

NURSING PRACTICE AS A MEMBER OF THE PROFESSION PRACTICE EXAM (SAMPLE) STUDY GUIDE



SAMPLE STUDY GUIDE WITH LIMITED QUESTIONS

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THE FULL VERSION STUDY GUIDE**

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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.

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!

Questions

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- 1. What types of discrimination and harassment policies should nurses be aware of in the workplace?**
 - A. Policies prohibiting discrimination by race, gender, age, disability, religion, etc., and harassment; report incidents through formal channels and seek support.
 - B. Policies that allow discrimination based on personal opinions of staff.
 - C. There are no formal policies; issues are resolved informally.
 - D. Policies only address patient complaints, not staff conduct.
- 2. Which term describes professional negligence by a licensed nurse, involving a duty, breach, and injury?**
 - A. Negligence
 - B. Defamation of character
 - C. Invasion of privacy
 - D. Malpractice
- 3. Which century is associated with the rise of informatics and technology in nursing?**
 - A. 18th
 - B. 19th
 - C. 20th
 - D. 21st
- 4. Which term is defined by truth-telling, or honesty in communication?**
 - A. Veracity
 - B. Value
 - C. Confidentiality
 - D. Advocacy
- 5. What constitutes appropriate professional boundaries when students or learners are involved in care?**
 - A. Maintain mentorship roles, supervise learners, ensure patient safety, and obtain consent for learner participation when appropriate.
 - B. Allow learners to participate without supervision to promote independence.
 - C. Engage in dual relationships to facilitate learner experiences.
 - D. Maintain mentorship roles, avoid dual relationships, supervise learners, ensure patient safety, and obtain consent for learner participation when appropriate.

- 6. Which term relates to the legal claim that a professional failed to perform to the standard of a competent professional?**
- A. Negligence
 - B. Malpractice
 - C. Invasion of privacy
 - D. Libel
- 7. How should nurses approach end-of-life care consistent with patient autonomy and comfort?**
- A. Respect patient wishes, manage pain and symptoms, discuss goals of care, involve ethics or palliative care as needed, and document directives.
 - B. Override patient preferences if family disagrees.
 - C. Withhold information to reduce distress.
 - D. Pursue aggressive treatment regardless of goals.
- 8. What is a nurse's duty when witnessing unsafe or unethical practice by a colleague?**
- A. Ignore it to avoid conflict.
 - B. Report through proper channels, protect patients, document observations, and support a culture of safety; follow policies and investigations.
 - C. Confront the colleague publicly in front of patients.
 - D. Keep silent unless harm occurs.
- 9. Which principle is summarized by 'do no harm'?**
- A. Beneficence
 - B. Autonomy
 - C. Non-maleficence
 - D. Justice
- 10. If a patient refuses a medically recommended treatment, what steps should the nurse take to respect autonomy while ensuring safety?**
- A. Respect competent patient decisions, assess reasons, provide information, document the refusal, and involve the physician; consider ethics consult if needed.
 - B. Coerce the patient to accept treatment.
 - C. Ignore the patient's refusal and continue as planned.
 - D. File an ethics complaint against the patient.

Answers

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

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Explanations

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1. What types of discrimination and harassment policies should nurses be aware of in the workplace?

- A. Policies prohibiting discrimination by race, gender, age, disability, religion, etc., and harassment; report incidents through formal channels and seek support.**
- B. Policies that allow discrimination based on personal opinions of staff.
- C. There are no formal policies; issues are resolved informally.
- D. Policies only address patient complaints, not staff conduct.

Discrimination and harassment policies set a zero-tolerance standard for unfair treatment based on protected characteristics and for any harassing behavior in the workplace. Nurses should know that discrimination by race, gender, age, disability, religion, and similar attributes, as well as harassment, will not be tolerated and must be reported through formal channels. These policies typically outline who to contact (supervisor, human resources, compliance office, or a dedicated hotline), how investigations are conducted, what support is available, and protections against retaliation. This framework helps keep the work environment safe and professional, which is essential for high-quality patient care and teamwork, especially since issues can involve coworkers, supervisors, or patients. Informal resolutions or policies that permit discrimination undermine safety and legal protections, and a policy that addresses only patient complaints misses the broader scope of staff conduct that affects the care environment.

