

# CVS Pharmacy Technician Certification Practice Test (Sample)

## Study Guide



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

**This is a sample study guide. To access the full version with hundreds of 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. Don't worry about getting everything right, 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, and take breaks to retain information better.**

## 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.**

## 7. Use Other Tools

**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!**

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## **Questions**

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- 1. What is the primary responsibility of a pharmacy technician?**
  - A. To conduct consultations with patients**
  - B. To assist pharmacists in preparing and dispensing medications**
  - C. To manage pharmacy inventory and finances**
  - D. To conduct pharmaceutical research and development**
- 2. If a medication contains a 25mg dose per tablespoonful, what is the total volume of 20 doses?**
  - A. 200ml**
  - B. 250ml**
  - C. 300ml**
  - D. 350ml**
- 3. What is the primary purpose of HIPAA?**
  - A. To improve healthcare access**
  - B. To safeguard the privacy of patient records**
  - C. To regulate pharmaceutical pricing**
  - D. To enhance medical research**
- 4. What is typically required before a medication can be dispensed to a patient?**
  - A. A verbal confirmation from a doctor**
  - B. A prescription from a licensed practitioner**
  - C. A check of insurance eligibility**
  - D. A patient ID verification**
- 5. What information is required from the prescriber on a prescription?**
  - A. Directions and medication name only**
  - B. Patient's name only**
  - C. Doctors contact information only**
  - D. Directions, patient's name, medication name**

**6. Which of the following responsibilities is typically not handled by pharmacy technicians?**

- A. Preparing and dispensing medications**
- B. Providing medication counseling to patients**
- C. Collecting patient information for prescriptions**
- D. Managing and maintaining inventory levels**

**7. What must a pharmacy technician do if they suspect a medication has been tampered with?**

- A. Continue dispensing the medication as usual**
- B. Report their concerns to the supervising pharmacist**
- C. Inform the patient immediately**
- D. Dispose of the medication**

**8. When adding a new customer to the pharmacy computer system, is it important to add the appropriate Third Party plan code?**

- A. Yes**
- B. No**
- C. Only for cash payments**
- D. Only if the customer requests it**

**9. What is included under the "Offer to Counsel" in pharmacies?**

- A. Is provided for all prescriptions filled in the pharmacy**
- B. Is made primarily by a pharmacy support staff member or pharmacist according to state law**
- C. Only for controlled substances**
- D. Is optional based on patient request**

**10. What does the acronym "HIPAA" stand for in a pharmacy setting?**

- A. Health Information Privacy and Accountability Act**
- B. Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act**
- C. Health Information Protection and Accessibility Act**
- D. Health Industry Protection and Accountability Act**

## **Answers**

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

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## **Explanations**

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**1. What is the primary responsibility of a pharmacy technician?**

- A. To conduct consultations with patients**
- B. To assist pharmacists in preparing and dispensing medications**
- C. To manage pharmacy inventory and finances**
- D. To conduct pharmaceutical research and development**

The primary responsibility of a pharmacy technician is to assist pharmacists in preparing and dispensing medications. This role encompasses various tasks, including measuring, mixing, and labeling medications, ensuring accuracy in filling prescriptions, and managing inventory related to the medications that are prepared and dispensed. Pharmacy technicians serve as a vital support system for pharmacists, allowing pharmacists to focus more on patient care and ensuring the safe and effective use of medications. While conducting consultations with patients is an important function within the pharmacy environment, it is primarily the responsibility of licensed pharmacists to provide patient consultations and address medication therapy management issues. Similarly, managing pharmacy inventory and finances, while essential to the overall operations of the pharmacy, falls more under the purview of pharmacy management rather than the core duties of a pharmacy technician. Conducting pharmaceutical research and development is a specialized area that typically requires advanced education and training beyond what is provided in a pharmacy technician program and is largely the domain of pharmacists and researchers in pharmaceutical science.

**2. If a medication contains a 25mg dose per tablespoonful, what is the total volume of 20 doses?**

- A. 200ml**
- B. 250ml**
- C. 300ml**
- D. 350ml**

To determine the total volume for 20 doses of a medication that contains a 25 mg dose per tablespoonful, it's important to first understand the relationship between dosage amount and volume. One tablespoonful is typically equivalent to about 15 milliliters (ml). Therefore, for a 25 mg dose per tablespoonful, each tablespoonful provides that dose amount. Calculating for 20 doses: 1. Each dose (one tablespoonful) is 15 ml. 2. To find the total volume for 20 doses, multiply the volume of one dose by the number of doses:  $15 \text{ ml/tablespoonful} \times 20 \text{ doses} = 300 \text{ ml}$ . This calculation indicates that the total volume for 20 doses is indeed 300 ml. Thus, the choice that indicates this total is the correct answer. It's important to note that other options reflect different volumes that do not correspond to the per tablespoonful dosage measurement when correctly calculated, thus confirming that 300 ml is the accurate total volume.

