

DEA Pharmacist's Manual 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

- 1. What is the role of a "wholesaler" regarding controlled substances?**
 - A. A retailer selling to consumers**
 - B. A supplier that purchases and resells controlled substances**
 - C. A provider of emergency medical supplies**
 - D. A pharmacy that dispenses prescriptions**
- 2. For which of the following scenarios is the pharmacist's DEA registration critical?**
 - A. For record-keeping only**
 - B. For prescribing non-controlled medications**
 - C. For prescribing and dispensing controlled substances**
 - D. For selling over-the-counter medications**
- 3. If a breakage or spillage of controlled substances occurs, what is an acceptable method of disposal?**
 - A. Send it to a reverse distributor**
 - B. Dispose of it in the regular trash**
 - C. Wait for DEA to approve disposal**
 - D. Bury it on-site**
- 4. How must records of Schedule III-V controlled substances be maintained?**
 - A. Mixed with all other records**
 - B. Separated from all other records or easily retrievable**
 - C. Only kept electronically**
 - D. Not required to be kept**
- 5. In the context of controlled substances, what does the term "schedule" refer to?**
 - A. The classification of medications based on potential for abuse**
 - B. The time period for medication refills**
 - C. The dosage instructions provided**
 - D. The quantity allowed per prescription**

- 6. What is one of the main responsibilities of the DEA?**
- A. Ensure the marketing of over-the-counter drugs**
 - B. Prevent diversion and abuse of controlled substances**
 - C. Regulate insurance policies for pharmacies**
 - D. Provide pharmaceutical education**
- 7. Which of the following are examples of mid-level practitioners?**
- A. Medical Doctors, Physician Assistants, Nurse Practitioners**
 - B. Pharmacists, Clinical Researchers, Surgeons**
 - C. Nurse Practitioners, Nurse Midwives, Clinical Nurse Specialists, Physician Assistants**
 - D. Radiologists, Euthanasia Technicians, Homeopathic Physicians**
- 8. If a pharmacy's original order form for controlled substances was lost or stolen, what must be attached to the second order form?**
- A. A letter of apology**
 - B. A statement including the first order form's serial number and date**
 - C. A copy of the lost order form**
 - D. Documentation of previous purchases**
- 9. Can a registrant maintain records at a location other than the registered location?**
- A. No, it is prohibited**
 - B. Yes, only with verbal consent from the DEA**
 - C. Yes, but must notify DEA in writing**
 - D. Yes, but records must remain at the pharmacy**
- 10. What form must be completed when destroying controlled substances?**
- A. DEA Form 222**
 - B. DEA Form 41**
 - C. DEA Form 106**
 - D. DEA Form 20**

Answers

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

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Explanations

1. What is the role of a "wholesaler" regarding controlled substances?

- A. A retailer selling to consumers**
- B. A supplier that purchases and resells controlled substances**
- C. A provider of emergency medical supplies**
- D. A pharmacy that dispenses prescriptions**

The role of a wholesaler regarding controlled substances is accurately defined as a supplier that purchases and resells controlled substances. Wholesalers act as intermediaries between manufacturers and retailers, including pharmacies, by buying large quantities of controlled substances and distributing them to different entities. This function is crucial for ensuring that pharmacies and healthcare providers have access to the medications needed for patient care while also adhering to regulatory standards established by the Drug Enforcement Administration (DEA). Wholesalers must maintain proper records, comply with security measures, and follow regulations related to the handling and distribution of controlled substances to prevent misuse and ensure accountability within the supply chain. In contrast, the other options describe different functions unrelated to the wholesaler's specific role. Retailers sell directly to consumers, emergency medical supply providers focus on different supplies, and pharmacies primarily dispense medications based on prescriptions rather than acting as a supplier of controlled substances. This distinction highlights the wholesaler's unique position in the controlled substances market.

2. For which of the following scenarios is the pharmacist's DEA registration critical?

- A. For record-keeping only**
- B. For prescribing non-controlled medications**
- C. For prescribing and dispensing controlled substances**
- D. For selling over-the-counter medications**

The pharmacist's DEA registration is critical for the scenario involving the prescribing and dispensing of controlled substances because the Drug Enforcement Administration (DEA) regulates these medications due to their potential for abuse and dependency. The DEA registration ensures that the pharmacist is authorized to handle controlled substances, which includes the prescribing, dispensing, and even the proper record-keeping associated with these drugs. Controlled substances are categorized into schedules based on their potential for abuse, and pharmacists must comply with strict regulations concerning their distribution and management. In contrast, record-keeping alone does not require a DEA registration, as this can pertain to all medications without concern for their schedule classification. Similarly, non-controlled medications do not necessitate a DEA registration for prescribing, as these substances are not subject to the same level of regulation. Over-the-counter medications also do not require a DEA registration, as they are deemed safe for consumer use without a prescription and are not classified as controlled substances. Thus, the necessity of a DEA registration pertains specifically to the handling of controlled substances, making it crucial in the context of prescribing and dispensing them.

