

ACI MEDICATION ADMINISTRATION PRACTICE TEST (SAMPLE)

STUDY GUIDE



**SAMPLE STUDY GUIDE
WITH LIMITED QUESTIONS**

**VISIT US ONLINE FOR
THE FULL VERSION STUDY GUIDE**

<https://acimedadmin.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.

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

SAMPLE

- 1. What do chemical drug names refer to?**
 - A. Brand names of medications
 - B. Common names used by the public
 - C. Scientific elements
 - D. Abbreviations for drug formulas
- 2. How should medications be administered to a patient with swallowing difficulties?**
 - A. Use only solid formulations
 - B. Administer medications without consulting a professional
 - C. Collaborate with a speech therapist for the best method
 - D. Avoid documenting medication administration
- 3. What is the primary purpose of medication administration?**
 - A. To ensure the safe and effective delivery of medications to patients
 - B. To track patient vitals
 - C. To educate patients about side effects
 - D. To monitor medication stock levels
- 4. What identifier must every prescriber have to legally prescribe medications?**
 - A. Medical License Number
 - B. National Provider Identifier
 - C. DEA Number
 - D. State License Number
- 5. Why is it important to review a patient's allergies before administering medication?**
 - A. To ensure medications are taken at the right time
 - B. To prevent potential allergic reactions to medications
 - C. To determine the correct dosage required
 - D. To assess the patient's hydration status

- 6. What should a healthcare provider do if a patient refuses medication?**
- A. Ignore the refusal
 - B. Document the refusal and notify the physician
 - C. Administer the medication anyway
 - D. Encourage the patient to take the medication
- 7. Which gauge is typically used for intravenous injections?**
- A. 16-18 G
 - B. 18-23 G
 - C. 24-26 G
 - D. 27-29 G
- 8. Which term denotes an unexpected reaction to a medication that is not typical?**
- A. Adverse effect
 - B. Idiosyncratic reaction
 - C. Contraindication
 - D. Side effect
- 9. What is the first step a nurse should take when administering oral medication?**
- A. Assess the patient's ability to swallow
 - B. Administer the medication with grapefruit juice
 - C. Not give oral medication to a patient with a nasogastric tube in place
 - D. Crush enteric coated tablets if the patient has trouble swallowing
- 10. What should a nurse do upon noticing that the prescriber has doubled the previous dose of medication?**
- A. Administer the medication as prescribed
 - B. Check the prescription with another nurse
 - C. Verify the dose with the prescriber
 - D. Record that a double dose was prescribed

Answers

SAMPLE

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

SAMPLE

Explanations

SAMPLE

1. What do chemical drug names refer to?

- A. Brand names of medications
- B. Common names used by the public
- C. Scientific elements**
- D. Abbreviations for drug formulas

Chemical drug names refer specifically to the molecular structure of a drug. These names provide precise information about the specific components and arrangement of atoms within the molecule, often following the guidelines set by organizations like the International Union of Pure and Applied Chemistry (IUPAC). The chemical name accurately describes the drug's composition and structure, which is critical for scientists and healthcare professionals when discussing the drug's properties, synthesis, and potential interactions. In contrast, brand names are marketing terms created by pharmaceutical companies to promote their products, while common names might be informal terms used by the general public that may not reflect the drug's chemical structure. Abbreviations for drug formulas do not give specific insights into the actual chemical composition, as they generally represent a simplified version rather than the full scientific name. Thus, the chemical name stands apart as the formal representation that conveys essential scientific information about the medication.

2. How should medications be administered to a patient with swallowing difficulties?

- A. Use only solid formulations
- B. Administer medications without consulting a professional
- C. Collaborate with a speech therapist for the best method**
- D. Avoid documenting medication administration

Collaborating with a speech therapist is the best approach for administering medications to a patient with swallowing difficulties. Speech therapists are trained to assess and recommend strategies that can help patients manage their swallowing issues. This collaboration can lead to the development of personalized strategies, such as modifying the medication form—for example, crushing tablets or using liquid medications—ensuring that the patient can take their medications safely and effectively. Utilizing the expertise of a speech therapist not only addresses the immediate challenge of medication administration but also contributes to the overall safety and health of the patient, reducing the risk of aspiration or choking. This approach promotes the patient's ability to adhere to their medication regimen while considering their unique needs regarding swallowing. The other options would not serve the patient's best interests or safety in medication management.