2. Which term describes professional negligence by a licensed nurse, involving a duty, breach, and injury?

- A. Negligence
- B. Defamation of character
- C. Invasion of privacy
- D. Malpractice**

Malpractice is professional negligence by a licensed nurse. It happens when the nurse has a duty to provide the standard of care, fails to meet that standard (breach), and that failure leads to injury or damages for the patient. The four elements—duty, breach, causation, and damages—must be present for a malpractice claim. This differentiates malpractice from general negligence, which can refer to careless acts by anyone, and from defamation or invasion of privacy, which involve harming reputation or privacy rather than the nurse's failure to provide appropriate care.

3. Which century is associated with the rise of informatics and technology in nursing?

- A. 18th
- B. 19th
- C. 20th
- D. 21st**

The rise of informatics in nursing is driven by the widespread integration of information technology into everyday nursing care. In the 21st century, electronic health records, telehealth, mobile health tools, bedside computing, and clinical decision support became standard parts of practice. This era brought not only better data capture and care coordination but also the growth of nursing informatics as a recognized field and the push for data-driven, evidence-based care across education, administration, and clinical roles. While computer use began earlier, the transformative, routine use of informatics across all levels of nursing is a hallmark of the 21st century.

4. Which term is defined by truth-telling, or honesty in communication?

- A. Veracity
- B. Value
- C. Confidentiality
- D. Advocacy

Truthful and honest communication is veracity. Veracity means telling the truth, communicating clearly, and avoiding deception with patients. In nursing, this principle supports informed consent, autonomy, and trust in the therapeutic relationship, which are essential for safe and ethical care. For example, conveying the real risks and benefits of a treatment, answering questions openly, and not minimizing or misrepresenting information embodies veracity. Confidentiality is about protecting patient privacy and controlling who can know or share information. Advocacy is about supporting and promoting the patient's best interests, which may involve communicating on their behalf or helping them navigate options. Values refer to beliefs and principles guiding behavior, not the specific act of truthful communication.

5. What constitutes appropriate professional boundaries when students or learners are involved in care?

- A. Maintain mentorship roles, supervise learners, ensure patient safety, and obtain consent for learner participation when appropriate.
- B. Allow learners to participate without supervision to promote independence.
- C. Engage in dual relationships to facilitate learner experiences.
- D. Maintain mentorship roles, avoid dual relationships, supervise learners, ensure patient safety, and obtain consent for learner participation when appropriate.

Professional boundaries with learners center on protecting the patient while guiding the learner. The best approach includes keeping a clear mentorship role, actively supervising learners during care, ensuring patient safety at all times, and obtaining patient consent for learner participation when appropriate. It also explicitly avoids dual relationships, which is crucial because mixing professional roles with personal or unrelated roles can create conflicts of interest, undermine trust, and risk patient harm or bias in care. If supervision is absent, patient safety can be jeopardized and the ethical standard of care isn't met. Engaging in dual relationships introduces potential boundary violations and power imbalances that compromise objectivity and the therapeutic relationship. By maintaining clear mentorship, supervision, patient safety, and consent, while avoiding dual relationships, the boundaries stay professional and patient-centered.

6. Which term relates to the legal claim that a professional failed to perform to the standard of a competent professional?

- A. Negligence
- B. Malpractice**
- C. Invasion of privacy
- D. Libel

Professional liability for a licensed clinician is about meeting the standard of care expected of someone with that training. When a clinician's actions or omissions fall below what a competent professional would do and harm results, the legal claim is malpractice. This term specifically denotes professional negligence within the practice of a profession, linking the harm to the failure to meet the standard of care in that field. Neglecting to exercise reasonable care on its own is broader and can apply in many situations, but the term malpractice is used when the issue involves a licensed professional and their professional duties. Invasion of privacy and libel describe other kinds of wrongs—privacy breaches and false written statements harming reputation, respectively—so they don't fit the scenario.

7. How should nurses approach end-of-life care consistent with patient autonomy and comfort?

- A. Respect patient wishes, manage pain and symptoms, discuss goals of care, involve ethics or palliative care as needed, and document directives.**
- B. Override patient preferences if family disagrees.
- C. Withhold information to reduce distress.
- D. Pursue aggressive treatment regardless of goals.