3. If a breakage or spillage of controlled substances occurs, what is an acceptable method of disposal?

- A. Send it to a reverse distributor**
- B. Dispose of it in the regular trash**
- C. Wait for DEA to approve disposal**
- D. Bury it on-site**

Sending the breakage or spillage of controlled substances to a reverse distributor is an acceptable method of disposal. This process follows regulatory guidelines established by the DEA, which aim to ensure the safe and compliant disposal of controlled substances. Reverse distributors specialize in managing the return and disposal of these substances in a manner that is legally compliant and minimizes the risk of environmental contamination or misuse. Reverse distributors are equipped to handle various types of controlled substances, ensuring that the disposal process meets all regulatory standards and documentation requirements. Their role helps maintain a secure chain of custody and reduces the potential for diversion of these substances, which is especially important considering their potential for abuse. In contrast, disposing of controlled substances in regular trash, waiting for DEA approval for disposal, or burying substances on-site do not comply with DEA regulations and could pose significant legal and safety risks. Collectively, these non-compliant practices can lead to environmental harm, potential for diversion, and legal repercussions for entities involved in handling controlled substances. Thus, utilizing a reverse distributor is the most responsible and compliant method for the disposal of these substances.

4. How must records of Schedule III-V controlled substances be maintained?

- A. Mixed with all other records**
- B. Separated from all other records or easily retrievable**
- C. Only kept electronically**
- D. Not required to be kept**

Records of Schedule III-V controlled substances must be maintained in a manner that allows them to be easily retrievable or separated from all other records. This requirement ensures that regulatory agencies can effectively audit and inspect the records related to controlled substances with minimal effort, promoting accountability and compliance. Maintaining these records separately or making them easily retrievable is crucial for tracking the distribution and dispensing of these substances, which helps in preventing misuse and diversion. While some facilities may choose to keep these records electronically, it is not the only acceptable method; thus, they must still meet the retrieval criteria. This approach underscores the importance of maintaining clear and accessible documentation for substances that have potential for abuse while ensuring that proper identification and accountability measures are in place within the pharmacy practice setting.

5. In the context of controlled substances, what does the term "schedule" refer to?

A. The classification of medications based on potential for abuse

B. The time period for medication refills

C. The dosage instructions provided

D. The quantity allowed per prescription

The term "schedule" in the context of controlled substances refers to a classification system that categorizes drugs based on their potential for abuse, as well as their accepted medical use and safety profile. This system helps regulate the availability and prescribing practices for these substances to minimize the risk of misuse and addiction. Controlled substances are divided into five schedules, with Schedule I having the highest potential for abuse and no accepted medical use, while Schedule V has the lowest potential for abuse and is generally recognized as having medical value. This classification is crucial for pharmacists, healthcare providers, and regulatory agencies in managing and overseeing the distribution of these medications, ensuring appropriate use, and monitoring for potential signs of misuse. The other choices do not relate to the classification of drugs based on abuse potential and risk, making them less relevant in defining what a "schedule" specifically means in this context.

6. What is one of the main responsibilities of the DEA?

A. Ensure the marketing of over-the-counter drugs

B. Prevent diversion and abuse of controlled substances

C. Regulate insurance policies for pharmacies

D. Provide pharmaceutical education

The primary responsibility of the DEA, or Drug Enforcement Administration, revolves around the prevention of diversion and abuse of controlled substances. This encompasses the enforcement of the Controlled Substances Act, which regulates the manufacture, distribution, and dispensing of controlled substances to ensure they are used safely and effectively. The DEA works to combat the illegal drug trade and establishes regulations to limit access to drugs that have a high potential for abuse or addiction. By monitoring and controlling the substances classified within various schedules, the DEA aims to minimize the risk of substance abuse while allowing for legitimate medical use. The other options relate to aspects outside the main scope of the DEA's responsibilities. While over-the-counter drugs are regulated, they fall under the jurisdiction of the FDA rather than the DEA. Regulating insurance policies for pharmacies does not align with the DEA's mission, as it typically involves state or other federal agencies. Providing pharmaceutical education, while important, is not a core function of the DEA; instead, education might be more within the purview of professional organizations or educational institutions.