### 3. What is the primary purpose of HIPAA?

- A. To improve healthcare access
- B. To safeguard the privacy of patient records**
- C. To regulate pharmaceutical pricing
- D. To enhance medical research

The primary purpose of HIPAA, which stands for the Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act, is to safeguard the privacy of patient records. Enacted in 1996, HIPAA establishes national standards for the protection of individuals' medical records and other personal health information. This law ensures that healthcare providers, health plans, and other entities maintain the confidentiality of patient information and protect it from unauthorized access or disclosure. The focus of HIPAA is on the patient's right to privacy and the security of their health information. By implementing strict rules about how patient data must be handled, HIPAA aims to protect individuals from potential data breaches and ensure that their sensitive information is only shared with their consent or as legally permitted. In contrast, while the other options touch on important aspects of healthcare, they do not align with the primary goal of HIPAA. Improving healthcare access relates more to reforms and policies aimed at making healthcare services available to more people. Regulating pharmaceutical pricing addresses cost concerns within the industry, and enhancing medical research involves facilitating studies and discoveries. These aspects, while relevant to the healthcare conversation, fall outside the specific aims of HIPAA.

### 4. What is typically required before a medication can be dispensed to a patient?

- A. A verbal confirmation from a doctor
- B. A prescription from a licensed practitioner**
- C. A check of insurance eligibility
- D. A patient ID verification

The requirement for a prescription from a licensed practitioner is essential before dispensing medication to a patient because it serves as the physician's formal authorization for the patient to receive a specific medication. This process ensures that the medication is appropriate for the patient's condition and allows the licensed practitioner to provide guidance regarding dosage, duration, and potential side effects. Additionally, the prescription is a legal document that protects both the patient and the pharmacy from liability and ensures that medications are not misused. Licensed practitioners have the training and knowledge to determine the proper treatment options based on medical history and current health conditions, which is crucial for safe and effective patient care. In contrast, while verbal confirmation from a doctor may sometimes be sought for clarifications or refills, it is not a prerequisite for dispensing medication. Similarly, checking insurance eligibility and verifying patient ID are important steps in the medication dispensing process but come after the receipt of a legitimate prescription. These activities focus more on the administrative aspects rather than the initial legal requirement for dispensing.

**5. What information is required from the prescriber on a prescription?**

- A. Directions and medication name only**
- B. Patient's name only**
- C. Doctors contact information only**
- D. Directions, patient's name, medication name**

The correct answer encompasses the essential elements that must be included in a prescription to ensure it is filled accurately and safely. A prescription serves as a communication tool between the prescriber and the pharmacist, and certain details are crucial for a comprehensive understanding of the patient's needs and the medication required. Including the patient's name is vital as it identifies who the prescription is for and helps prevent medication errors. The medication name specifies what substance or treatment is being prescribed, which is essential for the pharmacist to dispense the correct product. Finally, the directions for use provide critical guidance on how the patient should take the medication, which can include dosage and frequency. This combination of information helps to ensure that the medication is dispensed safely and effectively, reflects the prescriber's intent, and maintains adherence to regulations. Other options lack one or more of these necessary components, which would lead to incomplete prescriptions that could result in potential risks to the patient.

**6. Which of the following responsibilities is typically not handled by pharmacy technicians?**

- A. Preparing and dispensing medications**
- B. Providing medication counseling to patients**
- C. Collecting patient information for prescriptions**
- D. Managing and maintaining inventory levels**

Pharmacy technicians play a vital role in the medication dispensing process, and their responsibilities can vary depending on state laws and the specific pharmacy setting. Among the options provided, providing medication counseling to patients is typically not a responsibility assigned to pharmacy technicians. Medication counseling generally requires a deeper understanding of pharmacology, interactions, side effects, and overall patient management, which is often a role designated for licensed pharmacists. Pharmacists are trained to provide this critical patient education due to their extensive training and expertise in the field, ensuring that patients have a clear understanding of their medications and any related health issues. In contrast, preparing and dispensing medications, collecting patient information for prescriptions, and managing and maintaining inventory levels are well within the scope of a pharmacy technician's duties. Technicians are trained to assist in the preparation of medications, input patient data necessary for filling prescriptions, and keep inventory organized and stocked to ensure that the pharmacy runs smoothly. Thus, while pharmacy technicians are integral to pharmacy operations, the counseling aspect is predominantly reserved for pharmacists due to the level of expertise required.

