

Fast Healthcare Interoperability Resources (FHIR) Proficiency Practice Exam (Sample)

Study Guide



Everything you need from our exam experts!

Copyright © 2026 by Examzify - A Kaluba Technologies Inc. product.

ALL RIGHTS RESERVED.

No part of this book may be reproduced or transferred in any form or by any means, graphic, electronic, or mechanical, including photocopying, recording, web distribution, taping, or by any information storage retrieval system, without the written permission of the author.

Notice: Examzify makes every reasonable effort to obtain accurate, complete, and timely information about this product from reliable sources.

SAMPLE

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

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. Which of the following describes how FHIR can be adapted to local requirements?**
 - A. Profiles**
 - B. All of the above**
 - C. Extensions**
 - D. Terminologies**
- 2. Regarding printed matter, how often should the trademark text appear when referring to the FHIR standard?**
 - A. Once on each page of printed matter**
 - B. Only on the cover**
 - C. Never**
 - D. At the end of the document**
- 3. Which resource is a statement of relationships from one set of concepts to one or more other concepts - either concepts in code systems, or data element/data element concepts, or classes in class models?**
 - A. CodeSystem**
 - B. ValueSet**
 - C. ConceptMap**
 - D. NamingSystem**
- 4. Which resource type provides additional rules that constrain the optionality, cardinality, terminology bindings, data types, and extensions defined in the resources by an implementation?**
 - A. StructureDefinition**
 - B. CapabilityStatement**
 - C. Bundle**
 - D. Observation**
- 5. The Condition resource is broadly defined to include which concepts?**
 - A. Problems, diagnoses, and health concerns**
 - B. Medications, allergies, and procedures**
 - C. Encounters, patients, and practitioners**
 - D. Vital signs, labs, and imaging**

- 6. Conformance resources, terminology resources, and 'other' resources are in which layer of FHIR resources?**
- A. Foundation Layer**
 - B. Content Layer**
 - C. Infrastructure Layer**
 - D. Data Layer**
- 7. In FHIR, a modifier element is one whose presence or value cannot be ignored because it changes the interpretation of the resource.**
- A. It is optional and can be ignored**
 - B. It changes interpretation**
 - C. It is only for display**
 - D. It requires external authorization**
- 8. What defines a FHIR resource?**
- A. A data type**
 - B. An exchangeable content defined in the FHIR specification**
 - C. A UI component**
 - D. A database table**
- 9. What three properties related to conformance do resource elements and data types have?**
- A. Cardinality, Is-Modifier, MustSupport**
 - B. Identity, Meta, Language**
 - C. Location, Canonical, Response**
 - D. Version, Status, Publisher**
- 10. Which resource is specifically used to carry raw binary content such as a PDF or image within a FHIR interface?**
- A. DocumentReference**
 - B. CatalogEntry**
 - C. Basic**
 - D. Binary**

Answers

SAMPLE

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

SAMPLE

Explanations

SAMPLE

1. Which of the following describes how FHIR can be adapted to local requirements?

A. Profiles

B. All of the above

C. Extensions

D. Terminologies

FHIR can be adapted to local requirements through several mechanisms that work together to tailor data and workflows: profiles, extensions, and terminologies. Profiles constrain and tailor resources to local needs by specifying which elements are required, allowable values, cardinalities, and how data should be represented. This ensures that data exchanged fits the local use case while remaining interoperable with other systems. Extensions provide a safe way to add data elements that aren't already defined in the base resources. By defining named extensions with clear data types and governance, systems can capture locally relevant information without altering the standard resource structure. Terminologies, including value sets and code systems, enable consistent coding and interpretation of data. Binding elements to standardized or locally defined vocabularies ensures that codes convey the same meaning across systems, while still allowing local variations when necessary. In practice, you often combine these approaches: a profile constrains data to local requirements, extensions cover gaps, and standardized terminologies ensure consistent interpretation. That's why all of the above describes how FHIR can be adapted to local requirements.

2. Regarding printed matter, how often should the trademark text appear when referring to the FHIR standard?

A. Once on each page of printed matter

B. Only on the cover

C. Never

D. At the end of the document

Trademark usage requires visibility with every instance where the mark is used. For printed materials that reference the FHIR standard, the trademark text should appear on every page that mentions FHIR. This keeps the brand clearly associated with the content as readers flip through pages, prevents questions about attribution, and aligns with branding guidelines that aim for consistent, unmistakable ownership across the document. Putting the mark only on the cover would leave inner pages without identification, while placing it only at the end or never would fail to reinforce the brand with each reference. Including the trademark on every page that discusses FHIR ensures clear, continuous attribution throughout the material.

3. Which resource is a statement of relationships from one set of concepts to one or more other concepts - either concepts in code systems, or data element/data element concepts, or classes in class models?

- A. CodeSystem
- B. ValueSet
- C. ConceptMap**
- D. NamingSystem

A ConceptMap is used to articulate mappings from one set of concepts to one or more concepts in other sets, whether those are codes in code systems, data element concepts, or classes in a model. It captures how a source concept relates to target concepts and supports one-to-one, one-to-many, or many-to-one relationships, with notes on equivalence or other mapping rules. This is exactly what a statement of relationships across concept sets is intended to express. CodeSystem defines the codes and their meanings, but not mappings to other concepts. ValueSet is a selected collection of codes used for data elements, not a cross-map. NamingSystem covers identifiers and registration details for systems, not concept-to-concept relationships.

4. Which resource type provides additional rules that constrain the optionality, cardinality, terminology bindings, data types, and extensions defined in the resources by an implementation?

