

CCBMA CLINICAL PRACTICE EXAM (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. **S/s, s/b, and b/b describes surgical ____.**
 - A. Forceps
 - B. Scissors
 - C. Clamps
 - D. Needle Holders

2. **To open the airway, the patient should be placed on the ____, the head ____, and the chin ____.**
 - A. Back, Tilted, Lifted
 - B. Stomach, Tilted, Lifted
 - C. Back, Neutral, Lowered
 - D. Side, Head-tilt, Chin-Down

3. **Bacteria that thrive in oxygen are called**
 - A. Aerobes
 - B. Anaerobes
 - C. Fungi
 - D. Pathogens

4. **What is the term for blood pressure measured in lying, sitting, and standing positions?**
 - A. Postural
 - B. Static
 - C. Orthostatic
 - D. Dynamic

5. **Which chemical prevents clotting in a blood specimen and is commonly used in chemistry tests?**
 - A. EDTA
 - B. Citrate
 - C. Sodium fluoride
 - D. Heparin

- 6. Pulse located at the side of the neck is which artery?**
- A. Radial
 - B. Brachial
 - C. Femoral
 - D. Carotid
- 7. Marital status is considered in which area of patient history?**
- A. Chief complaint
 - B. Past medical history
 - C. Family history
 - D. Social history
- 8. A standard ECG uses how many leads?**
- A. 6 leads
 - B. 10 leads
 - C. 14 leads
 - D. 12 leads
- 9. Which artery is normally used to take a peripheral pulse reading?**
- A. Carotid
 - B. Radial
 - C. Femoral
 - D. Ulnar
- 10. What is the highest reading of blood pressure called?**
- A. Diastolic
 - B. Systolic
 - C. Pulse Pressure
 - D. Mean Arterial Pressure

Answers

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

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Explanations

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1. S/s, s/b, and b/b describes surgical ____.

- A. Forceps
- B. Scissors**
- C. Clamps
- D. Needle Holders

These shorthand groupings point to blade geometry and edge style used to describe a surgical cutting instrument. In scissors, you're concerned with how the blades are shaped (straight versus curved) and how the edges are finished (sharp versus blunt), which is exactly what combinations like S/s, s/b, and b/b are capturing. That emphasis on blade configuration is what distinguishes scissors from other tools, whose identities are defined more by function—grasping, clamping, or needle driving—than by blade shape. So the description aligns with surgical scissors.

2. To open the airway, the patient should be placed on the ____, the head ____, and the chin ____.

- A. Back, Tilted, Lifted**
- B. Stomach, Tilted, Lifted
- C. Back, Neutral, Lowered
- D. Side, Head-tilt, Chin-Down

Opening the airway is about aligning the airway so air can flow freely. The best sequence is to place the patient on their back, tilt the head backward, and lift the chin. Lying on the back helps gravity move the tongue away from the opening of the airway; tilting the head back extends the neck to straighten the oral, pharyngeal, and laryngeal axes; lifting the chin pulls the lower jaw and soft tissues forward, preventing them from occluding the airway. The other options would not open the airway: placing someone on the stomach or to the side can obstruct the airway; a neutral head position with the chin lowered does not clear the obstruction; and head-tilt with the chin-down would misalign and likely impede airflow. If spinal injury is suspected, modification is needed, but for a straightforward airway opening, back with head tilt and chin lift is the correct approach.

3. Bacteria that thrive in oxygen are called

- A. Aerobes**
- B. Anaerobes
- C. Fungi
- D. Pathogens

Organisms that require or thrive in the presence of oxygen are called aerobes. They rely on oxygen for energy production through aerobic respiration in the electron transport chain, which yields more energy than anaerobic processes. This reliance is supported by enzymes that detoxify reactive oxygen species, such as catalase and superoxide dismutase, enabling them to grow well in oxygen-rich environments. In contrast, anaerobes do not require oxygen and may even be harmed by it. Fungi are a separate group of organisms not defined by their oxygen needs, and pathogens are disease-causing organisms, a label that doesn't specify whether they prefer or tolerate oxygen.

4. What is the term for blood pressure measured in lying, sitting, and standing positions?

- A. Postural
- B. Static
- C. Orthostatic**
- D. Dynamic

Blood pressure across lying, sitting, and standing tests how the body's cardiovascular system responds to gravity and maintains brain perfusion—the orthostatic response. This sequence is standard for assessing orthostatic blood pressure (orthostatic vital signs) and helps identify orthostatic hypotension, which is a meaningful drop in BP when standing. The other terms don't capture this posture-dependent testing as precisely: static implies no change, dynamic refers to movement in general, and postural is sometimes used but orthostatic is the specific clinical term for posture-related BP changes.

