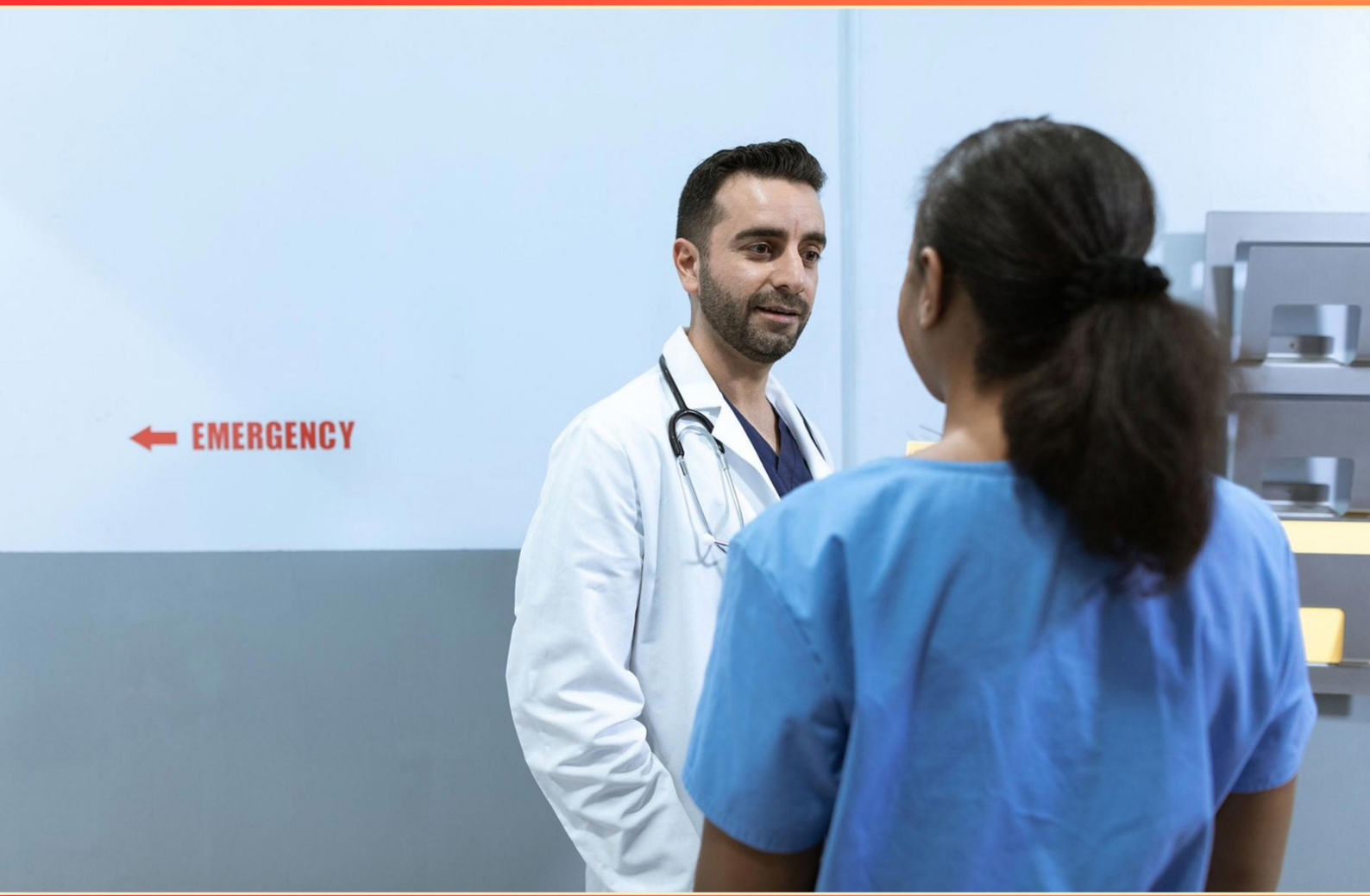
CERTIFIED PATIENT CARE TECHNICIAN/ ASSISTANT (CPCT/A) PRACTICE TEST (SAMPLE)

