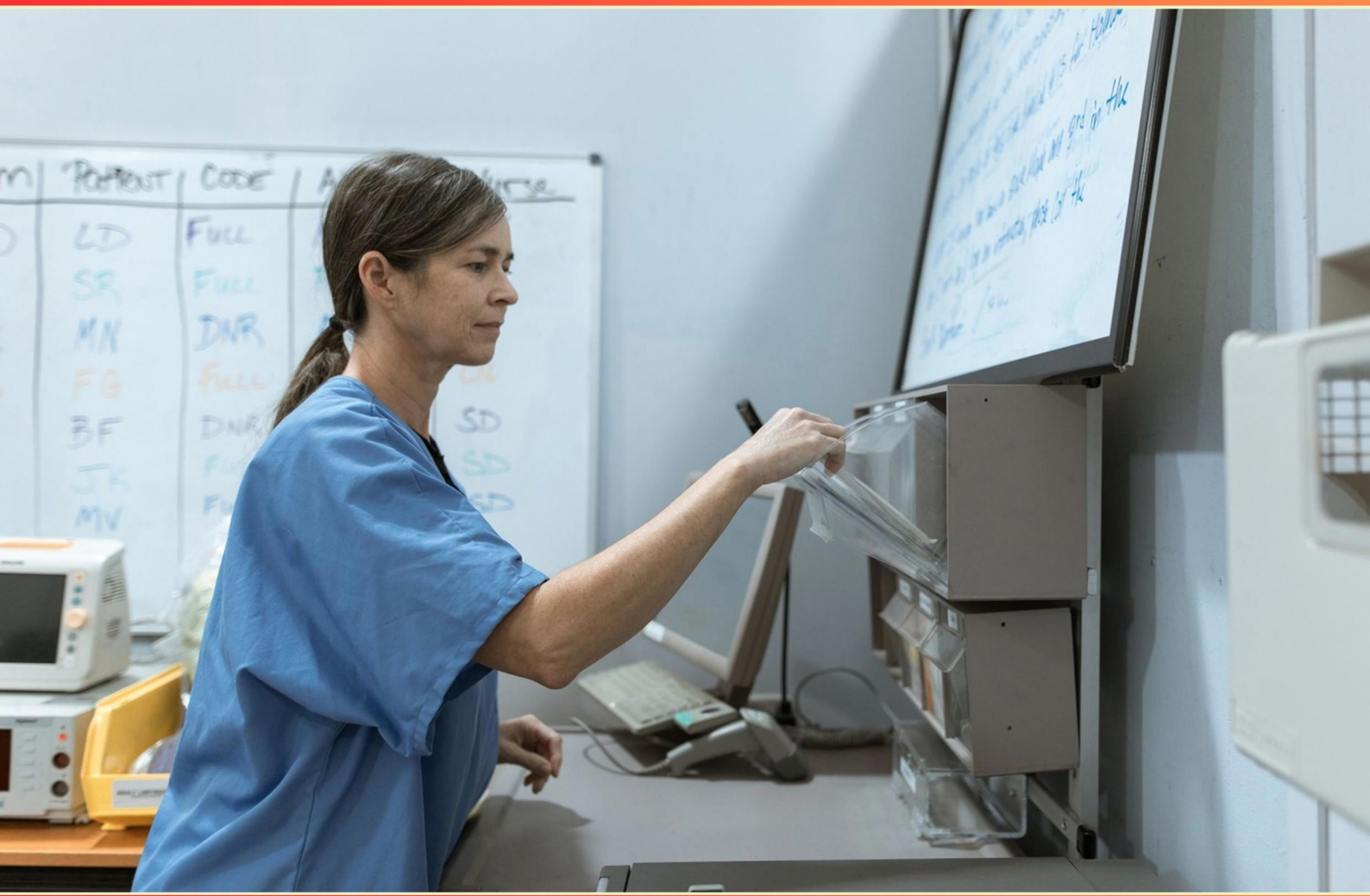
CERTIFIED MEDICAL ASSISTANT PRACTICE EXAM (SAMPLE)

STUDY GUIDE



SAMPLE STUDY GUIDE WITH LIMITED QUESTIONS

VISIT US ONLINE FOR THE FULL VERSION STUDY GUIDE

https://certifiedmedicalassistant.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 16

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. How often should medical assistants check the expiration dates on supplies stored in examination rooms?

A. Weekly

B. Monthly

C. Quarterly

D. Annually

2. During a general physical examination, in which direction is the usual sequence of movement from body part to body part?

A. From the feet toward the head

B. From the head toward the feet

C. From the back toward the front

D. From the front toward the back

3. Which type of medical imaging uses radiation to diagnose conditions?

A. Magnetic resonance imaging (MRI)

B. Ultrasound

C. X-ray

D. Computed tomography (CT) scan

4. A patient who has orthostatic hypotension should be helped from the supine position to the sitting position to prevent which of the following?

