

ACI MEDICATION ADMINISTRATION PRACTICE TEST (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. At what times should medications be administered "ac"?**
 - A. 0730, 1130, 1630
 - B. 0800, 1200, 1700
 - C. 0900, 1500, 2100
 - D. 1000, 1400, 1800
- 2. What is the primary purpose of pharmacovigilance?**
 - A. To develop new medications
 - B. To monitor the effects of medications after they are approved
 - C. To conduct clinical trials
 - D. To ensure accurate prescription writing
- 3. If a nurse calculated the total dose of oral tablets as 4 and it was confirmed, what should be the nurse's next step?**
 - A. Question the physician
 - B. Give the tablets as ordered
 - C. Explain the procedure to the patient
 - D. Ensure the patient can take 4 tablets without difficulty
- 4. What is the proper site for administering an intramuscular injection in adults?**
 - A. The biceps muscle
 - B. The deltoid muscle
 - C. The abdomen
 - D. The forearm
- 5. Which factors should be considered concerning drug action?**
 - A. BMI, weight, body size
 - B. Age and gender only
 - C. Family history of diseases
 - D. Environmental factors only

6. How are drug classifications determined?

- A. Based on the price of the medication
- B. According to their advertising strategies
- C. By different variations of the drug but they have the same end goal
- D. By the geographical area of use

7. What is the first step in administering a transdermal route medication?

- A. Apply the patch immediately
- B. Clean the area with warm soapy water and rotate the site
- C. Apply lotion to the skin
- D. Cover the area with a bandage

8. What is the function of federal drug laws?

- A. To promote sales of medications
- B. To determine prices of pharmaceuticals
- C. To govern which medications are legal and illegal
- D. To label medications for consumers

9. In taking a medication history, what must a nurse remember to include?

- A. Smoking will have no effect on medication action
- B. OTC medications need to be included
- C. Most medications are not affected by the use of alcohol
- D. Herbal products usually have no effect on prescribed medications

10. In pediatrics, how is medication dose typically calculated?

- A. Based on the child's age in months
- B. Based on the child's height in centimeters
- C. Based on the child's weight in kilograms
- D. Based on the child's body surface area

Answers

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

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Explanations

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1. At what times should medications be administered "ac"?

A. 0730, 1130, 1630

B. 0800, 1200, 1700

C. 0900, 1500, 2100

D. 1000, 1400, 1800

The term "ac" stands for "ante cibum," which is Latin for "before meals." In a medical context, this typically means that medications should be administered on an empty stomach, usually 30 minutes to an hour before meals. In the context of the provided times, the correct choice includes administration at 0730, 1130, and 1630. These times correspond closely to typical meal times, with the medications given prior to breakfast, lunch, and dinner, respectively. This pattern effectively allows the medications to be taken when the stomach is empty, which is essential for optimal absorption and effectiveness of many oral medications. The other options do not align as directly with standard meal times or the practice of giving medications before meals. Recognizing the significance of administering medications at appropriate intervals relative to meals is crucial for ensuring their intended therapeutic effects and maintaining patient safety.

2. What is the primary purpose of pharmacovigilance?

A. To develop new medications

B. To monitor the effects of medications after they are approved

C. To conduct clinical trials

D. To ensure accurate prescription writing

The primary purpose of pharmacovigilance is to monitor the effects of medications after they have been approved for public use. This process involves the collection, detection, assessment, monitoring, and prevention of adverse effects or any other drug-related problems. Through pharmacovigilance, healthcare professionals can report adverse reactions, enabling ongoing safety assessments of medications. This continuous process provides critical information that can lead to recommendations for safer use, adjustments in drug labeling, or even withdrawal of drugs from the market, if necessary. Understanding the safety and efficacy of medications in real-world populations is essential, as it can differ significantly from controlled clinical trial conditions. Thus, through rigorous monitoring, pharmacovigilance plays a crucial role in protecting public health by ensuring that the benefits of medications outweigh their risks.

