

# Functional Areas of Nursing Informatics Scope & Standards 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

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- 1. Which functional area fosters inter-professional collaboration in designing, developing, and deploying technology in healthcare settings?**
  - A. Administration, Leadership, and Management**
  - B. Consultation**
  - C. Coordination, facilitation, and integration**
  - D. Policy development and advocacy**
  
- 2. Functional Area of Nursing Informatics: CONSULTATION is described by applying knowledge and skills to serve as transformational leader (formally/informally; internally/externally). Which area is this?**
  - A. CONSULTATION**
  - B. Education**
  - C. Research**
  - D. Clinical Practice**
  
- 3. Which role includes oversight of social media - enhancing communication technologies for consumers, providers, etc.?**
  - A. Academic role**
  - B. Development role**
  - C. Oversight of social media**
  - D. Vendor educator**
  
- 4. Which statement accurately describes CMS eCQMs?**
  - A. They measure six domains including Patient and Family Engagement and Clinical Process/Effectiveness**
  - B. They measure only financial performance**
  - C. They apply only to inpatient services**
  - D. They replace all clinician assessments**
  
- 5. Which of the following is NOT typically used as a tool in system analysis and design?**
  - A. Data Flow Diagrams**
  - B. Entity-Relationship Modeling**
  - C. Taxonomies**
  - D. Quality indicators**

- 6. In research and evaluation, which term is a stage in the process?**
- A. Design**
  - B. Retrieve**
  - C. Represent**
  - D. Evaluate**
- 7. Data can be aggregated in a number of ways to**
- A. Synthesize knowledge**
  - B. Inform decision support & outcomes management**
  - C. Advance science of nursing informatics**
  - D. Support reimbursement**
- 8. Which is NOT a CMS eCQM domain measured for quality improvement?**
- A. Patient and Family Engagement**
  - B. Patient Safety**
  - C. Care Coordination**
  - D. Cost Containment**
- 9. Education in Nursing Informatics must adhere to what?**
- A. Solid educational principles**
  - B. Regulatory compliance**
  - C. Industry benchmarks**
  - D. User satisfaction**
- 10. A major responsibility of the INS is**
- A. To understand workflow processes, particular informatics solutions and how these affect each other**
  - B. To manage hospital budgets**
  - C. To develop marketing plans**
  - D. To train nurses in clinical skills**

## Answers

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

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## **Explanations**

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**1. Which functional area fosters inter-professional collaboration in designing, developing, and deploying technology in healthcare settings?**

- A. Administration, Leadership, and Management**
- B. Consultation**
- C. Coordination, facilitation, and integration**
- D. Policy development and advocacy**

Fostering inter-professional collaboration in designing, developing, and deploying technology in healthcare settings is about coordinating multiple disciplines, facilitating clear communication, and integrating diverse systems and workflows. This functional area brings together clinicians, informaticists, IT professionals, administrators, and other stakeholders to translate clinical needs into technical requirements, align processes, and oversee the project from design through rollout. By coordinating roles, bridging language gaps between clinical and technical staff, and ensuring new technology integrates smoothly with existing workflows, it enables the teamwork essential for successful health IT implementation. While administration/leadership and management handle governance and strategy, consultation provides expert input, and policy development/advocacy focuses on rules and advocacy, none center the active cross-disciplinary coordination and practical integration required for designing, developing, and deploying technology.

**2. Functional Area of Nursing Informatics: CONSULTATION is described by applying knowledge and skills to serve as transformational leader (formally/informally; internally/externally). Which area is this?**

- A. CONSULTATION**
- B. Education**
- C. Research**
- D. Clinical Practice**

The key idea is that consultation in nursing informatics involves using your knowledge and skills to advise, guide, and lead change across people and teams. Describing yourself as a transformational leader—motivating others, shaping practice, and driving organizational improvement—fits the consultative role, because consultants act as the go-to experts who influence decisions, foster adoption of informatics solutions, and collaborate with internal and external stakeholders to advance patient care. This leadership and advisory function can be formal (a named role or committee chair) or informal (informal guidance), and it can occur within the organization or with external partners. Education centers on teaching and building skills in others, not primarily on leadership or advisory influence; Research focuses on generating new knowledge; Clinical Practice is about direct patient care using informatics. The scenario emphasizes leadership and guiding change, which aligns with Consultation.

**3. Which role includes oversight of social media - enhancing communication technologies for consumers, providers, etc.?**

- A. Academic role**
- B. Development role**
- C. Oversight of social media**
- D. Vendor educator**

Focusing on governance and supervision of how social media is used to support communication for both consumers and providers is the key idea. This role involves establishing and enforcing policies, ensuring compliant and safe use, managing risks, and guiding how social platforms integrate with care delivery and patient engagement. It's about oversight of the social media landscape, not about researching, building new technologies, or training specifically about a vendor's products. Academic roles are oriented toward education and research; development roles center on creating or implementing new technologies; vendor educator roles concentrate on training users about a vendor's tools. The oversight of social media label best fits the governance and policy-driven responsibility that coordinates and monitors social media use across stakeholders.