A. Circulatory Shock

B. Fainting

C. Seizures

D. Syncope

5. Where should medical expenses for a patient injured at his or her place of employment be sent?

A. Primary care physician

B. Health insurance company

C. Auto insurance company

D. Workers' compensation insurance

SAMPLE

6. If a mass is felt in a patient's neck, the finding is classified as which of the following?

A. Subjective

B. Objective

C. Assessment

D. Plan

7. What are gloves, gowns, face shields, or masks examples of in a medical setting?

A. Antiseptics

B. Disinfectants

C. Personal Protective Equipment (PPE)

D. Medical devices

8. Which type of ICD-9-CM code is used to classify external causes of poisoning and injuries?

A. V codes

B. E codes

C. Y codes

D. S codes

9. What is an important step in infection control during a patient examination?

A. Wearing gloves only

B. Using hand sanitizer only

C. Hand hygiene

D. Wearing a mask only

10. What instrument is typically used to inspect the inner structures of the eye?

A. Otoscope

B. Tongue depressor

C. Sphygmomanometer

D. Ophthalmoscope

SAMPLE

Answers

SAMPLE

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

SAMPLE

Explanations

SAMPLE

1. How often should medical assistants check the expiration dates on supplies stored in examination rooms?

A. Weekly

B. Monthly

C. Quarterly

D. Annually

Medical assistants should check the expiration dates on supplies stored in examination rooms on a monthly basis to ensure that all supplies are safe and effective for patient care. Regular monthly checks help to minimize the risks associated with using expired supplies, which can lead to ineffective treatment or potential harm to patients. By performing these checks monthly, medical assistants can maintain a reliable inventory of supplies, allowing for timely replacement of any items that are approaching their expiration date. This practice is crucial for maintaining compliance with safety regulations and ensuring high standards of care in a medical setting.

2. During a general physical examination, in which direction is the usual sequence of movement from body part to body part?

A. From the feet toward the head

B. From the head toward the feet

C. From the back toward the front

D. From the front toward the back

The correct choice is the sequence of movement during a general physical examination, which typically begins from the head and progresses toward the feet. This practice is grounded in several principles of medical examination. Starting at the head allows the healthcare provider to assess vital signs, including mental status, respiratory effort, and any possible cranial nerve issues. As the examination continues downward, providers can effectively evaluate various body systems in a systematic manner. This top-to-bottom approach helps ensure that the examiner does not miss any areas, facilitating a thorough, organized evaluation. Moreover, examining the body in this manner aligns with the natural flow of the physical examination, allowing the practitioner to move from one area to the next in a logical order. Each section can be correlated to corresponding physical signs or symptoms, enhancing diagnostic accuracy. Overall, starting from the head and moving toward the feet is the preferred method in medical practice for its efficiency and thoroughness.

3. Which type of medical imaging uses radiation to diagnose conditions?

A. Magnetic resonance imaging (MRI)

B. Ultrasound

C. X-ray

D. Computed tomography (CT) scan

X-ray is a type of medical imaging that uses ionizing radiation to capture images of the inside of the body. This method is particularly effective for diagnosing conditions related to bones, such as fractures, and can also help in detecting certain diseases in soft tissues and organs. The radiation used in X-ray imaging is emitted in controlled doses to create images of structures within the body. In contrast, magnetic resonance imaging (MRI) utilizes strong magnetic fields and radio waves rather than radiation to produce detailed images, making it suitable for imaging soft tissues, such as the brain and muscles. Ultrasound employs high-frequency sound waves to create images and does not involve radiation, making it a safe choice for various examinations, especially in obstetrics. Similarly, computed tomography (CT) scans make use of X-rays to create cross-sectional images of the body, but they also emit radiation, similar to regular X-rays. However, the question asks specifically for the most direct use of radiation for diagnosis, where X-ray stands out clearly as such type of imaging.

SAMPLE

4. A patient who has orthostatic hypotension should be helped from the supine position to the sitting position to prevent which of the following?

A. Circulatory Shock

B. Fainting

C. Seizures

D. Syncope

When a patient with orthostatic hypotension changes positions — specifically from supine (lying down) to sitting — there is a risk of a sudden drop in blood pressure due to the effects of gravity. As blood pools in the lower extremities, less blood returns to the heart, making it more difficult for the body to maintain adequate blood flow to the brain. This can lead to symptoms like dizziness, lightheadedness, and potentially fainting or syncope. In this context, syncope describes a temporary loss of consciousness caused by insufficient blood flow to the brain. By helping the patient to sit up first, the medical assistant can allow their body to adjust to the position change more gradually, facilitating better blood circulation and minimizing the risk of syncope. While the other options relate to the cardiovascular system, fainting specifically points to the sudden loss of awareness and control associated with inadequate blood flow to the brain, distinguishing it as the most relevant outcome in this scenario. The importance of monitoring and assisting patients with orthostatic hypotension during position changes cannot be overstated, as it helps to prevent these sudden and serious complications.

