

DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA PHYSICAL THERAPY JURISPRUDENCE PRACTICE EXAM (SAMPLE)

STUDY GUIDE



SAMPLE STUDY GUIDE WITH LIMITED QUESTIONS

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THE FULL VERSION STUDY GUIDE**

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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. Which of the following is included in the scope of physical therapy?**
 - A. Diagnosis, treatment, and prognosis based on tests and measures
 - B. Physical fitness evaluation only
 - C. Social support programs
 - D. Cosmetic procedures
- 2. Which entity has the authority to set the application fee for physical therapy licenses in D.C.?**
 - A. The United States Health Department
 - B. The District of Columbia Board
 - C. Individual therapists
 - D. The American Physical Therapy Association
- 3. What is the role of a physical therapy aide?**
 - A. To conduct assessments on patients
 - B. To assist physical therapists in technical duties but not provide direct patient care
 - C. To perform therapeutic exercises independently
 - D. To manage administrative tasks exclusively
- 4. Which of the following individuals can be a consumer board member?**
 - A. A healthcare professional
 - B. A household member of a healthcare professional
 - C. Someone who operates in the health care industry
 - D. None of the above
- 5. What is the focus of the 'Protect' principle in the APTA Code of Ethics?**
 - A. Societal wellbeing
 - B. Client confidentiality
 - C. Professional development
 - D. Legal compliance

- 6. What is one core value essential for physical therapy practice?**
- A. Efficiency
 - B. Professionalism
 - C. Innovation
 - D. Profitability
- 7. Which APTA Code of Ethics principle underscores the importance of compassion in patient care?**
- A. Information
 - B. Law
 - C. Compassion
 - D. Promotion
- 8. What percentage of total CEUs can be claimed for being a speaker or instructor?**
- A. 25%
 - B. 30%
 - C. 50%
 - D. 75%
- 9. What is the primary scope of practice for physical therapists in the District of Columbia?**
- A. Providing dietary advice to patients
 - B. EVALUATING, DIAGNOSING, AND TREATING individuals with movement dysfunctions
 - C. Prescribing medication for pain relief
 - D. Conducting psychological counseling
- 10. How important is documentation for a physical therapist when a patient refuses treatment?**
- A. Not important
 - B. Moderately important
 - C. Essential for legal and ethical reasons
 - D. Only necessary in severe cases

Answers

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

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Explanations

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1. Which of the following is included in the scope of physical therapy?

A. Diagnosis, treatment, and prognosis based on tests and measures

B. Physical fitness evaluation only

C. Social support programs

D. Cosmetic procedures

The scope of physical therapy encompasses a wide range of responsibilities that include assessing a patient's status and providing appropriate interventions. This includes diagnosis, treatment, and prognosis based on a variety of tests and measures. As licensed professionals, physical therapists utilize their expertise to evaluate patients' physical functioning, identify impairments, develop treatment plans, and monitor progress throughout the rehabilitation process. In contrast, physical fitness evaluations on their own focus solely on an individual's fitness levels without the context of therapeutic intervention, which is limited in scope compared to the comprehensive care provided by physical therapists. Social support programs, while they can be part of a holistic approach to health, are not inherently part of the clinical responsibilities of a physical therapist and do not directly align with the primary goals of physical rehabilitation. Cosmetic procedures do not fall within the therapeutic realm of physical therapy practice, as this specialty primarily focuses on restoring function and improving quality of life through rehabilitative measures, rather than aesthetic enhancements.

2. Which entity has the authority to set the application fee for physical therapy licenses in D.C.?

A. The United States Health Department

B. The District of Columbia Board

C. Individual therapists

D. The American Physical Therapy Association

The District of Columbia Board holds the authority to set the application fee for physical therapy licenses in D.C. This board is responsible for regulating the practice of physical therapy within the district, which includes establishing fees associated with licensure, renewal, and other regulatory processes. The board's role encompasses ensuring that the licensing process maintains appropriate standards, including setting fees that should reflect the operational costs involved in the licensing process. By controlling these fees, the board can ensure accessibility and fairness in the licensure pathway for physical therapists. The other entities mentioned do not possess this regulatory authority. For example, while the United States Health Department plays a significant role in overarching healthcare regulations, it does not directly manage state-specific licensure fees for physical therapists. Individual therapists, while they might have input through professional organizations or advocacy, do not have the power to set official fees. Lastly, the American Physical Therapy Association, although influential in the profession, serves more as a professional organization and does not have regulatory power over state licensing fees.