STUDY GUIDE



SAMPLE STUDY GUIDE WITH LIMITED QUESTIONS

VISIT US ONLINE FOR THE FULL VERSION STUDY GUIDE

https://cpcta.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. **When measuring and recording urine output hourly, what instruction should the patient care technician give to the patient?**

   A. Void into the specimen collection device that I have left for you

   B. Save all urine in a large container

   C. Flush the toilet after each void

   D. Limit fluid intake before voiding

2. **During passive range of motion exercises for a patient's ankle, which movement should the technician perform?**

   A. Plantar flexion

   B. Dorsiflexion

   C. Inversion

   D. Eversion

3. **What question should a technician ask to verify a patient's identity?**

   A. What is your medical history?

   B. What medications are you currently taking?

   C. What is your name and date of birth?

   D. What is your address and phone number?

4. **When dealing with a patient who has clostridium difficile, what should a technician do with soiled linens?**

   A. Wash them with regular laundry

   B. Place them in a biohazard linen bag

   C. Dispose of them in regular trash

   D. Leave them for the housekeeping staff

5. **Which technique should be used for ensuring the accuracy of glucose testing?**

   A. Wipe the area with alcohol

   B. Ensure the site is dry

   C. Use a new vial for each test

   D. Test on a non-dominant hand

SAMPLE

6. For a patient with an ostomy, which of the following should the technician regularly assess?

A. The patient's diet

B. The appearance and comfort of the stoma

C. The patient's mobility

D. The patient's pain level

7. Which skill is essential for a patient care technician when interacting with patients?

A. Advanced medical knowledge

B. Effective communication skills

C. Legal expertise

D. Teaching abilities

8. Which of the following is a responsibility of a patient care technician when observing a patient during care?

A. Administer medication as prescribed

B. Document patient vitals and report abnormalities

C. Provide counseling for emotional support

D. Treat any identified health issues

9. What is the primary concern when collecting a blood sample to prevent contamination?

A. Using a sterile needle

B. Avoiding contact with non-sterile surfaces

C. Transporting samples promptly

D. Labeling samples correctly

10. During a venipuncture, if a hematoma develops at the insertion site, what is the correct action?

A. Reduce the amount of pressure applied

B. Apply pressure to the site for a minimum of five minutes

C. Notify the physician immediately

D. Remove the needle and apply ointment

SAMPLE

Answers

SAMPLE

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

SAMPLE

Explanations

SAMPLE

1. When measuring and recording urine output hourly, what instruction should the patient care technician give to the patient?

A. Void into the specimen collection device that I have left for you

B. Save all urine in a large container

C. Flush the toilet after each void

D. Limit fluid intake before voiding

The correct instruction for the patient care technician to give to the patient is to void into the specimen collection device that has been provided. This is essential for accurately measuring and recording urine output, as it allows for consistent collection directly from the patient. Using a designated collection device ensures that the technician can easily quantify the exact amount of urine produced in an hour, which is crucial for monitoring the patient's kidney function and overall hydration status. In contrast, saving all urine in a large container can lead to inaccuracies in hourly measurements, especially if the collection spans more than one hour. Flushing the toilet after each void would prevent the technician from accurately measuring the output, as it would eliminate the evidence of the volume passed. Finally, limiting fluid intake before voiding is not appropriate, as it might lead to decreased urine output that does not properly reflect the patient's actual kidney function and hydration state.

2. During passive range of motion exercises for a patient's ankle, which movement should the technician perform?

A. Plantar flexion

B. Dorsiflexion

C. Inversion

D. Eversion

During passive range of motion exercises for a patient's ankle, dorsiflexion is an essential movement because it involves lifting the foot upwards towards the shin. This action helps maintain or improve flexibility in the ankle joint and can prevent stiffness. During passive range of motion, the technician gently moves the patient's ankle without requiring any effort from the patient themselves, ensuring that the joint is stimulated and that proper range of motion is maintained. Incorporating dorsiflexion into the exercise regimen is vital for patients, especially those who are immobile or recovering from surgery, as it can aid in circulation, prevent contractures, and assist in the overall recovery process. This movement reflects the normal functional use of the ankle and contributes to maintaining a healthy range of motion in all directions.

