

CPCT Medical Terminology Practice Test (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

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- 1. What does CXR stand for?**
 - A. Chest X-Ray Film**
 - B. Chest X-Ray**
 - C. Chest Radiography**
 - D. Chest Scan**

- 2. The term OSTOMY denotes which definition?**
 - A. Surgical repair**
 - B. Cutting into**
 - C. Forming**
 - D. Removal**

- 3. AUT means which?**
 - A. Life**
 - B. Self**
 - C. Body**
 - D. Mind**

- 4. Which meaning corresponds to the prefix JUSTA-?**
 - A. Between, among**
 - B. Within**
 - C. Bad**
 - D. Many**

- 5. Which prefix means 'over'?**
 - A. Across**
 - B. Beyond**
 - C. Over**
 - D. Under**

- 6. CEPHAL is a root related to which region of the body?**
 - A. Chest**
 - B. Abdomen**
 - C. Head**
 - D. Leg**

7. PROCT means Rectum?

- A. Liver**
- B. Tongue**
- C. Nose**
- D. Rectum**

8. What does ABD stand for in medical abbreviations?

- A. incision**
- B. before meals**
- C. as desired**
- D. abdomen**

9. What does ROM stand for in medical terminology?

- A. Range of Motion**
- B. Rate of Movement**
- C. Return of Movement**
- D. Restriction of Movement**

10. DE- denotes meaning?

- A. Around**
- B. Before**
- C. Away**
- D. Down**

Answers

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

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Explanations

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1. What does CXR stand for?

- A. Chest X-Ray Film
- B. Chest X-Ray**
- C. Chest Radiography
- D. Chest Scan

CXR is the shorthand used for a chest X-ray, an X-ray image of the chest. The phrase Chest X-Ray best fits what clinicians mean when they write CXR in notes or reports, because that's the standard, everyday term for this imaging study. The other options are less accurate in typical clinical use: Chest X-Ray Film sounds outdated since many radiographs are now digital, Chest Radiography is a more formal description of the procedure rather than the common label, and Chest Scan isn't the standard term for this imaging modality.

2. The term OSTOMY denotes which definition?

- A. Surgical repair
- B. Cutting into
- C. Forming**
- D. Removal

OSTOMY means forming an opening surgically. The suffix -ostomy comes from a root meaning an opening, so it refers to creating a new passage between an internal organ and the outside of the body. That's why procedures named colostomy or ileostomy describe surgically creating a stoma. It isn't about repairing tissue, cutting into (which would be -otomy), or removing (which would be -ectomy).

3. AUT means which?

- A. Life
- B. Self**
- C. Body
- D. Mind

Aut- in medical terminology comes from the Greek autos meaning self. That means the element AUT is used to indicate something about the self or something done by the subject themselves. Seeing it as "self" fits how many words are built, like autoimmunity (the immune system acting against the body's own tissues) or autobiography (a life story written by oneself) through the same self-centered idea. Life would rely on a root like bio-, body on somato-, and mind on psycho- or neuro-, so AUT distinctly points to self rather than those other concepts.

4. Which meaning corresponds to the prefix JUSTA-?

- A. Between, among
- B. Within**
- C. Bad
- D. Many

The meaning tested here is location relative to the inside of something. The prefix JUSTA- is used to convey "within," i.e., inside the boundaries of a structure. That aligns with terms built to express inside or internal positioning, which is why "within" is the best match. The other options describe different spatial relationships or meanings—"between, among" points to a between relation (like inter-), "bad" signals a abnormal condition (dys- or mal-), and "many" signals a quantity (poly-). None of those fit the sense of inside.

5. Which prefix means 'over'?

- A. Across
- B. Beyond
- C. Over**
- D. Under

The prefix that means "over" is over-. It signals excess, above, or beyond the usual amount, as in overcook, overestimate, or overload. The other options describe different ideas: across indicates movement from one side to another, beyond means farther than something, and under means beneath. So over- is the direct match for the meaning "over."

6. CEPHAL is a root related to which region of the body?

- A. Chest
- B. Abdomen
- C. Head**
- D. Leg

Cephal- denotes the head. That root is used in medical terms to refer to the head region, such as cephalalgia for a headache or cephalic meaning related to the head. The chest uses a different root (thorac-), the abdomen uses abdomin- or lapar-, and the leg uses ped- or pod-, so cephal clearly points to the head.

7. PROCT means Rectum?

- A. Liver
- B. Tongue
- C. Nose
- D. Rectum**

In medical terminology, combining forms point to a specific body region. The form **proct/o-** designates the rectum (and often the anal canal). So **PROCT** corresponds to the rectum. This root appears in terms like **proctology** (study of the rectum and anus), **proctoscope** (instrument to examine the rectum), and **proctitis** (inflammation of the rectum). The other options map to different body parts with their own roots (**hepat/o** for liver, **gloss/o** for tongue, **nas/o** or **rhin/o** for nose), so they don't fit with **PROCT**.

8. What does ABD stand for in medical abbreviations?

- A. incision
- B. before meals
- C. as desired
- D. abdomen**

ABD is a common shorthand used in medical notes to indicate the abdomen, the body region in the belly area. It appears in orders and documentation to quickly point to the abdominal area, such as when noting an abdominal exam or ordering an abdominal radiograph. Other terms have different standard abbreviations—incision is usually written as **inc** or similar, before meals is **ante cibum (AC)**, and as desired is **ad libitum (ad lib)**. So, the abbreviation **ABD** specifically refers to the abdomen.

9. What does ROM stand for in medical terminology?

- A. Range of Motion**
- B. Rate of Movement
- C. Return of Movement
- D. Restriction of Movement

Understanding **ROM** in medical terms means looking at how far a joint can move. **ROM** stands for **Range of Motion**, describing the extent of movement a joint can achieve, usually measured in degrees with a tool like a goniometer. This concept is central in fields like physical therapy and orthopedics because it helps clinicians assess joint health, track progress after injury or surgery, and set therapy goals. **Range of Motion** is the best answer because it directly names the span of movement of a joint. The other phrases describe different ideas: **rate of movement** would imply speed rather than distance of movement; **return of movement** refers to recovery of movement after a loss; **restriction of movement** describes a condition or limitation but not the terminology **ROM** itself. In practice, you might see a joint described as having a **ROM** of 0 to 120 degrees, with differences between **active ROM** (what the patient can move) and **passive ROM** (what the clinician can move).

10. DE- denotes meaning?

- A. Around**
- B. Before**
- C. Away**
- D. Down**

The prefix de- signals downward or a reversal/removal. In medical terminology, de- often indicates something being moved downward, reduced, or undone. That's why Down is the best fit here, since many terms starting with de- describe a downward direction or a reduction, like descend (move down) or decrease (a reduction). The other options don't align with this prefix's usual sense: around corresponds to circum-, before to pre-, and away to ab-, which aren't the sense conveyed by de- in this context.

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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://cpctmedterms.examzify.com>

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

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