

# California Physical Therapy Jurisprudence Practice Exam (Sample)

## Study Guide



**Everything you need from our exam experts!**

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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**

- 1. What must a physical therapy corporation do if a shareholder becomes disqualified for over 90 days?**
  - A. Hold a special meeting to discuss**
  - B. Transfer the shares to another licensed person**
  - C. Sell the shares back to the corporation**
  - D. Freeze the shares until reinstatement**
- 2. How often must California physical therapists complete continuing education hours?**
  - A. Every year**
  - B. Every two years**
  - C. Every three years**
  - D. Every five years**
- 3. Are physical therapists permitted to provide pro bono services in California?**
  - A. Yes, but only during certain hours**
  - B. No, they are not allowed to**
  - C. Yes, as long as they follow legal requirements**
  - D. Only if they have specialized training**
- 4. What must be included in the documentation for discharging a patient?**
  - A. Only the name of the patient**
  - B. A request for feedback from the patient**
  - C. The findings of the final evaluation and discharge instructions**
  - D. A summary of the treatment regimen provided**
- 5. What is required for offices practicing EMG concerning patient communication?**
  - A. They must provide a written diagnostic interpretation**
  - B. They must give the patient a hand-out and display a sign**
  - C. They must ensure all staff are EMG certified**
  - D. They must refer all patients to a surgeon**

- 6. Before a PT aide can perform patient-related tasks, what must the supervising PT do?**
- A. Train the aide on specific tasks**
  - B. Evaluate every patient**
  - C. Document potential tasks**
  - D. Provide a weekly schedule**
- 7. Who is eligible to be a shareholder in a physical therapy corporation?**
- A. Anyone with a medical degree**
  - B. Only licensed physical therapists**
  - C. Physical therapy assistants**
  - D. Any healthcare professional**
- 8. How does the California Physical Therapy Board handle complaints?**
- A. They ignore complaints unless formally submitted**
  - B. They investigate complaints and take no further action**
  - C. They investigate complaints and can impose disciplinary action if warranted**
  - D. They refer complaints to private entities for resolution**
- 9. Is it permissible for a physical therapist to refer a family member for treatment?**
- A. Yes, but only if the therapist receives approval from a supervisor**
  - B. Yes, but they must adhere to ethical guidelines and disclose the relationship**
  - C. No, family referrals are not allowed under any circumstances**
  - D. Yes, but they must not charge for the service**
- 10. How many years is a term on the PTBC board?**
- A. 2 years**
  - B. 4 years**
  - C. 6 years**
  - D. 8 years**



## **Answers**

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

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## **Explanations**

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**1. What must a physical therapy corporation do if a shareholder becomes disqualified for over 90 days?**

- A. Hold a special meeting to discuss**
- B. Transfer the shares to another licensed person**
- C. Sell the shares back to the corporation**
- D. Freeze the shares until reinstatement**

If a shareholder in a physical therapy corporation becomes disqualified for more than 90 days, the appropriate action is to transfer the shares to another licensed person. This requirement is rooted in the governing laws and regulations that ensure that a physical therapy corporation maintains its compliance with licensing and professional standards. When a shareholder is disqualified, they can no longer meet the legal obligations necessary to hold shares in a corporation dedicated to providing physical therapy services. Thus, in order to uphold the integrity and licensure of the corporation, the shares must be transferred to an individual who is properly licensed and qualified to hold such shares. This process ensures that the corporation adheres to the regulations set forth by the practice act, which is essential for maintaining its operational legitimacy. Other actions, such as holding a special meeting, selling shares back to the corporation, or freezing shares until reinstatement, do not address the immediate need for compliance in terms of licensing and could potentially expose the corporation to legal and operational risks. The transfer of shares to a qualified person is the most direct and compliant solution to the situation posed by the disqualification.

**2. How often must California physical therapists complete continuing education hours?**

- A. Every year**
- B. Every two years**
- C. Every three years**
- D. Every five years**

California physical therapists are required to complete continuing education hours every two years to maintain their licensure. This requirement ensures that therapists stay current with the latest advancements in physical therapy practices, techniques, and research. Completing continuing education not only enhances the clinicians' knowledge but also contributes to improved patient care and outcomes. The state board mandates this periodical education to ensure that physical therapists are equipped with up-to-date information and skills necessary for effective practice, thereby safeguarding public health and safety. By adhering to this two-year cycle, physical therapists demonstrate their commitment to professional development and compliance with state regulations. The continuation of education fosters a culture of lifelong learning within the profession, essential for adapting to changes in health care practices and regulations.