SAMPLE

3. What question should a technician ask to verify a patient's identity?

A. What is your medical history?

B. What medications are you currently taking?

C. What is your name and date of birth?

D. What is your address and phone number?

Verifying a patient's identity is a critical step in ensuring safe and effective care. Asking the patient for their name and date of birth is a widely accepted practice because these two identifiers help to confirm the individual's identity accurately. This approach minimizes the risk of errors, such as misidentifying patients or mixing up medical records. Name and date of birth are unique to each individual and are commonly used in healthcare settings as two primary identifiers. By confirming both, you can effectively distinguish between patients with similar names or other common characteristics, leading to better safety in treatment and medication administration. The other choices, while potentially useful for gathering information related to treatment or care, do not serve the specific purpose of identity verification as effectively. For instance, asking about medical history or current medications would not directly confirm who the patient is. Similarly, asking for an address and phone number may not be as reliable since this information might change over time or not be as unique as the combination of name and date of birth.

4. When dealing with a patient who has clostridium difficile, what should a technician do with soiled linens?

A. Wash them with regular laundry

B. Place them in a biohazard linen bag

C. Dispose of them in regular trash

D. Leave them for the housekeeping staff

When a patient is diagnosed with Clostridium difficile (C. difficile), strict infection control protocols must be followed to prevent the spread of this highly contagious bacterium. The correct action is to place soiled linens in a biohazard linen bag. This ensures that the contaminated items are handled properly and disposed of in a manner that minimizes the risk of transmission to other patients and healthcare staff. Using a biohazard linen bag ensures that the linens are treated with the appropriate precautions, which typically involves special cleaning processes designed to eliminate pathogens effectively. Regular laundry processes may not be sufficient to eradicate C. difficile spores, and placing contaminated items in regular trash can pose significant health risks. By following these protocols, patient care technicians help maintain a safe environment for both patients and healthcare workers and support larger infection control strategies within healthcare settings.

SAMPLE

5. Which technique should be used for ensuring the accuracy of glucose testing?

A. Wipe the area with alcohol

B. Ensure the site is dry

C. Use a new vial for each test

D. Test on a non-dominant hand

Ensuring the site is dry is critical for accurate glucose testing because moisture can interfere with the test results. When a sample is taken from a wet site, the presence of fluid may dilute the blood sample, leading to inaccurate readings. If the area is not thoroughly dried after cleansing, it can also affect the performance of the test strip, as many glucose meters rely on precise blood volumes for correct measurement. Furthermore, drying the area helps to prevent irritation and reduces the risk of infection by ensuring that any cleansing substance, like alcohol, has evaporated completely. This is vital for maintaining proper hygiene and achieving reliable outcomes in testing. Other measures, such as using a new vial for each test, monitoring the choice of testing site, or using a non-dominant hand, while relevant, do not address the core issue of ensuring that the site is optimally prepared for accurate readings, which is why it is essential to prioritize drying the testing area.

6. For a patient with an ostomy, which of the following should the technician regularly assess?

A. The patient's diet

B. The appearance and comfort of the stoma

C. The patient's mobility

D. The patient's pain level

In the context of caring for a patient with an ostomy, regularly assessing the appearance and comfort of the stoma is crucial for several reasons. The stoma is the surgically created opening in the abdominal wall, and its appearance can provide significant insights into the patient's health status. Signs such as color, swelling, or abnormal discharge can indicate potential complications such as infection, ischemia, or necrosis, which require prompt attention. A healthy stoma typically appears pink to red and moist. Additionally, assessing the comfort of the stoma is essential to ensure that the patient is not experiencing pain or discomfort, which can affect their overall wellbeing and ability to manage their ostomy care. While the patient's diet, mobility, and pain level are also important aspects of holistic care, they do not provide the same direct indicator of the ostomy's functional state, making the assessment of the stoma itself the most pertinent choice for regular evaluation.

