

BIOETHICS EXAM 2 PRACTICE (SAMPLE)

STUDY GUIDE



SAMPLE STUDY GUIDE WITH LIMITED QUESTIONS

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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. Which argument references religious beliefs?**
 - A. Unnatural and goes against some religions
 - B. Baby Selling
 - C. Commodifies the Human Body and Treats Children as Property
 - D. Exploits Women
- 2. Which statement best describes the purpose of randomization in clinical trials?**
 - A. To ensure equal numbers in each arm
 - B. To maximize data collection speed
 - C. To minimize selection bias and confounding
 - D. To guarantee a favorable outcome
- 3. From a utilitarian perspective, reproductive technology is generally viewed as:**
 - A. It would ban all reproductive technologies.
 - B. It yields no net gains in IVF and surrogacy.
 - C. It could yield a net gain in the use of IVF and surrogacy and carry a low risk of birth defects.
 - D. It ignores the happiness of participants.
- 4. What did New Jersey court rule about the surrogate agreement?**
 - A. Invalid
 - B. Enforceable
 - C. Void
 - D. Binding
- 5. Which principle is central to contract theory in human research and requires treating all participants as equals without bias based on social status?**
 - A. Autonomy
 - B. Justice
 - C. Beneficence
 - D. Nonmaleficence

- 6. Which statement about presumed consent best captures an ethical concern?**
- A. Increasing organ availability without any cost.
 - B. Respecting patient autonomy is always fully preserved.
 - C. Public trust is guaranteed under presumed consent.
 - D. Potential erosion of trust in healthcare institutions.
- 7. In the Baby M Case, which court reversed the lower ruling?**
- A. The New Jersey Supreme Court upheld the ruling
 - B. The Federal Court
 - C. The Legislature
 - D. The New Jersey Supreme Court reversed the ruling
- 8. In vitro fertilization involves the uniting of egg and sperm in:**
- A. Inside the woman's body.
 - B. In a laboratory dish.
 - C. In the uterus.
 - D. In a petri dish.
- 9. Which approach best reflects ethical oversight in international trials involving vulnerable populations?**
- A. Ignore local ethical standards
 - B. Use generic consent forms for all populations
 - C. Prioritize sponsor interests over participants
 - D. Ensure independent ethical review and robust informed consent, fair risk-benefit distribution, and post-trial access to benefits
- 10. Which statement best describes ethically appropriate end-of-life care for terminally ill children?**
- A. Exclusive focus on extending life regardless of burden.
 - B. Disregard for family input.
 - C. Withholding palliative care to pursue curative trials.
 - D. Best interests standard, family-centered discussion, and palliative care.

Answers

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

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Explanations

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1. Which argument references religious beliefs?

- A. Unnatural and goes against some religions
- B. Baby Selling
- C. Commodifies the Human Body and Treats Children as Property
- D. Exploits Women

The main idea here is recognizing when an argument relies on religious beliefs. Saying something is unnatural and goes against some religions signals that the justification is rooted in religious doctrine or moral intuition tied to faith. That explicit appeal to religious norms makes it the one that references religion. The other statements describe ethical concerns without invoking religion: concerns about economic or social consequences (baby selling), about treating the body or children as property (commodification), or about gender justice (exploiting women). While those issues can be debated within religious or secular frameworks, they don't explicitly reference religious beliefs themselves.

2. Which statement best describes the purpose of randomization in clinical trials?

- A. To ensure equal numbers in each arm
- B. To maximize data collection speed
- C. To minimize selection bias and confounding
- D. To guarantee a favorable outcome

Randomization aims to prevent systematic differences between groups by evenly distributing both known and unknown factors that could influence the outcome. By assigning participants to intervention or control by chance, it guards against selection bias—decisions about who gets which treatment can't be manipulated by researchers or participants—and against confounding factors that could distort comparisons. With prognostic factors balanced on average, observed differences in outcomes are more likely to reflect the effect of the intervention itself. This also supports the validity of the statistical analyses that assume comparable groups. Remember, randomization does not guarantee equal numbers in each arm, nor does it guarantee a favorable result; it just creates a fair comparison so the treatment effect can be estimated without bias. Allocation concealment helps maintain this integrity by preventing foreknowledge of assignments.