- A. StructureDefinition**
- B. CapabilityStatement
- C. Bundle
- D. Observation

StructureDefinition is used to create profiles that constrain how resources are used in a particular implementation. By defining a StructureDefinition, you specify exact rules for a resource's content: how many times an element can appear (cardinality), whether an element is optional or required (optionality), which data types an element may use, and which terminology bindings (value sets) apply to elements. It also governs extensions, allowing you to define additional elements or constrain existing ones. These constraints are captured in the profile so every system interpreting the resource follows the same rules, ensuring consistent data exchange across implementations. Other resources don't serve this role: a CapabilityStatement describes what a server can do, a Bundle is just a container for exchanging multiple resources, and Observation is a specific resource type used to record data rather than a mechanism to impose cross-implementation constraints.

5. The Condition resource is broadly defined to include which concepts?

A. Problems, diagnoses, and health concerns

B. Medications, allergies, and procedures

C. Encounters, patients, and practitioners

D. Vital signs, labs, and imaging

The Condition resource in FHIR is designed to represent a patient's clinical issues—problems, diagnoses, or health concerns that may require management. It tracks ongoing or historical issues that drive care, including when they began, whether they're active or resolved, and their severity or stage. This makes it the best fit for grouping items like problems, diagnoses, and health concerns in the patient's problem list and care plans. Data like medications, allergies, and procedures belong to other areas of FHIR (medication-related data, allergy and intolerance, and procedure records, respectively). Vital signs, labs, and imaging are typically captured with the Observation resource. So the broad concepts captured by the Condition resource are problems, diagnoses, and health concerns.

6. Conformance resources, terminology resources, and 'other' resources are in which layer of FHIR resources?

A. Foundation Layer

B. Content Layer

C. Infrastructure Layer

D. Data Layer

The key idea is that FHIR organizes resources into layers to separate foundational definitions from clinical data and from technical transport. Conformance resources and terminology resources provide the rules, capabilities, and vocabulary that all resources and systems rely on, so they sit in the Foundation Layer. Conformance resources describe what a server can do and how to interact with it, while terminology resources define code systems, value sets, and mappings that standardize meaning across resources. Because these definitions underpin interoperability across the entire system, they belong in the foundational layer. The Content Layer, by contrast, contains the actual clinical data resources (like patient, observation, and condition), which rely on these foundations but are not about defining rules or vocabularies themselves. The Infrastructure Layer covers transport, security, provenance, and other non-clinical support aspects that enable data exchange. So, the conformance and terminology resources being foundational to the system are placed in the Foundation Layer.

7. In FHIR, a modifier element is one whose presence or value cannot be ignored because it changes the interpretation of the resource.

A. It is optional and can be ignored

B. It changes interpretation

C. It is only for display

D. It requires external authorization

In FHIR, a modifier element carries semantic changes to how the information should be understood. Its presence or value cannot be ignored because it alters the interpretation of the resource—negation, qualification, or provisos about the data must be accounted for to read the resource correctly. That's why the correct concept is that the element changes interpretation. For example, a modifier might indicate that a finding is negated (not present) or that a value qualifies the statement in a way that would change its meaning if ignored. If you skipped this modifier, you could misinterpret the data. The other descriptions don't fit: a modifier isn't something optional to ignore, nor is it purely for display, and it isn't about external authorization.

8. What defines a FHIR resource?

A. A data type

B. An exchangeable content defined in the FHIR specification

C. A UI component

D. A database table

A FHIR resource is the unit of information designed for interoperability and defined by the FHIR specification as exchangeable content. Each resource has a specified type (like Patient or Observation) and a fixed structure with defined elements, constraints, and metadata, so that systems can understand and use the data consistently. Resources are serialized to standard formats (JSON or XML) and exchanged via RESTful APIs, making them the portable payloads that enable interoperability across different health IT systems. They're not merely data types, UI components, or database tables—the resource concept specifies the standardized information object that can be shared and understood across implementations.

9. What three properties related to conformance do resource elements and data types have?

A. Cardinality, Is-Modifier, MustSupport

B. Identity, Meta, Language

C. Location, Canonical, Response

D. Version, Status, Publisher

Conformance for resource elements and data types hinges on how often an element must appear, whether it can alter interpretation, and whether implementers are expected to support it. The first property, cardinality, defines the allowed occurrences of an element using a minimum and maximum (for example, 0..1, 1..*, etc.), which directly shapes the structure of the resource or data type. The second property, isModifier, marks an element as a modifier element, meaning it can change how the resource is interpreted or how other elements are evaluated; systems must handle these with special care because they affect meaning. The third property, mustSupport, indicates that an element should be supported by compliant implementations if feasible, guiding testing and validation efforts to ensure essential elements are implemented. Other options refer to different aspects of metadata or messaging rather than conformance attributes. For example, identity, meta, and language describe metadata about the resource itself; location, canonical, and response relate to navigation or messaging semantics; version, status, and publisher pertain to resource versioning and publishing metadata.

10. Which resource is specifically used to carry raw binary content such as a PDF or image within a FHIR interface?

A. DocumentReference

B. CatalogEntry

C. Basic

D. Binary

The key idea is that FHIR provides a dedicated resource for raw binary data. The Binary resource is designed specifically to hold binary payloads like PDFs, images, or other file types, and it includes a field to describe the data's MIME type (so the recipient knows how to interpret it) along with the binary content itself. This makes it the direct and reliable way to transport binary content over a FHIR interface. Other resources are not built to carry the raw payload themselves. For example, a document-type reference can point to a document or include an attachment, but the binary payload isn't stored in the resource itself as the primary content. The remaining options are meant for catalog metadata or flexible data structures, not for the explicit transport of binary files.

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://fhirproficiency.examzify.com>

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