SAMPLE

7. Which skill is essential for a patient care technician when interacting with patients?

A. Advanced medical knowledge

B. Effective communication skills

C. Legal expertise

D. Teaching abilities

Effective communication skills are essential for a patient care technician when interacting with patients because they form the foundation of successful patient care. Communication plays a crucial role in understanding a patient's needs, effectively conveying information about treatment plans, and providing emotional support. It enables the technician to listen actively to the patient, demonstrate empathy, and foster a trusting relationship, which can significantly impact the patient's overall experience and adherence to care. Being able to communicate clearly and compassionately can help to alleviate patient anxiety, ensure that they understand their medical conditions, and promote a collaborative atmosphere where patients feel comfortable asking questions. This skill is vital in ensuring that care is patient-centered and responsive to individual patient concerns. While advanced medical knowledge, legal expertise, and teaching abilities are important in the healthcare field, they are secondary to the fundamental necessity of effective communication, which directly influences patient care and satisfaction.

8. Which of the following is a responsibility of a patient care technician when observing a patient during care?

A. Administer medication as prescribed

B. Document patient vitals and report abnormalities

C. Provide counseling for emotional support

D. Treat any identified health issues

Documenting patient vitals and reporting abnormalities is a crucial responsibility for a patient care technician. This task ensures that any changes in a patient's condition are accurately recorded, providing essential information for the healthcare team. By observing the patient carefully and noting vital signs such as heart rate, blood pressure, and temperature, the technician can identify any deviations from normal ranges. Reporting these findings to nurses or physicians is vital for timely medical intervention. This role contributes significantly to patient safety and continuity of care, allowing healthcare providers to make informed decisions regarding treatment and to adjust medical plans as necessary.

SAMPLE

9. What is the primary concern when collecting a blood sample to prevent contamination?

A. Using a sterile needle

B. Avoiding contact with non-sterile surfaces

C. Transporting samples promptly

D. Labeling samples correctly

The primary concern when collecting a blood sample to prevent contamination is avoiding contact with non-sterile surfaces. Ensuring that the blood collection site, equipment, and surrounding area are free from contaminants is crucial to maintaining sample integrity. Contaminants from non-sterile surfaces can introduce bacteria or other foreign substances into the sample, potentially leading to inaccurate test results or complications for the patient. While using a sterile needle is also important for preventing infection at the puncture site, it does not address other possible sources of contamination. Prompt transportation of samples and correct labeling are essential for maintaining the logistics and identification of the samples, but they do not directly prevent contamination during the actual collection process itself. Thus, focusing on maintaining a sterile environment by avoiding contact with non-sterile surfaces is key to collecting a clean and viable blood sample.

10. During a venipuncture, if a hematoma develops at the insertion site, what is the correct action?

A. Reduce the amount of pressure applied

B. Apply pressure to the site for a minimum of five minutes

C. Notify the physician immediately

D. Remove the needle and apply ointment

Applying pressure to the site for a minimum of five minutes is the correct action when a hematoma develops during venipuncture. This technique helps to control the bleeding and facilitates coagulation by applying direct pressure over the affected area, which minimizes the size of the hematoma and encourages the blood to clot effectively. Maintaining firm pressure for a sufficient duration is crucial in managing the situation and preventing further complications. It's important to assess the patient's comfort and ensure that the pressure is consistent during the time needed for the blood to clot. In contrast, reducing the amount of pressure applied may worsen the bleeding, and failing to apply sufficient pressure can exacerbate the hematoma. Notifying the physician immediately may not be necessary, especially if the hematoma is minor and manageable. Additionally, removing the needle and applying ointment is not appropriate in this situation, as ointment does not address the underlying issue of bleeding at the venipuncture site.

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://cpcta.examzify.com

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

SAMPLE