3. What is the role of a physical therapy aide?

- A. To conduct assessments on patients
- B. To assist physical therapists in technical duties but not provide direct patient care**
- C. To perform therapeutic exercises independently
- D. To manage administrative tasks exclusively

The role of a physical therapy aide primarily involves assisting physical therapists with technical duties while not providing direct patient care. This means that aides may help prepare treatment areas, maintain equipment, and support therapists during sessions but they are not qualified to assess patients or carry out independent therapeutic interventions. This distinction is significant because it highlights the aide's supportive role in the therapy environment rather than as an independent practitioner. Physical therapy aides often work under the supervision of licensed physical therapists, helping to ensure that the therapy environment is safe and efficient, and that therapists can focus on providing care tailored to each patient's needs. Their responsibilities are crucial for maintaining the workflow but do not extend to clinical actions that require professional training.

4. Which of the following individuals can be a consumer board member?

- A. A healthcare professional
- B. A household member of a healthcare professional
- C. Someone who operates in the health care industry
- D. None of the above**

The role of a consumer board member is specifically designated for individuals who represent the interests and perspectives of the public rather than those of healthcare professionals or industry insiders. A consumer board member generally should not have a professional background in healthcare, which ensures that the voice of the general consumer is distinct and free from biases that might arise from professional involvement in the healthcare field. Accordingly, a healthcare professional, a household member of a healthcare professional, and someone who operates in the health care industry all possess connections to the healthcare system that might influence their perspective and decisions on the board. These connections could inadvertently lead to conflicts of interest, diminishing the effectiveness of the role intended to advocate for consumer issues. Therefore, stating that "none of the above" can serve as a consumer board member is correct, as these options do not align with the qualifications needed for a truly impartial and representative consumer board member.

5. What is the focus of the 'Protect' principle in the APTA Code of Ethics?

- A. Societal wellbeing
- B. Client confidentiality**
- C. Professional development
- D. Legal compliance

The 'Protect' principle in the APTA Code of Ethics specifically centers on the importance of safeguarding client confidentiality. This principle recognizes that maintaining the privacy of client information not only fosters trust between the client and the physical therapist but also upholds ethical standards within the practice. By prioritizing client confidentiality, practitioners ensure that sensitive information remains secure and is only shared in appropriate contexts, thereby respecting the client's autonomy and decision-making. While aspects such as societal wellbeing, professional development, and legal compliance all play significant roles in the practice of physical therapy, they do not directly encapsulate the core focus of the 'Protect' principle, which is fundamentally about preserving the integrity and privacy of client information.

6. What is one core value essential for physical therapy practice?

- A. Efficiency
- B. Professionalism**
- C. Innovation
- D. Profitability

Professionalism is a core value essential for physical therapy practice because it encompasses the ethical standards, responsibilities, and behaviors expected of healthcare professionals. This value reflects a commitment to providing high-quality care, maintaining patient confidentiality, and advocating for patients' needs. It also involves adhering to regulations and guidelines set forth by governing bodies, which ensures that practitioners are accountable and act in the best interest of their patients. In the context of physical therapy, professionalism fosters trust between the therapist and the patient, which is crucial for effective treatment and recovery. When therapists demonstrate professionalism, they not only enhance the patient experience but also uphold the integrity and reputation of the profession as a whole. This commitment to ethical practice ultimately leads to better outcomes for patients and elevates the standards of care within the field.