3. From a utilitarian perspective, reproductive technology is generally viewed as:

- A. It would ban all reproductive technologies.
- B. It yields no net gains in IVF and surrogacy.
- C. It could yield a net gain in the use of IVF and surrogacy and carry a low risk of birth defects.
- D. It ignores the happiness of participants.

From a utilitarian view, the focus is on the overall welfare produced by an action or technology. Reproductive technologies can increase happiness and well-being by expanding the ability to have children, reducing infertility distress, and enabling families to form in cases where biology or circumstances would otherwise block it. If the benefits for prospective parents, children, and society at large outweigh the harms—such as medical risks or concerns about surrogate welfare—and the risk to birth outcomes is low, the technology is seen as producing a net gain in welfare. In that light, reproductive technology would generally be viewed as capable of yielding net gains in IVF and surrogacy with relatively low risk to birth defects, rather than banning them or disregarding participants' happiness.

4. What did New Jersey court rule about the surrogate agreement?

- A. Invalid
- B. Enforceable
- C. Void
- D. Binding**

The main idea here is that a surrogate agreement can be legally binding when the state allows it and the proper procedures are followed. In New Jersey, the court's ruling that the surrogate agreement is binding means it is enforceable and creates legitimate obligations for both parties. Once a court recognizes the arrangement as binding, the intended parents are acknowledged as the legal parents, and the surrogate's rights and responsibilities are set within the contract and the court's oversight. This insures that the terms—such as parentage transfer and the parties' financial and other agreed obligations—must be honored. If a contract were invalid or void, it would not be recognized or enforceable at all. If it were merely described as enforceable without the binding designation, it might suggest it could be upheld in court but without the firm sense that the court has established a binding relationship and obligations upon all parties. The binding status emphasizes that the court will uphold the agreement as a valid contract and ensure the agreed terms are carried out.

5. Which principle is central to contract theory in human research and requires treating all participants as equals without bias based on social status?

- A. Autonomy
- B. Justice**
- C. Beneficence
- D. Nonmaleficence

Justice as fairness is the idea this item is getting at. In contract theory for human research, the emphasis is on treating all participants as moral equals and ensuring that the burdens and benefits of research are distributed without letting social status influence who bears risk or who gains potential benefits. This mirrors the notion of a social contract among equals, where rules are designed so that no group is advantaged or disadvantaged merely by their position in society. Why this fits best: justice focuses on equality and non-discrimination in who participates, who bears risk, and who receives benefits. It underpins fair subject selection, equal respect for persons, and protection against exploitation, all regardless of status. By contrast, autonomy centers on respecting individuals' decision-making capacity and obtaining informed consent; beneficence is about promoting good and maximizing benefits; nonmaleficence is about avoiding harm. While those principles are essential, they do not by themselves require or guarantee equal treatment across social status in the way contract-theory-based justice does.

6. Which statement about presumed consent best captures an ethical concern?

- A. Increasing organ availability without any cost.
- B. Respecting patient autonomy is always fully preserved.
- C. Public trust is guaranteed under presumed consent.
- D. Potential erosion of trust in healthcare institutions.**

The main concept being tested is how presumed consent can affect trust in the medical system and respect for autonomy. Presumed consent aims to increase organ donation by assuming assent unless someone opts out, but this can raise ethical concerns because people may feel their autonomy is not truly respected and that medical decisions could be driven by procurement goals rather than patient welfare. If the public perceives that consent is being assumed without clear, ongoing opportunities to express individual preferences, trust in healthcare institutions can erode. This erosion can reduce willingness to seek care, participate in medical programs, or support organ donation in the future, undermining the policy's aims. The other statements don't capture this ethical tension as precisely. Presumed consent does not guarantee organ availability at no cost, as implementing opt-out systems involves resources and logistics. It also does not guarantee that autonomy is fully preserved for everyone, since some individuals may not opt out or may be unaware of their rights. And it certainly does not guarantee public trust; in fact, it can undermine trust if people feel their rights are overridden.