**3. Are physical therapists permitted to provide pro bono services in California?**

- A. Yes, but only during certain hours**
- B. No, they are not allowed to**
- C. Yes, as long as they follow legal requirements**
- D. Only if they have specialized training**

Physical therapists in California are indeed allowed to provide pro bono services, and this is contingent on their adherence to legal requirements. This means they can volunteer their skills and expertise to assist individuals without charge, provided they comply with the regulations governing their practice. These regulations may include ensuring that they maintain licensure and operate within the scope of practice. By allowing for pro bono work, the state supports the idea that physical therapists can contribute to community wellness and address healthcare needs, especially in underserved populations. This practice not only helps provide essential services to those who may not otherwise afford them but also fosters a sense of community engagement among professionals. The focus on following legal requirements ensures that even in a volunteer context, therapists maintain high standards and patient safety, addressing any liability concerns and protecting both the therapist and the clients they serve.

**4. What must be included in the documentation for discharging a patient?**

- A. Only the name of the patient**
- B. A request for feedback from the patient**
- C. The findings of the final evaluation and discharge instructions**
- D. A summary of the treatment regimen provided**

Documentation for discharging a patient is critical in ensuring continuity of care and legal compliance. Including the findings of the final evaluation and discharge instructions is essential because it provides a comprehensive overview of the patient's status at the time of discharge. This information helps other healthcare providers understand the patient's progress, necessary follow-up care, and any ongoing treatment requirements. Final evaluation findings summarize the patient's condition and functional abilities, which are crucial for future care considerations. Discharge instructions are equally important as they guide the patient on what to expect after leaving therapy, outline any home exercise programs, state when the patient should return for follow-up, and provide any specific precautions or recommendations. Thorough documentation reflecting both of these elements contributes significantly to the patient's safe transition out of care and helps prevent any misunderstandings or gaps in treatment that may arise in the future.

**5. What is required for offices practicing EMG concerning patient communication?**

- A. They must provide a written diagnostic interpretation**
- B. They must give the patient a hand-out and display a sign**
- C. They must ensure all staff are EMG certified**
- D. They must refer all patients to a surgeon**

In the context of offices practicing Electromyography (EMG), effective patient communication is essential for clear understanding and informed consent regarding the procedures being performed. Providing a hand-out about the EMG process and displaying a sign serve to educate patients, informing them about what to expect and any preparatory steps necessary for their appointments. This proactive approach enhances patient engagement, eases anxiety, and fosters a better therapeutic relationship. The written hand-out can contain vital information such as the purpose of the EMG, what it entails, potential risks, and aftercare instructions. Displaying a notice in the office ensures that all patients who enter can see important information about the EMG, which may include hours, types of services offered, or general safety information. Ensuring that patients have access to consistent and accessible information directly relates to quality care and compliance with regulations pertaining to patient communication. This approach aligns with best practices in healthcare where understanding enhances patient trust and outcomes.

**6. Before a PT aide can perform patient-related tasks, what must the supervising PT do?**

- A. Train the aide on specific tasks**
- B. Evaluate every patient**
- C. Document potential tasks**
- D. Provide a weekly schedule**

The requirement for a supervising physical therapist (PT) to evaluate every patient before a PT aide can perform patient-related tasks is rooted in the need for safety and appropriate care. By evaluating each patient, the PT is able to determine the specific needs and conditions of the patient, which informs what tasks the aide can appropriately assist with. This assessment ensures that the aide operates within the scope of practice and adheres to established treatment plans. The physical therapist's comprehensive evaluation includes understanding the patient's diagnosis, current progress, and specific treatments required. It lays the groundwork for the aide's involvement in the patient's care, ensuring that all interventions align with the overall therapeutic goals and that the patient's safety is prioritized. Although training the aide on specific tasks is crucial for their successful assistance, without a thorough evaluation of the patient, the risk of inappropriate task assignment increases. Thus, the evaluation not only supports safe and effective care delivery but also fulfills regulations and best practices in physical therapy settings.