7. Which of the following are examples of mid-level practitioners?

- A. Medical Doctors, Physician Assistants, Nurse Practitioners**
- B. Pharmacists, Clinical Researchers, Surgeons**
- C. Nurse Practitioners, Nurse Midwives, Clinical Nurse Specialists, Physician Assistants**
- D. Radiologists, Euthanasia Technicians, Homeopathic Physicians**

Mid-level practitioners are healthcare providers who have received advanced training beyond that of a registered nurse but are not fully independent practitioners like medical doctors. The correct answer includes Nurse Practitioners, Nurse Midwives, Clinical Nurse Specialists, and Physician Assistants, all of whom are classified as mid-level practitioners in the United States. Nurse Practitioners possess advanced clinical training and can perform many of the same functions as physicians, including diagnosing and treating medical conditions. Nurse Midwives focus on pregnancy, childbirth, and reproductive health, providing care to women throughout various stages of their reproductive lives. Clinical Nurse Specialists are experts in a specialized area of nursing practice, providing advanced nursing care and advocating for patients. Physician Assistants work under the supervision of physicians, assisting in the diagnosis and treatment of patients. Other choices fail to correctly represent mid-level practitioners. Medical Doctors, Surgeons, and Radiologists are fully licensed physicians and do not fall into the mid-level category. Pharmacists, while essential healthcare providers, are also not categorized as mid-level practitioners in this context, as they primarily focus on dispensing medications and providing pharmaceutical care. The inclusion of Euthanasia Technicians and Homeopathic Physicians in another option does not align with recognized mid-level practitioner definitions, as these roles have

8. If a pharmacy's original order form for controlled substances was lost or stolen, what must be attached to the second order form?

- A. A letter of apology**
- B. A statement including the first order form's serial number and date**
- C. A copy of the lost order form**
- D. Documentation of previous purchases**

When a pharmacy loses or has a controlled substances order form stolen, the regulations require that specific information be included when submitting a second order form to maintain proper records and accountability. Attaching a statement that includes the serial number and date of the original order form is crucial because it helps to identify which specific order form was lost or stolen. This ensures that the new order can be correlated with the original request, assists in tracking and preventing record duplications, and complies with DEA regulations regarding the handling of controlled substances. In essence, this process is designed to protect both the pharmacy and the integrity of the controlled substance distribution system. The other options do not fulfill the necessary regulatory requirements. A letter of apology may be courteous but does not provide the needed documentation. A copy of the lost order form cannot be provided since it is lost, and simply documenting previous purchases does not fulfill the specific requirement to account for the original order. Each of these alternatives lacks the critical information necessary for effective tracking and compliance.

9. Can a registrant maintain records at a location other than the registered location?

- A. No, it is prohibited**
- B. Yes, only with verbal consent from the DEA**
- C. Yes, but must notify DEA in writing**
- D. Yes, but records must remain at the pharmacy**

A registrant can maintain records at a location other than the registered location, provided they notify the DEA in writing. This allows for flexibility in record-keeping while ensuring that the DEA is aware of where the records are stored. Proper notification helps maintain compliance with federal regulations, as the DEA needs to monitor where controlled substance records are maintained to ensure they are accessible and managed appropriately. Choosing to maintain records elsewhere without written notification could lead to regulatory issues or complications during inspections. Thus, the requirement for prior notification is essential to ensuring that the DEA remains informed and can effectively oversee compliance with controlled substance regulations. While the other options suggest different conditions under which records might be kept elsewhere, they do not align with the regulations set forth by the DEA regarding record-keeping practices. The explicit requirement to notify in writing is what makes this answer correct and ensures adherence to the legal framework governing controlled substances.

10. What form must be completed when destroying controlled substances?

- A. DEA Form 222**
- B. DEA Form 41**
- C. DEA Form 106**
- D. DEA Form 20**

When destroying controlled substances, the appropriate form to complete is DEA Form 41. This form is specifically designated for the record of substances that are being disposed of or destroyed. It helps ensure proper documentation of the destruction process, which is crucial for maintaining compliance with federal regulations regarding controlled substances. DEA Form 41 requires detailed information about the controlled substances being disposed of, including the name, strength, dosage form, quantity, and the method of destruction. The form must be completed accurately to maintain proper accountability and prevent unauthorized access to the substances. In contrast, DEA Form 222 is used for ordering controlled substances, DEA Form 106 pertains to the reporting of theft or loss of controlled substances, and DEA Form 20 is not relevant in this context. Each of these forms serves a distinct purpose in relation to controlled substances, making it essential to use DEA Form 41 specifically for documenting destruction.

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://deapharmacistsmanual.examzify.com>

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