7. Which APTA Code of Ethics principle underscores the importance of compassion in patient care?

- A. Information
- B. Law
- C. Compassion**
- D. Promotion

The principle of compassion is highlighted in the APTA Code of Ethics, as it emphasizes the need for physical therapists to demonstrate empathy and respect in their interactions with patients. This principle is fundamental to fostering a trusting relationship between therapist and patient, which significantly impacts treatment outcomes. Compassion in patient care entails understanding patients' unique experiences and challenges, being responsive to their needs, and providing care that goes beyond mere technical skills. This principle ensures that physical therapists not only address the physical aspects of patient treatment but also engage with patients on an emotional level, thus promoting overall well-being and enhancing the therapeutic alliance. The other options, while they may relate to aspects of professional practice, do not specifically focus on the essential role of compassion in patient care. The emphasis on compassion is integral to the ethical framework guiding physical therapy practice, which ultimately aims to benefit patients holistically.

8. What percentage of total CEUs can be claimed for being a speaker or instructor?

- A. 25%
- B. 30%
- C. 50%**
- D. 75%

The correct answer indicates that a licensed physical therapist can claim a significant portion of their continuing education units (CEUs) for serving as a speaker or instructor. Specifically, allowing up to 50% of total CEUs to be claimed from this activity acknowledges the importance of disseminating knowledge and expertise within the profession. This policy encourages professionals to share their skills and insights with peers, thereby enhancing the overall quality of care in the field. Engaging in teaching or speaking roles not only contributes to the individual's professional development but also to the continuing education of other practitioners. The time spent preparing and presenting educational material is recognized as both a valuable contribution to the profession and a legitimate form of continuing education. In contrast, the other percentages are lower, which may suggest a more restrictive approach to claiming CEUs for teaching roles. Allowing 50% strikes a balance between encouraging professional development through active participation as a speaker, while still emphasizing the importance of diverse educational experiences.

9. What is the primary scope of practice for physical therapists in the District of Columbia?

- A. Providing dietary advice to patients
- B. EVALUATING, DIAGNOSING, AND TREATING individuals with movement dysfunctions**
- C. Prescribing medication for pain relief
- D. Conducting psychological counseling

The primary scope of practice for physical therapists in the District of Columbia is to evaluate, diagnose, and treat individuals with movement dysfunctions. This is fundamental to the role of a physical therapist, whose primary focus is on restoring, maintaining, and promoting optimal physical function. They utilize their specialized training to assess patients' mobility, strength, and the overall functionality of their musculoskeletal and neurological systems. Physical therapists employ various techniques for treatment, including therapeutic exercises, manual therapy, and modalities such as ultrasound and electrical stimulation. Their expertise allows them to create tailored rehabilitation programs designed to improve mobility, reduce pain, enhance functional performance, and prevent disability. While other areas mentioned, such as dietary advice, medication prescription, and psychological counseling, may intersect with health and wellness, they fall outside the defined scope of practice for physical therapists. This specialization emphasizes their critical role in the rehabilitation process, underscoring the importance of movement and physical function in overall health.

10. How important is documentation for a physical therapist when a patient refuses treatment?

- A. Not important
- B. Moderately important
- C. Essential for legal and ethical reasons**
- D. Only necessary in severe cases

Documentation is essential for legal and ethical reasons in the context of physical therapy when a patient refuses treatment. Proper documentation serves multiple critical purposes. Firstly, it provides a clear record of the patient's decision, showing that they were informed about the treatment options available, the potential benefits, risks, and implications of refusing treatment. This record is crucial for protecting both the patient's rights and the clinician's legal interests. Furthermore, thorough documentation in these cases ensures compliance with professional standards and regulations. It can help convey that the therapist acted within the boundaries of standard care, providing evidence that was the patient's choice to decline treatment after being fully educated on the consequences. This can be particularly important should any disputes arise later regarding the patient's health outcomes or the therapist's actions. Lastly, maintaining detailed records fosters better communication among healthcare providers involved in the patient's care. It can provide additional context for future interactions, enhancing the continuity of care and ensuring that all healthcare professionals are aware of the patient's preferences and decisions. Therefore, the importance of rigorous documentation cannot be overstated, especially in situations involving patient autonomy and treatment refusal.

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://dc-ptjurisprudence.examzify.com>

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

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