**7. Who is eligible to be a shareholder in a physical therapy corporation?**

- A. Anyone with a medical degree
- B. Only licensed physical therapists**
- C. Physical therapy assistants
- D. Any healthcare professional

The eligibility of shareholders in a physical therapy corporation is limited by California law, which stipulates that only licensed physical therapists can own shares in such corporations. This requirement is designed to ensure that the management and ownership of physical therapy services are maintained by individuals who have completed the necessary education, training, and licensure in the field, thereby ensuring high standards of care and professional accountability. Choosing only licensed physical therapists as shareholders helps maintain the integrity of the profession and protects the public by ensuring that those running the practice are well-versed in physical therapy principles and practices. This restriction also promotes ethical standards in the delivery of physical therapy services, aligning with regulatory expectations that prioritize patient welfare. Physicians, physical therapy assistants, and other healthcare professionals do not meet the specific criteria set forth for ownership in a physical therapy corporation, as they lack the requisite licensing specific to physical therapy practice. Thus, the correct answer highlights the emphasis the law places on professional qualifications in determining ownership rights in physical therapy businesses.

**8. How does the California Physical Therapy Board handle complaints?**

- A. They ignore complaints unless formally submitted
- B. They investigate complaints and take no further action
- C. They investigate complaints and can impose disciplinary action if warranted**
- D. They refer complaints to private entities for resolution

The California Physical Therapy Board has a responsibility to ensure that licensed physical therapists adhere to professional standards and regulations. When a complaint is received, the board takes it seriously and conducts a thorough investigation to assess the validity of the claims made against a physical therapist. If the investigation uncovers evidence of misconduct or violations of the California Physical Therapy Practice Act, the board has the authority to impose disciplinary actions. These actions can range from issuing a reprimand, requiring additional education, suspension, or even revocation of the therapist's license. This process ensures accountability within the profession and protects the public from potential harm. The board's proactive approach in investigating complaints and implementing disciplinary measures is crucial in maintaining high standards of practice and public trust in the physical therapy profession in California.

**9. Is it permissible for a physical therapist to refer a family member for treatment?**

- A. Yes, but only if the therapist receives approval from a supervisor**
- B. Yes, but they must adhere to ethical guidelines and disclose the relationship**
- C. No, family referrals are not allowed under any circumstances**
- D. Yes, but they must not charge for the service**

The option indicating that it is permissible for a physical therapist to refer a family member for treatment, provided they adhere to ethical guidelines and disclose the relationship, is correct because it aligns with established professional standards. In many jurisdictions, including California, healthcare professionals are expected to maintain ethical practices, which include transparency about any potential conflicts of interest, such as referring family members. The disclosure of a personal relationship ensures that the patient's consent is informed and that they are aware of any potential biases in the treatment process. Accordingly, this practice not only preserves the integrity of the therapeutic process but also fortifies trust between the therapist and the patient. Additionally, regulatory bodies often have guidelines that allow for such referrals as long as ethical principles are followed, ensuring that patient care remains the priority. These principles include maintaining professional boundaries, ensuring decisions made in the best interest of the patient, and preventing any coercion or undue influence arising from personal relationships. While other options suggest scenarios that might complicate or restrict the referral process, they do not capture the essence of how ethical conduct can facilitate appropriate patient care while managing personal connections within that care framework. Thus, adherence to ethical guidelines is paramount for maintaining professional integrity in such situations.

**10. How many years is a term on the PTBC board?**

- A. 2 years**
- B. 4 years**
- C. 6 years**
- D. 8 years**

A term on the Physical Therapy Board of California (PTBC) is established as four years. This duration allows board members sufficient time to acclimate to their roles and responsibilities, engage in ongoing education, and adequately contribute to the regulation and oversight of the practice of physical therapy in California. Board members are appointed with staggered terms to ensure continuity within the board and to facilitate a blend of experience among its members. Understanding the length of board terms is crucial for those seeking to participate in the governance of physical therapy practice in the state, as it highlights the commitment involved in serving on the board and the importance of their role in maintaining standards within the profession.



## 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](mailto:hello@examzify.com).**

**Or visit your dedicated course page for more study tools and resources:**

**<https://caphysicaltherapyjurisprudence.examzify.com>**

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