7. In the Baby M Case, which court reversed the lower ruling?

- A. The New Jersey Supreme Court upheld the ruling
- B. The Federal Court
- C. The Legislature
- D. The New Jersey Supreme Court reversed the ruling**

Appellate review often overturns a lower court when it finds the original ruling conflicts with public policy or established legal principles. In the Baby M case, the New Jersey Supreme Court looked at the trial court's decision regarding the surrogacy arrangement and custody and reversed it. The Court held that surrogacy contracts are not enforceable and void as a matter of public policy, meaning the contract could not determine who would be the child's legal parents. This reversal emphasized that allowing private agreements to dictate parental rights in surrogacy raises serious policy concerns about commodifying children and potential exploitation, so the higher court set a different legal direction than the lower court. The federal court and the legislature were not the bodies involved in reversing this ruling, which is why the New Jersey Supreme Court's reversal is the correct focus.

8. In vitro fertilization involves the uniting of egg and sperm in:

- A. Inside the woman's body.
- B. In a laboratory dish.**
- C. In the uterus.
- D. In a petri dish.

Fertilization in IVF happens outside the body, in a controlled laboratory setting. The term "in vitro" means "in glass," reflecting that the egg and sperm are united in a lab dish rather than inside the woman. In this process, eggs and sperm are combined in a laboratory culture dish, allowing fertilization to occur under precise conditions before any embryos are transferred to the uterus. This distinguishes IVF from natural fertilization that would occur inside the body.

9. Which approach best reflects ethical oversight in international trials involving vulnerable populations?

- A. Ignore local ethical standards
- B. Use generic consent forms for all populations
- C. Prioritize sponsor interests over participants
- D. Ensure independent ethical review and robust informed consent, fair risk-benefit distribution, and post-trial access to benefits**

Focusing on ethical oversight in international trials with vulnerable populations means balancing protection, respect, and justice for participants while still valuing scientific advancement. The best approach brings together independent ethical review, robust informed consent, fair distribution of risks and benefits, and guaranteed post-trial access to beneficial interventions. Independent ethical review ensures an objective check on the study's design, risk-benefit balance, and protections for participants, free from sponsor influence. Robust informed consent goes beyond a form; it means information is clear, culturally appropriate, translated, and presented so participants truly understand what they're agreeing to, including potential risks and alternatives. Fair distribution of risks and benefits embodies justice, ensuring vulnerable groups aren't exploited and that burdens aren't imposed without a reasonable expectation of benefit or reciprocity. Post-trial access ensures that if a participant or their community could benefit from the intervention, those benefits aren't denied after the study ends. Choices that ignore local ethical standards, rely on generic consent forms for all contexts, or place sponsor interests above participant welfare fail to protect participants' rights and well-being. D captures the comprehensive safeguards that international guidelines advocate for ethically sound research.

10. Which statement best describes ethically appropriate end-of-life care for terminally ill children?

- A. Exclusive focus on extending life regardless of burden.
- B. Disregard for family input.
- C. Withholding palliative care to pursue curative trials.
- D. Best interests standard, family-centered discussion, and palliative care.**

End-of-life care for terminally ill children is guided by what serves the child's best interests, which means balancing relief from suffering with considerations of quality of life and honoring the values and wishes of the family. The best interests standard asks what arrangement will most promote the child's overall well-being, not simply whether life can be extended at any cost. In practice, this is expressed through open, family-centered conversations where clinicians share prognosis, options, and goals, and where the family's perspectives are integral to planning. Palliative care is a central part of this approach. It focuses on relieving pain and other distressing symptoms, supporting psychosocial needs, and maintaining the child's comfort and dignity, while recognizing that care may include ongoing treatments or decisions about stopping aggressive interventions when appropriate. This care can be provided alongside curative or life-prolonging efforts, rather than being withheld. Choosing a path that prioritizes extending life at any burden ignores the child's suffering and overall well-being. Dismissing the family's role undermines the collaborative ethic essential to pediatric care. Withholding palliative care to pursue curative trials can prolong distress without meaningful benefit. Together, the best interests standard, family-centered discussion, and palliative care describe ethically appropriate end-of-life care for children.

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://bioethics2.examzify.com>

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

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