**7. What must a pharmacy technician do if they suspect a medication has been tampered with?**

- A. Continue dispensing the medication as usual**
- B. Report their concerns to the supervising pharmacist**
- C. Inform the patient immediately**
- D. Dispose of the medication**

When a pharmacy technician suspects that a medication has been tampered with, it is crucial to report these concerns to the supervising pharmacist. This action is essential because the pharmacist is responsible for the safety and efficacy of the medications being dispensed to patients. Reporting the suspicion allows for a thorough investigation to take place, ensuring that patients are not exposed to potentially harmful or ineffective medications. The pharmacist has the authority and knowledge to assess the situation appropriately and decide on the necessary steps to take. This could include verifying the integrity of the medication, examining security measures within the pharmacy, and determining the appropriate course of action to protect patient safety. Taking immediate action, such as continuing to dispense the medication or disposing of it without proper procedure, could lead to significant risks, including administering compromised medications to patients. Therefore, involving the overseeing pharmacist is a critical step in ensuring patient safety and maintaining the integrity of pharmacy operations.

**8. When adding a new customer to the pharmacy computer system, is it important to add the appropriate Third Party plan code?**

- A. Yes**
- B. No**
- C. Only for cash payments**
- D. Only if the customer requests it**

Adding the appropriate Third Party plan code when registering a new customer in the pharmacy computer system is crucial for several reasons. This code is essential for properly billing the customer's insurance provider for prescriptions and services. When a pharmacy processes a prescription, the Third Party plan code helps determine the coverage details, such as copay amounts or any restrictions on medication. By ensuring the correct third-party plan code is entered, it streamlines the billing process and avoids issues that could delay payment or result in the customer being charged incorrectly. This is especially significant for patients relying on their insurance to cover the costs of their medications, as it can directly affect their access to necessary treatments and their overall satisfaction with the pharmacy service. The other considerations regarding cash payments or customer requests do not negate the importance of including the third-party plan code, as it plays a fundamental role in the efficient operation of a pharmacy, regardless of the payment type.

## 9. What is included under the "Offer to Counsel" in pharmacies?

- A. Is provided for all prescriptions filled in the pharmacy**
- B. Is made primarily by a pharmacy support staff member or pharmacist according to state law**
- C. Only for controlled substances**
- D. Is optional based on patient request**

The "Offer to Counsel" in pharmacies is an essential practice designed to ensure that patients receive appropriate medication information and guidance. Under this policy, the offer is provided for all prescriptions filled in the pharmacy, making it a comprehensive approach to patient care. This is crucial because it empowers patients with knowledge about their medications, including potential side effects, dosing instructions, and how to properly take the medication. By ensuring that this offer applies universally, the pharmacy promotes better health outcomes through enhanced patient understanding and compliance. While there are regulations concerning how and by whom the offer is made, the critical aspect is that it applies to all prescriptions, rather than being limited to specific categories like controlled substances or being optional based on individual patient requests. This distinction helps to foster a standard practice within pharmacy operations, ensuring that all patients have access to counseling regardless of the circumstances surrounding their medication.

## 10. What does the acronym "HIPAA" stand for in a pharmacy setting?

- A. Health Information Privacy and Accountability Act**
- B. Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act**
- C. Health Information Protection and Accessibility Act**
- D. Health Industry Protection and Accountability Act**

In a pharmacy setting, HIPAA stands for the Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act. This significant piece of legislation was enacted in 1996 to provide privacy and security provisions for safeguarding medical information. The primary purpose of HIPAA is to ensure that individuals' health information is protected while allowing necessary information to flow in a way that supports high-quality health care and promotes efficient health care practices. The "Portability" aspect refers to the ability of individuals to maintain their health insurance coverage as they change jobs or become unemployed. The "Accountability" aspect emphasizes the importance of securing personal health information and holding entities accountable for breaches of privacy. This understanding is crucial for pharmacy technicians because they handle sensitive patient information daily. Compliance with HIPAA regulations is mandatory, helping to safeguard patients' confidentiality and trust in the healthcare system. Understanding this legislation ensures that pharmacy technicians can effectively communicate and manage patient information while maintaining ethical and legal standards in practice.

# 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://cvs-pharmacytech.examzify.com>**

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

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