5. Which chemical prevents clotting in a blood specimen and is commonly used in chemistry tests?

- A. EDTA
- B. Citrate
- C. Sodium fluoride
- D. Heparin**

The key idea is choosing an anticoagulant that keeps the sample liquid without interfering with the chemistry tests. Heparin prevents clotting by activating antithrombin III, which neutralizes thrombin and factor Xa, stopping the coagulation cascade. This leaves plasma available for a wide range of chemistry assays and tends to have minimal interference with the tests, making it the preferred anticoagulant for many chemistry panels. In contrast, EDTA works by binding calcium, which is essential for many enzymes and reactions; it is excellent for preserving cells for a complete blood count but can skew chemistry results. Citrate also chelates calcium and is mainly used for coagulation studies; it can dilute the sample and affect other chemistry measurements. Sodium fluoride is not an anticoagulant—it inhibits glycolysis to preserve glucose and is used with oxalate for glucose testing, so it doesn't prevent clotting on its own.

6. Pulse located at the side of the neck is which artery?

- A. Radial
- B. Brachial
- C. Femoral
- D. Carotid**

The pulse felt at the side of the neck comes from the carotid artery. The carotid arteries run up on each side of the neck, supplying the head and brain, and their pulsation is best felt along the neck just beside the trachea, beneath the jawline area. This is the main site clinicians use to gauge blood flow to the brain when needed. In contrast, the radial pulse is at the wrist, the brachial pulse near the inner elbow, and the femoral pulse in the groin.

7. Marital status is considered in which area of patient history?

- A. Chief complaint
- B. Past medical history
- C. Family history
- D. Social history**

Marital status is part of social history—the information that describes a patient's living situation and social supports. Knowing whether someone is married, single, widowed, or partnered helps clinicians gauge the level of informal support, caregiving resources, and potential stressors that can affect health behaviors, medication adherence, and overall care planning. This context is separate from the presenting problem (why the patient came in), from past medical history (previous illnesses and treatments), and from family history (conditions in relatives). Placing marital status in social history reflects how the patient's social environment can influence health and healthcare decisions.

8. A standard ECG uses how many leads?

- A. 6 leads
- B. 10 leads
- C. 14 leads
- D. 12 leads**

A standard ECG provides twelve distinct views of the heart's electrical activity. Six chest leads (V1–V6) scan the heart from the horizontal plane, while six limb-related leads give the frontal view: three standard limb leads (I, II, III) and three augmented limb leads (aVR, aVL, aVF). Although only ten physical electrodes are placed on the body, the machine derives twelve leads from them, offering a comprehensive map of depolarization and repolarization in multiple planes.

9. Which artery is normally used to take a peripheral pulse reading?

- A. Carotid
- B. Radial**
- C. Femoral
- D. Ulnar

The main idea is picking a peripheral pulse site that is easy to access and reliably reflects heart rate in everyday checks. The radial artery at the wrist is normally used for a peripheral pulse reading because it sits just under the skin, is readily reachable with the fingers, and allows quick, repeatable palpation without moving the patient much. Its pulse is a good reflection of the heart rate in most people who have decent blood flow, and it's comfortable and noninvasive, making it the standard choice in routine assessments. In contrast, other arteries are generally reserved for specific situations. The carotid pulse is checked in emergencies to gauge central circulation, but pressing on the neck can affect heart rate or blood flow and isn't ideal for routine measurements. The femoral pulse is deeper and less convenient to access for quick checks, used more in certain trauma or when other sites aren't accessible. The ulnar pulse exists but can be less reliable due to anatomical variations, so it's not the usual site for a routine peripheral pulse. So, the radial site is the best choice for taking a peripheral pulse read in most clinical and everyday settings.

10. What is the highest reading of blood pressure called?

- A. Diastolic
- B. Systolic**
- C. Pulse Pressure
- D. Mean Arterial Pressure

The highest reading is the systolic blood pressure. This is the pressure in the arteries when the heart contracts and pushes blood out into the vessels (ventricular systole), producing the peak value in a blood pressure reading. The lower number is the diastolic pressure, which is the pressure when the heart is relaxed between beats. Pulse pressure is simply the difference between the two readings, and mean arterial pressure is a weighted average that reflects overall pressure during the cardiac cycle, not the peak. So, in a typical reading like 120/80, 120 represents the systolic (highest) pressure.

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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://ccbmaclinical.examzify.com>

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

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