

Dental Care Delivery in the United States Practice Test (Sample)

Study Guide



Everything you need from our exam experts!

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Table of Contents

Copyright	1
Table of Contents	2
Introduction	3
How to Use This Guide	4
Questions	5
Answers	8
Explanations	10
Next Steps	16

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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. COSTEP is designed to attract qualified students in accredited health care programs into which primary public health entity?**
 - A. U.S. Public Health Service Commissioned Corps**
 - B. Department of Defense**
 - C. National Institutes of Health**
 - D. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention**

- 2. Which term describes the portion of the cost of each service that the patient pays?**
 - A. Copayment**
 - B. Deductible**
 - C. Coinsurance**
 - D. Premium**

- 3. In dental billing, the fixed fee charged for an office visit, independent of the services provided, is known as the**
 - A. Encounter**
 - B. Co-payment**
 - C. Procedure number**
 - D. Explanation of benefits**

- 4. Which federal department oversees the dental care of the military?**
 - A. Energy**
 - B. Defense**
 - C. Homeland Security**
 - D. Veterans Affairs**

- 5. The PHS Commissioned Corps, with approximately 6000 officers, is led by whom?**
 - A. Surgeon General**
 - B. Secretary of Health and Human Services**
 - C. Chief Medical Officer**
 - D. Director of the CDC**

- 6. Which government department is described as the principal agency for protecting the health of all Americans and providing essential human services?**
- A. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention**
 - B. Department of Health and Human Services**
 - C. National Institutes of Health**
 - D. Food and Drug Administration**
- 7. The government's medical research organization is called _____.**
- A. National Institute of Health**
 - B. National Institute of Science**
 - C. National Institutes of Health**
 - D. Center for Medical Research**
- 8. The government's prime entity for protecting the health of and providing human services to Americans is the Department of Health and Human Services.**
- A. Department of Health and Human Services**
 - B. Department of Education**
 - C. Department of Veterans Affairs**
 - D. Department of Homeland Security**
- 9. Which department oversees the agency that houses the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention?**
- A. Department of Health and Human Services**
 - B. Department of Education**
 - C. Department of Veterans Affairs**
 - D. Department of Transportation**
- 10. Which department is the primary federal department responsible for health and human services policies in the United States?**
- A. Department of Health and Human Services**
 - B. Department of Education**
 - C. Department of Defense**
 - D. Department of Justice**

Answers

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

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Explanations

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1. COSTEP is designed to attract qualified students in accredited health care programs into which primary public health entity?

A. U.S. Public Health Service Commissioned Corps

B. Department of Defense

C. National Institutes of Health

D. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention

COSTEP is a pathway that brings students in accredited health care programs into the U.S. Public Health Service Commissioned Corps, the federal uniformed service focused on public health. This program aims to recruit future officers who will work in federal public health roles, clinics, and emergency response situations. The other options represent agencies or branches not organized as the Public Health Service Commissioned Corps, so they're not the primary public health entity COSTEP targets. Therefore, COSTEP is designed to attract qualified students into the U.S. Public Health Service Commissioned Corps.

2. Which term describes the portion of the cost of each service that the patient pays?

A. Copayment

B. Deductible

C. Coinsurance

D. Premium

A fixed dollar amount that a patient pays for a covered service at the time of the visit is described as a copayment. This per-service amount is set by the insurance plan and is paid by the patient regardless of the total charge for the procedure, making costs predictable for the patient. The other terms work differently: a deductible is the amount a patient must pay out of pocket before insurance begins to pay, coinsurance is the share of costs the patient pays as a percentage after the deductible is met, and a premium is the regular payment to maintain the insurance coverage. Because the question focuses on the per-service amount the patient pays at the time of service, copayment is the best fit.

3. In dental billing, the fixed fee charged for an office visit, independent of the services provided, is known as the

- A. Encounter**
- B. Co-payment**
- C. Procedure number**
- D. Explanation of benefits**

In dental billing, the event of a patient coming in for a visit is called an encounter. The encounter has a fixed charge that applies to the visit itself, regardless of which procedures are later performed. Any specific treatments are billed separately using procedure codes, so the encounter charge covers the visit portion only. A co-payment is a fixed amount the patient pays at the time of service as dictated by the insurance plan, but it's not the overall visit fee charged by the office. A procedure number is the code for a particular service or procedure, not the overall visit charge. An Explanation of Benefits is the insurer's statement of how payments were made and what the patient owes, not the visit fee itself. Therefore, the fixed fee charged for an office visit independent of services is the encounter.