5. Where should medical expenses for a patient injured at his or her place of employment be sent?

A. Primary care physician

B. Health insurance company

C. Auto insurance company

D. Workers' compensation insurance

When a patient is injured at their place of employment, medical expenses related to that injury should be sent to Workers' compensation insurance. Workers' compensation is specifically designed to cover medical costs and provide benefits for employees who are injured while performing their job duties. This includes any necessary medical treatment, rehabilitation, and compensation for lost wages during recovery. Utilizing Workers' compensation ensures that the medical expenses are processed under the appropriate insurance coverage tailored for workplace injuries. This system exists to protect both the employee and the employer, providing resources for the employee while managing costs for the employer. Other options, such as health insurance or auto insurance, do not apply in this context since they are not intended to cover workplace-related injuries.

SAMPLE

6. If a mass is felt in a patient's neck, the finding is classified as which of the following?

A. Subjective

B. Objective

C. Assessment

D. Plan

When a mass is palpated in a patient's neck, it is classified as an objective finding. This classification is rooted in the distinction between subjective and objective findings in clinical practice. Objective findings are measurable and observable by healthcare professionals during a physical examination. In this case, the mass can be examined and confirmed through physical examination techniques, making it a tangible piece of information that health care providers can use to assess a patient's condition. On the other hand, subjective findings involve patient-reported symptoms that cannot be independently verified through observation, such as pain or discomfort. The correct categorization of the mass as an objective finding helps in accurately diagnosing and planning further management for the patient. The terms "assessment" and "plan" refer to other aspects of the clinical process, one being the interpretation of findings and the other concerning future actions regarding patient care.

7. What are gloves, gowns, face shields, or masks examples of in a medical setting?

A. Antiseptics

B. Disinfectants

C. Personal Protective Equipment (PPE)

D. Medical devices

In a medical setting, gloves, gowns, face shields, and masks are classified as Personal Protective Equipment (PPE). PPE is designed to protect healthcare workers and patients from the transmission of infections and contaminants. These items create a barrier to prevent exposure to infectious agents, blood, body fluids, and other hazardous substances during medical procedures. The use of PPE is critical in maintaining safety and infection control standards in healthcare environments. Each type of equipment has its specific function; for example, gloves protect the hands from contamination, gowns protect clothing and skin, face shields safeguard the face and eyes, and masks cover the mouth and nose to prevent inhalation of airborne pathogens. Understanding the role of PPE is essential for medical assistants as they work closely with patients and in various medical procedures, ensuring the safety of themselves and those they treat.

SAMPLE

8. Which type of ICD-9-CM code is used to classify external causes of poisoning and injuries?

A. V codes

B. E codes

C. Y codes

D. S codes

The classification of external causes of poisoning and injuries is specifically designated to E codes in the ICD-9-CM system. These codes provide a means to capture additional information about the external circumstances surrounding an injury or poisoning incident, including the nature of the event that caused harm, be it an accident, poisoning, or other forms of injury. E codes also serve to enhance the understanding of the epidemiology of these events, allowing for better statistical analysis and research on injuries and poisonings. In clinical documentation and billing, incorporating E codes is crucial for a comprehensive representation of the patient's encounter, as it highlights factors contributing to their condition, which is essential for treatment planning and patient care management. Other coding categories, like V codes, are used for factors influencing health status, Y codes for specific forms of morbidity, and S codes specifically deal with certain conditions. However, for external causes specifically related to poisoning and injuries, E codes are the appropriate choice.

9. What is an important step in infection control during a patient examination?

A. Wearing gloves only

B. Using hand sanitizer only

C. Hand hygiene

D. Wearing a mask only

Hand hygiene is a critical component of infection control during a patient examination as it significantly reduces the risk of transmitting infections. Proper hand hygiene involves cleansing hands with soap and water or using an alcohol-based hand sanitizer, especially before and after patient contact, after handling potentially contaminated materials, or before performing any invasive procedures. This practice is essential not only for protecting the healthcare provider but also for safeguarding patients from potential infections. When hands are properly sanitized, it helps to eliminate or reduce the presence of pathogens that can cause illness, thus maintaining a safer healthcare environment. While wearing gloves, using hand sanitizer, and wearing a mask are also important aspects of infection control, they should be part of a broader strategy that includes regular hand hygiene. Gloves, for example, should be used when there is a risk of exposure to bodily fluids, but they do not replace the need for handwashing, as germs can still be transmitted if hands are not cleaned properly before or after glove use.

SAMPLE

10. What instrument is typically used to inspect the inner structures of the eye?

A. Otoscope

B. Tongue depressor

C. Sphygmomanometer

D. Ophthalmoscope

The instrument commonly used to inspect the inner structures of the eye is the ophthalmoscope. This tool allows healthcare professionals to visually examine the retina, optic disc, and other elements inside the eye. The ophthalmoscope uses lenses and a light source to illuminate and magnify the internal structures, enabling clear visualization of any abnormalities or conditions affecting eye health. In contrast, the otoscope is designed for examining the ear canal and eardrum, the tongue depressor is used primarily in examinations of the mouth and throat to depress the tongue for a clearer view, and the sphygmomanometer is utilized to measure blood pressure. Each of these instruments serves a specific purpose unrelated to inspecting the inner eye, highlighting the specialized role of the ophthalmoscope in ophthalmic examinations.

SAMPLE

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://certifiedmedicalassistant.examzify.com

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

SAMPLE