End-of-life care that honors autonomy while prioritizing comfort focuses on letting the patient guide decisions and ensuring symptom relief. Practically, this means listening to and respecting the patient's wishes about which treatments to accept or decline, ensuring decisions are informed through clear, honest conversations, and revisiting those choices as the situation changes. It also means managing pain and other distressing symptoms—providing effective analgesia, easing shortness of breath, and reducing agitation—so the patient remains as comfortable as possible. The nurse facilitates goals-of-care discussions, coordinates with the interprofessional team, and calls in palliative care or ethics support as needed to navigate uncertainties or conflicts. Documenting advance directives, decisions about resuscitation, and any surrogate decision-makers ensures the plan stays aligned across care settings. Overriding the patient's preferences if family disagrees undermines autonomy. Withholding information to reduce distress prevents informed decision-making and erodes trust. Pursuing aggressive treatment regardless of goals can prolong suffering and conflict with both autonomy and comfort-focused care.

8. What is a nurse's duty when witnessing unsafe or unethical practice by a colleague?

- A. Ignore it to avoid conflict.
- B. Report through proper channels, protect patients, document observations, and support a culture of safety; follow policies and investigations.**
- C. Confront the colleague publicly in front of patients.
- D. Keep silent unless harm occurs.

Nurses have a duty to protect patients and uphold safe, ethical care. When you witness unsafe or unethical practice, you must report it through the proper channels so the issue can be investigated and corrected without delay. Document your observations factually and promptly—note what happened, when, where, who was involved, and any outcomes you observed. This supports patient safety, accountability, and a culture that encourages reporting of concerns. Follow your organization's policies for reporting and investigations, and engage in the formal process as required. Ignoring the issue allows potential harm to continue; publicly confronting a colleague in front of patients undermines professionalism and can escalate risk; staying silent unless harm occurs fails to fulfill the obligation to advocate for patients and to act on safeguarding measures.

9. Which principle is summarized by 'do no harm'?

- A. Beneficence
- B. Autonomy
- C. Non-maleficence**
- D. Justice

Non-maleficence is the principle that requires health professionals to avoid causing harm and to minimize the risk of harm to patients. The phrase "do no harm" captures this obligation directly, guiding actions such as using safe medications, performing procedures with proper technique, and weighing potential harms against benefits before intervening. Beneficence means actively promoting good, autonomy concerns respecting patients' right to choose their care, and justice focuses on fair and equitable treatment. Because "do no harm" is a direct statement about avoiding harm, non-maleficence is the best fit.

10. If a patient refuses a medically recommended treatment, what steps should the nurse take to respect autonomy while ensuring safety?

- A. Respect competent patient decisions, assess reasons, provide information, document the refusal, and involve the physician; consider ethics consult if needed.**
- B. Coerce the patient to accept treatment.**
- C. Ignore the patient's refusal and continue as planned.**
- D. File an ethics complaint against the patient.**

Respecting autonomy while safeguarding the patient means recognizing that a competent patient can refuse a medically indicated treatment, and the nurse's role is to support that decision with understanding, information, and proper documentation. First, assess capacity and voluntariness. Confirm the patient can understand the information, appreciate the consequences, reason about options, and communicate a clear choice. If there's any doubt about capacity, involve the physician and consider additional assessment or ethics support as needed. Second, explore the patient's reasons. Use open-ended questions to understand values, fears, cultural beliefs, and any misconceptions. This helps determine if the refusal is informed and voluntary rather than the result of coercion, misunderstanding, or coercive pressure. Third, provide complete information. Explain the purpose of the proposed treatment, potential benefits, risks, and possible alternatives—including the option of no treatment—and what would happen if the treatment is refused. Ensure the patient has enough information to make an informed decision. Fourth, respect the decision. If the patient is competent and chooses to refuse, honor that choice and continue to support the patient, offering comfort measures or alternative plans as appropriate. Do not push for compliance or override the decision. Fifth, document thoroughly and coordinate care. Record the patient's decision, the information provided, the capacity assessment, and who was informed. Notify the physician and the rest of the care team to ensure a consistent plan and safety precautions. Sixth, seek additional input if needed. Consider an ethics consult when there is uncertainty about capacity, potential harm, or conflicts within the care team, to help navigate the ethical balance between autonomy and safety. Coercion, ignoring the patient's wishes, or filing accusations against the patient do not fit this approach, as they undermine autonomy and patient-centered care.

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://nursingpracasmemofprofession.examzify.com>

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

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