3. If a nurse calculated the total dose of oral tablets as 4 and it was confirmed, what should be the nurse's next step?

A. Question the physician

B. Give the tablets as ordered

C. Explain the procedure to the patient

D. Ensure the patient can take 4 tablets without difficulty

In this scenario, the best next step for the nurse, after confirming the calculated total dose of oral tablets as 4, is to ensure that the patient is able to take that number of tablets without difficulty. This is crucial for patient safety and comfort. Checking if the patient has difficulty swallowing or has other contraindications related to the medication is essential before proceeding with administration. Considering this clarification, the other options do not adequately address the immediate concern for patient safety. Questioning the physician could be unnecessary if the dose has already been confirmed. Similarly, giving the tablets as ordered may not be safe if the nurse has not yet assessed the patient's ability to take that many tablets. Explaining the procedure to the patient, while important for informed consent and understanding, does not address the critical evaluation of the patient's capability to take the medication safely. Therefore, assessing the patient's ability to take 4 tablets is a logical and necessary next step before administering any medication.

4. What is the proper site for administering an intramuscular injection in adults?

- A. The biceps muscle
- B. The deltoid muscle**
- C. The abdomen
- D. The forearm

The deltoid muscle is considered an appropriate site for administering an intramuscular injection in adults due to several factors that make it ideal for this purpose. The deltoid is located in the upper arm and is easily accessible, which allows for convenient administration. It has a relatively thicker muscle mass compared to areas where other options would be administered, which helps ensure that the medication is injected into muscle tissue, where it can be absorbed effectively. When administering an intramuscular injection, it's crucial that the site has sufficient muscle tissue, blood supply, and a low risk of damage to nerves and blood vessels. The deltoid muscle meets these parameters well. It's also important to note that the recommended maximum volume for injection into the deltoid muscle is typically up to 1 mL for most medications, making it suitable for many intramuscular injections. Using the biceps muscle is generally not recommended for intramuscular injections due to its smaller size and risk of injury. The abdomen is more suited for subcutaneous injections, while the forearm is mostly used for intradermal or subcutaneous routes, thus making the deltoid muscle the preferred choice for intramuscular administration in adults.

5. Which factors should be considered concerning drug action?

- A. BMI, weight, body size**
- B. Age and gender only
- C. Family history of diseases
- D. Environmental factors only

Considering factors that influence drug action is crucial for effective medication administration and achieving optimal therapeutic outcomes. The correct answer focuses on BMI, weight, and body size, all of which are significant determinants of how a drug is metabolized and distributed in the body. BMI (Body Mass Index), weight, and body size can affect a person's pharmacokinetics, which includes absorption, distribution, metabolism, and excretion of drugs. For instance, individuals with a higher body mass may require larger doses of medication to achieve the desired effect, while those with smaller body sizes may experience enhanced effects or increased toxicity from standard doses. Additionally, variations in body composition, such as differences in fat and muscle mass, can influence how drugs are stored and released in the body. In contrast, options that consider only age and gender, or environmental factors alone, provide an incomplete picture. While age and gender do indeed play roles in drug action due to physiological differences, they are not the sole determinants. Similarly, family history of diseases can provide insights into potential genetic predispositions but does not directly impact how the body processes medication in the same way that body metrics do. Therefore, focusing on the comprehensive influence of BMI, weight, and body size offers a more rounded understanding of drug

6. How are drug classifications determined?

- A. Based on the price of the medication
- B. According to their advertising strategies
- C. By different variations of the drug but they have the same end goal**
- D. By the geographical area of use

Drug classifications are determined by grouping medications that share similar characteristics, mechanisms of action, or therapeutic uses. This classification system helps healthcare professionals easily identify and differentiate medications that have the same end goal or effect in treating particular conditions. For example, medications that lower blood pressure may be classified as antihypertensives, encompassing different subclasses such as diuretics or ACE inhibitors. Despite these medications differing in their chemical structure or route of administration, they are grouped together due to their shared purpose of managing hypertension. The other options do not align with how drugs are classified. Pricing relates to market dynamics rather than the pharmacological or therapeutic properties of drugs. Advertising strategies influence marketing but do not impact the scientific basis for drug classification. Finally, while geographical differences can influence drug availability and usage, they do not determine the classification of a drug itself. Hence, the correct classification system is based on the common therapeutic outcomes they achieve.