3. What is the primary purpose of medication administration?

- A. To ensure the safe and effective delivery of medications to patients**
- B. To track patient vitals
- C. To educate patients about side effects
- D. To monitor medication stock levels

The primary purpose of medication administration is to ensure the safe and effective delivery of medications to patients. This involves not only providing the correct medication but also verifying appropriate dosages, routes of administration, timing, and the specific patient to whom the medication is being given. Safety is paramount in this process to prevent medication errors that could lead to adverse effects or ineffective treatment. Other aspects of medication management, such as tracking patient vitals, educating patients about side effects, and monitoring medication stock levels, are important but serve a supporting role rather than being the core focus of administration. While these activities contribute to a holistic approach in patient care and management, they do not encapsulate the central aim of medication administration itself, which is fundamentally about ensuring that patients receive their medications safely and effectively.

4. What identifier must every prescriber have to legally prescribe medications?

- A. Medical License Number
- B. National Provider Identifier
- C. DEA Number**
- D. State License Number

The most appropriate identifier that every prescriber must have to legally prescribe medications is the DEA Number. This number is assigned by the Drug Enforcement Administration and is necessary for any healthcare provider who will be prescribing controlled substances. The DEA number serves as a unique identifier for practitioners and ensures that they have the legal authority to prescribe medications that are regulated due to their potential for abuse or addiction. While a medical license number, state license number, or national provider identifier may also be important for various aspects of a prescriber's qualifications and practice, the DEA number is specifically required for the prescribing of controlled substances. Without this number, a prescriber cannot legally prescribe medications that fall under the Controlled Substances Act, which is critical in managing the prescribing process safely and legally.

5. Why is it important to review a patient's allergies before administering medication?

- A. To ensure medications are taken at the right time
- B. To prevent potential allergic reactions to medications**
- C. To determine the correct dosage required
- D. To assess the patient's hydration status

Reviewing a patient's allergies before administering medication is crucial for preventing potential allergic reactions. The risk of an adverse reaction increases significantly if a patient is given a medication they are allergic to. These reactions can range from mild symptoms, such as rashes or itching, to severe and life-threatening conditions, such as anaphylaxis. Knowing a patient's allergy history allows healthcare providers to choose alternative medications or adjust treatment plans accordingly to ensure the patient's safety. Understanding this aspect of medication administration not only helps in safeguarding the patient's health but also aligns with best practices in patient care, highlighting the importance of thorough patient assessments and individualized treatment plans.

6. What should a healthcare provider do if a patient refuses medication?

- A. Ignore the refusal
- B. Document the refusal and notify the physician**
- C. Administer the medication anyway
- D. Encourage the patient to take the medication

When a patient refuses medication, the appropriate action for a healthcare provider is to document the refusal and notify the physician. This course of action is important for several reasons. Firstly, documenting the refusal provides a legal record that the patient was informed about the medication and chose not to take it. This is crucial for maintaining accurate medical records and ensuring that all members of the healthcare team are aware of the patient's decision. Secondly, notifying the physician allows for further assessment of the situation. The physician can explore the reasons behind the refusal, discuss potential consequences with the patient, and consider alternative treatment options or adjustments to the medication regimen. Engaging the physician ensures that the patient's safety and health are prioritized, and it fosters collaborative decision-making in the patient's care. In contrast, ignoring the refusal disregards the patient's autonomy and rights and could lead to dangerous health outcomes. Administering the medication against the patient's wishes is not ethical and could lead to mistrust in the provider-patient relationship. While encouraging the patient to take the medication may be appropriate in some contexts, without documentation and physician notification, it does not fulfill the necessary protocols for handling a refusal.