4. Which federal department oversees the dental care of the military?

- A. Energy**
- B. Defense**
- C. Homeland Security**
- D. Veterans Affairs**

Dental care for the military is overseen by the Department of Defense. This department runs the military health system, including dental clinics and the TRICARE program that covers active-duty service members and their families. After service ends, veterans' healthcare, including any eligible dental benefits, falls under the Department of Veterans Affairs, not the DoD. The other departments listed do not manage active-duty military dental care.

5. The PHS Commissioned Corps, with approximately 6000 officers, is led by whom?

- A. Surgeon General**
- B. Secretary of Health and Human Services**
- C. Chief Medical Officer**
- D. Director of the CDC**

The leadership role being tested is who heads the U.S. Public Health Service Commissioned Corps. The answer is the Surgeon General, who serves as the professional head and commander of the Commissioned Corps, a uniformed service of about 6,000 officers. The Surgeon General acts as the nation's doctor and public health spokesperson, appointed by the President and confirmed by the Senate, operating within the Department of Health and Human Services. The Secretary of Health and Human Services runs the entire department, not the corps specifically; the Director of the CDC leads that agency, and the Chief Medical Officer is a role in various organizations but not the overall leader of the PHS Commissioned Corps.

6. Which government department is described as the principal agency for protecting the health of all Americans and providing essential human services?

A. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention

B. Department of Health and Human Services

C. National Institutes of Health

D. Food and Drug Administration

Recognizing which department leads federal health protection and essential human services. The Department of Health and Human Services is the principal government department charged with protecting the health of all Americans and delivering essential human services. It oversees major programs like Medicare and Medicaid and houses agencies that administer public health, childcare and family services, aging, and disability programs. While agencies such as the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, the National Institutes of Health, and the Food and Drug Administration are important health-focused entities, they operate under this department rather than standing as the overarching agency themselves. So, this department best fits the description because it embodies the broad responsibility for health protection and comprehensive human services at the federal level.

7. The government's medical research organization is called

_____.

A. National Institute of Health

B. National Institute of Science

C. National Institutes of Health

D. Center for Medical Research

The main idea is the proper name of the government's medical research organization. The correct choice is National Institutes of Health. NIH is the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services agency that oversees and funds a wide range of medical research through its multiple institutes, including the National Institute of Dental and Craniofacial Research, which is particularly relevant to dental topics. The plural form indicates this is a system of specialized institutes under one umbrella, not a single institute. The other options don't fit. National Institute of Health uses singular "Institute," which doesn't reflect the NIH's structure. National Institute of Science isn't the official name of the government's medical research body. Center for Medical Research is a generic term and not the formal name of the federal agency.

8. The government's prime entity for protecting the health of and providing human services to Americans is the Department of Health and Human Services.

A. Department of Health and Human Services

B. Department of Education

C. Department of Veterans Affairs

D. Department of Homeland Security

The main idea is identifying which federal department is charged with protecting the health of Americans and providing essential human services. The Department of Health and Human Services is the primary federal agency for this mission. It oversees a broad range of programs aimed at health protection and social services, including Medicare and Medicaid, the National Institutes of Health, the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, and the Food and Drug Administration, all working to improve public health and support vulnerable populations. Education focuses on schools, learning, and academic policy, not the broad health protection and social service programs across the population. Veterans Affairs concentrates on benefits and services for veterans, including some health care for eligible veterans, but its scope is centered on veterans rather than the general public. Homeland Security handles national security, emergency response, and related public safety functions, which are different from the ongoing health protection and human services provided by HHS. So, the department responsible for protecting health and delivering human services to Americans is the Department of Health and Human Services.

9. Which department oversees the agency that houses the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention?

A. Department of Health and Human Services

B. Department of Education

C. Department of Veterans Affairs

D. Department of Transportation

Understanding which department controls federal public health agencies is key. The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention sits under the Department of Health and Human Services, because HHS is the federal department focused on protecting the health of Americans and delivering essential health services. Other departments—Education, Veterans Affairs, and Transportation—manage education policy, veterans' benefits and services, and transportation systems, respectively, and do not oversee public health agencies like the CDC. So the Department of Health and Human Services is the correct oversight.

10. Which department is the primary federal department responsible for health and human services policies in the United States?

A. Department of Health and Human Services

B. Department of Education

C. Department of Defense

D. Department of Justice

Health and human services policy in the United States is led by the Department of Health and Human Services. This department oversees the broad mandate of protecting health and providing essential human services, administering major national programs through agencies like the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services, the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, the National Institutes of Health, and the Food and Drug Administration. Its wide scope—covering public health, clinical care, regulation, research, and social services funding—makes it the primary federal entity shaping health and human services policy and how care is delivered. Other departments have related roles: Education focuses on schools and learning, Defense covers military health services for personnel, and Justice handles legal and enforcement aspects of health care, but they are not the central hubs for health and human services policy.

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://dentalcaredeliveryintheus.examzify.com>

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

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