**4. Which statement accurately describes CMS eQMs?**

- A. They measure six domains including Patient and Family Engagement and Clinical Process/Effectiveness**
- B. They measure only financial performance**
- C. They apply only to inpatient services**
- D. They replace all clinician assessments**

CMS eQMs are electronic quality measures that use data from electronic health records to evaluate how well care is delivered across several domains. They are organized into six domains that capture different aspects of quality, including Patient and Family Engagement and Clinical Processes/Effectiveness. This structure allows performance to be measured across a broad range of care activities, not just a single area. So, the statement that best describes CMS eQMs is that they measure six domains, and among them are Patient and Family Engagement and Clinical Processes/Effectiveness. The other descriptions aren't accurate: eQMs aren't about financial performance only, they aren't limited to inpatient services, and they don't replace clinician assessments; they rely on documented clinical information to assess quality.

**5. Which of the following is NOT typically used as a tool in system analysis and design?**

- A. Data Flow Diagrams**
- B. Entity-Relationship Modeling**
- C. Taxonomies**
- D. Quality indicators**

In system analysis and design, you use modeling tools that help map how a system works and how data moves and is stored. A Data Flow Diagram shows processes, data inputs and outputs, data stores, and the paths data takes, which clarifies requirements and helps identify where improvements are needed. An Entity-Relationship Model focuses on the structure of data—entities, attributes, and their relationships—which guides database design and data integrity. Taxonomies provide a structured vocabulary and classification scheme, aiding consistent terminology and organization of concepts during analysis and design. Quality indicators, by contrast, are metrics used to evaluate how well a system meets quality goals—such as performance, reliability, or usability—often during testing or post-implementation evaluation. They're about measuring outcomes rather than modeling or designing the system. That distinction is why quality indicators are not typically used as a design or analysis tool.

**6. In research and evaluation, which term is a stage in the process?**

- A. Design**
- B. Retrieve**
- C. Represent**
- D. Evaluate**

Planning the study is the first stage in research and evaluation. This phase creates the blueprint for everything that follows: deciding the overall approach, choosing the study design, outlining methods, selecting variables, planning sampling, and addressing ethics. This design stage sets the direction and scope, guiding data collection, analysis, and interpretation. Data retrieval and data representation are activities that occur within later steps—gathering the data and presenting the results. Evaluation is part of assessing outcomes, but it typically comes after the design and data analysis, not as the initial stage. So the term that denotes a stage in the process is the Design stage.

**7. Data can be aggregated in a number of ways to**

- A. Synthesize knowledge**
- B. Inform decision support & outcomes management**
- C. Advance science of nursing informatics**
- D. Support reimbursement**

Data aggregation brings together measurements and observations from many sources and summarizes them so patterns and relationships become visible. The main purpose is to synthesize knowledge—turning disparate data into integrated understanding that informs practice, research, and education. For example, pooling patient outcomes across departments or across studies helps create evidence-based conclusions and guidelines. While this synthesized knowledge can then support decision-making and outcomes management, the core aim of aggregation is to generate a coherent, generalizable understanding from diverse data.

**8. Which is NOT a CMS eCQM domain measured for quality improvement?**

- A. Patient and Family Engagement**
- B. Patient Safety**
- C. Care Coordination**
- D. Cost Containment**

CMS eCQMs focus on measuring the quality of clinical care across domains that reflect safe, patient-centered, and coordinated care. These domains include areas like patient safety, care coordination, and patient and family engagement, which are tied to how care is delivered and experienced. Cost containment, while important for overall performance, is not an eCQM domain used for quality improvement because it centers on financial aspects rather than the clinical quality of care. Therefore, cost containment is not part of the CMS eCQM domains used to drive quality improvement.

**9. Education in Nursing Informatics must adhere to what?**

- A. Solid educational principles**
- B. Regulatory compliance**
- C. Industry benchmarks**
- D. User satisfaction**

Education in nursing informatics should be grounded in solid educational principles to ensure learners gain meaningful, transferable competency in applying informatics to patient care. When instruction rests on established theories and design practices—such as clear learning objectives, aligned assessments, appropriate instructional methods for adult learners, opportunities for hands-on practice, and systematic evaluation—the curriculum supports consistent, valid measurement of outcomes and better integration of informatics into daily nursing work. This foundation helps learners connect theory to real clinical tasks like data management, decision support, and workflow optimization. Regulatory compliance matters in healthcare, guiding how systems handle privacy, security, and reporting, but it governs practice rather than how educational experiences are designed. Industry benchmarks provide standard performance targets, which can inform curricula content, yet they do not dictate the instructional framework itself. User satisfaction focuses on usability and experience with tools or training materials, which is important but secondary to establishing a robust, theory-based approach to teaching.

**10. A major responsibility of the INS is**

- A. To understand workflow processes, particular informatics solutions and how these affect each other**
- B. To manage hospital budgets**
- C. To develop marketing plans**
- D. To train nurses in clinical skills**

Understanding how work gets done in clinical settings and how technology affects that flow is central to the Informatics Nurse Specialist role. The INS analyzes workflow processes and examines informatics solutions—such as electronic health records, decision support, and data systems—and how they interact. This helps design and optimize systems so they truly support nurses at the point of care, improve patient safety, reduce errors, and streamline care delivery by ensuring information moves smoothly where it's needed and aligns with real-world practice. Other functions like managing hospital budgets, developing marketing plans, or training nurses in clinical skills fall outside the core focus of nursing informatics, which centers on the intersection of nursing practice and information technology to enhance care and workflow.

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## 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://functionalareasnursinginfoscope.examzify.com>**

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

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