7. Which gauge is typically used for intravenous injections?

- A. 16-18 G
- B. 18-23 G**
- C. 24-26 G
- D. 27-29 G

The selection of an 18-23 gauge needle for intravenous injections is a common practice among healthcare professionals due to its balance of suitable flow rate and patient comfort. Needles in this range are large enough to allow for the rapid administration of fluids and medications, which is often crucial in emergency situations or for patients requiring a significant volume of therapy. The 18 gauge is often preferred for high-flow situations, such as blood transfusions or rapid fluid resuscitation, while the 20-23 gauge provides flexibility for smaller, less urgent tasks like routine IV med administration or starting an IV line in a patient with smaller veins. Using finer gauges, such as those in the 24-26 gauge range, can be more appropriate for pediatrics or smaller veins, but they may not provide the same rapid flow rates as the 18-23 gauge range. Needle sizes larger than a 23 gauge, particularly those smaller than 24 gauge, are generally used in more specialized circumstances.

8. Which term denotes an unexpected reaction to a medication that is not typical?

- A. Adverse effect
- B. Idiosyncratic reaction**
- C. Contraindication
- D. Side effect

The term that denotes an unexpected reaction to a medication that is not typical is idiosyncratic reaction. This type of reaction is characterized by its unpredictability and is not a direct result of the pharmacological action of the drug. Idiosyncratic reactions can vary widely among individuals and may be influenced by genetic factors, underlying health conditions, or interactions with other medications. In contrast, adverse effects are generally understood as harmful or unpleasant effects that occur as a direct result of a medication's primary actions, while side effects are unintended and typically predictable responses to medication that can occur alongside its desired therapeutic effects. Contraindications refer to specific situations or conditions under which a medication should not be used due to the risk of harm, rather than describing unexpected reactions. Thus, the emphasis on the unexpected nature of the reaction specifically aligns with the definition of idiosyncratic reactions.

9. What is the first step a nurse should take when administering oral medication?

- A. Assess the patient's ability to swallow**
- B. Administer the medication with grapefruit juice
- C. Not give oral medication to a patient with a nasogastric tube in place
- D. Crush enteric coated tablets if the patient has trouble swallowing

The first step a nurse should take when administering oral medication is to assess the patient's ability to swallow. This is crucial because ensuring that a patient can safely swallow medication helps prevent choking and aspiration, which can lead to serious complications such as aspiration pneumonia. Assessing the patient's swallowing capability also allows the nurse to identify any necessary modifications to the medication administration process, such as using liquid formulations instead of tablets or considering alternative routes if the patient has difficulty swallowing. The other options present varying levels of considerations for medication administration, but they cannot be prioritized over the fundamental assessment of the patient's swallowing ability. For example, administering medication with grapefruit juice could potentially interfere with the metabolism of certain drugs and isn't a universal practice. Similarly, not giving oral medication to someone with a nasogastric tube in place may not always be necessary depending on the circumstances. Lastly, crushing enteric-coated tablets is generally inappropriate, as it can alter the delayed-release mechanism of the medication. Therefore, the initial assessment of swallowing is the essential first step in ensuring safe and effective medication administration.

10. What should a nurse do upon noticing that the prescriber has doubled the previous dose of medication?

- A. Administer the medication as prescribed
- B. Check the prescription with another nurse
- C. Verify the dose with the prescriber**
- D. Record that a double dose was prescribed

Verifying the dose with the prescriber is essential to ensure patient safety and accuracy in medication administration. When a nurse notices that the prescribed dose has been doubled compared to a previous order, it raises questions about the appropriateness of the new dosage. This situation could indicate a potential error or a significant change in the patient's condition that warrants further clarification. By contacting the prescriber, the nurse can confirm whether the new dosage is intentional and correctly justified based on the patient's current clinical status. This step is critical because it helps prevent medication errors that could lead to adverse effects for the patient. Such verification is part of the nursing responsibility to advocate for the patient's well-being and ensure effective communication within the healthcare team. In contrast, administering the medication as prescribed without verification could lead to harmful consequences if the change was not appropriate. Checking the prescription with another nurse is a valuable practice for confirming information but does not replace the need for clarifying directly with the prescriber regarding the rationale for the dosage increase. Lastly, merely recording that a double dose was prescribed does not address the vital need for confirmation and understanding of the change in order to advocate properly for the patient's safety.

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://acimedadmin.examzify.com>

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

SAMPLE