7. What is the first step in administering a transdermal route medication?

- A. Apply the patch immediately
- B. Clean the area with warm soapy water and rotate the site**
- C. Apply lotion to the skin
- D. Cover the area with a bandage

When administering a medication via the transdermal route, the first step is to clean the area where the patch will be applied. This involves using warm soapy water to ensure the skin is free from oils, dirt, and any previous residues of medications. Cleaning the skin is crucial because it enhances the adhesion of the patch and facilitates better absorption of the medication into the bloodstream. Additionally, rotating the site is important to prevent skin irritation or degradation of the skin over time. This practice also allows for assessments of different skin areas, ensuring that the most appropriate location is chosen for optimal effectiveness of the medication. Proper site preparation is essential for achieving effective therapeutic outcomes with transdermal patches. Subsequent steps, such as applying the patch, using lotion, or covering the area with a bandage, are important but occur after ensuring that the skin is adequately prepared for medication administration.

8. What is the function of federal drug laws?

- A. To promote sales of medications
- B. To determine prices of pharmaceuticals
- C. To govern which medications are legal and illegal**
- D. To label medications for consumers

The function of federal drug laws primarily revolves around governing which medications are considered legal or illegal. These regulations ensure that medications are safe and effective for public use, establishing a framework for the approval, distribution, and monitoring of pharmaceuticals. Federal drug laws, such as the Controlled Substances Act, categorize medications based on their potential for abuse and therapeutic value, which helps to prevent misuse and protect public health. While promoting sales of medications or determining their prices may occur within the pharmaceutical industry, these aspects are not the primary focus of federal drug legislation. Similarly, labeling medications for consumers falls under specific regulatory guidelines but does not represent the overarching purpose of federal drug laws. Therefore, the correct choice highlights the essential role of these laws in maintaining public safety by delineating the legal status of various medications.

9. In taking a medication history, what must a nurse remember to include?

- A. Smoking will have no effect on medication action
- B. OTC medications need to be included**
- C. Most medications are not affected by the use of alcohol
- D. Herbal products usually have no effect on prescribed medications

Including over-the-counter (OTC) medications in a medication history is critical because these substances can interact with prescription medications and may affect the patient's overall treatment plan. OTC medications are often overlooked, yet they can cause side effects or alter the efficacy of prescribed medications. Understanding all the medications a patient is using, including OTC options, helps ensure that the nurse can assess potential interactions, monitor for adverse effects, and provide safe medication management. While the other options may contain inaccuracies about the influence of smoking, alcohol, or herbal products on medication effectiveness, they do not align with the necessity for comprehensive medication history. Recognizing the full spectrum of substances a patient is taking is essential for safe and effective care.

10. In pediatrics, how is medication dose typically calculated?

- A. Based on the child's age in months
- B. Based on the child's height in centimeters
- C. Based on the child's weight in kilograms**
- D. Based on the child's body surface area

In pediatrics, calculating medication doses based on the child's weight in kilograms is a widely accepted practice because it provides a more accurate estimate of the appropriate dose needed for optimal efficacy and safety. This method is particularly important as children have significantly different pharmacokinetics and pharmacodynamics compared to adults. Weight-based dosing helps accommodate the child's varying body composition, metabolic rate, and maturity level. Using kilograms as the standard for dose calculation allows healthcare providers to individualize treatment for each child, ensuring that the amount of medication administered is appropriate relative to the child's size. This is crucial for minimizing the risk of underdosing or overdosing, which can lead to ineffective treatment or adverse effects, respectively. While factors like age, height, and body surface area are also considered in pediatrics, weight remains the most reliable and common basis for dose calculations due to its direct correlation with the volume of distribution of medications in the body.

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:

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

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