Hazardous Drug Management 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. C-PEC stands for

A. Containment Secondary Engineering Control - separate externally vented room / CASA

B. Closed-System Transfer Device

C. Containment Primary Engineering Control - BSC / machine

D. Containment Ventilated Exposure

2. Visibly contaminated PPE is

A. Trace Waste

B. Hazardous Waste

C. Nonhazardous

D. Bulk Waste

3. Which of the following is an acceptable C-PEC for sterile compounding?

A. Laminar Air Flow Workbench

B. Compounding Aseptic Isolator

C. Class 2 or 3 BSC; CACI

D. Class 1 BSC

4. Drugs requiring safe handling precautions should be what during transport?

A. Not labeled

B. Clearly labeled

C. Sealed in original container

D. Refrigerated

5. Face shields provide full eye and face protection when handling hazardous drugs. True or False?

A. True

B. False

C. Only eye protection

D. Only facial protection

6. The scope of hazard drugs requires protection across which stages?

- **A. Only compounding**
- **B. Receiving, storage, compounding, administration, and disposal**
- **C. Only receiving**
- **D. Only disposal**

7. Ante-rooms in hazardous drug facilities are:

- **A. Always negative pressure**
- **B. Always positive pressure**
- **C. May be negative or neutral depending on design**
- **D. Not used**

8. How should you respond to a small HD spill (e.g., a tiny droplet on a surface)?

- **A. Notify supervisor after finishing shift**
- **B. Ignore small spill**
- **C. Use water and rinse**
- **D. Immediately cover/spread with absorbent material, avoid spreading, wear PPE, use approved neutralizing/decontaminating agents per SOP, and clean up according to spill procedures**

9. Which of the following C-PECs should not be used to compound sterile hazardous drugs?

- **A. Class 1 BSC**
- **B. Class 2 BSC**
- **C. CACI**
- **D. LAFW**

10. Before exiting the C-SEC, both sets of shoe covers must be removed to prevent transfer of contamination. True or False?

- **A. True**
- **B. False**
- **C. Not required**
- **D. Only remove one set**

Answers

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

Explanations

1. C-PEC stands for

A. Containment Secondary Engineering Control - separate externally vented room / CASA

B. Closed-System Transfer Device

C. Containment Primary Engineering Control - BSC / machine

D. Containment Ventilated Exposure

In hazardous drug compounding, containment is organized into primary and secondary engineering controls. The device where the drug is directly prepared and contained is the primary engineering control, providing the first line of protection for the operator. C-PEC stands for Containment Primary Engineering Control, such as a biological safety cabinet or a containment isolator, which directly houses the compounding process and uses filtration and controlled airflow to prevent exposure. This is distinct from the secondary engineering control, which is the surrounding room or space that houses the PEC and is designed to provide additional containment (often with negative pressure and external exhaust). The term described here is specifically about the containment enclosure used during preparation, not transfer devices or other concepts.

2. Visibly contaminated PPE is

A. Trace Waste

B. Hazardous Waste

C. Nonhazardous

D. Bulk Waste

Waste streams for hazardous drugs are defined by how much contamination is present. When contamination is visible on an item, it falls into bulk waste rather than trace waste, because the level of contamination is significant and requires more stringent handling and disposal. Visibly contaminated PPE should be treated as bulk waste and disposed through hazardous-waste channels with proper labeling and containment. This reflects the need to prevent exposure and environmental release, since chemotherapy agents are hazardous. In contrast, trace waste covers only tiny, non-visible residues and usually follows less stringent disposal routes, and nonhazardous would be inappropriate for cytotoxic contamination.

3. Which of the following is an acceptable C-PEC for sterile compounding?

A. Laminar Air Flow Workbench

B. Compounding Aseptic Isolator

C. Class 2 or 3 BSC; CACI

D. Class 1 BSC

In sterile compounding of hazardous drugs, the primary engineering control must provide containment to protect the worker and the surrounding environment, using equipment designed to keep aerosols and spills from escaping. A Class II BSC provides HEPA-filtered air and containment with directed airflow, and a Class III BSC offers a sealed, gas-tight environment with external HEPA exhaust—both are solid choices for a C-PEC when handling hazardous drugs. Containment Aseptic Isolators (CAI) and Containment Aseptic Containment Isolators (CACI) isolate the compounding workspace from the surrounding area and operate under negative pressure, further reducing exposure risk; these are also acceptable C-PEC options for sterile HD work. Laminar Air Flow Workbenches, while useful for nonhazardous sterile compounding, do not provide the necessary containment against hazardous drugs, and Class 1 BSCs do not meet current containment requirements. Therefore, the best choice is the option that includes a Class II or Class III BSC or a containment isolator (CAI/CACI) as acceptable C-PECs for sterile compounding.

4. Drugs requiring safe handling precautions should be what during transport?

A. Not labeled

B. Clearly labeled

C. Sealed in original container

D. Refrigerated

Proper labeling communicates the hazard and the required handling actions to anyone who handles the package in transit. For drugs that require safe handling precautions, a clear label signals that the contents are hazardous and instructs on the protective equipment to use, containment procedures to follow, and any special transport or storage requirements. This helps ensure that pharmacy staff, couriers, and receiving personnel treat the container with the appropriate care, reduces the risk of exposure, and supports regulatory and safety protocols in transit and cross-facility handoffs. Sealing the container or refrigerating it do not convey these handling requirements, so they don't replace the need for a proper label.

5. Face shields provide full eye and face protection when handling hazardous drugs. True or False?

A. True

B. False

C. Only eye protection

D. Only facial protection

Face shields protect the face from splashes, but they do not guarantee complete eye protection. Gaps at the sides and below the shield can allow splashes to reach the eyes, and shields can fog, reducing visibility. For hazardous drug handling, you should wear eye protection that seals around the eyes (goggles or wraparound safety glasses) in addition to a face shield to achieve full protection of both eyes and face. So the statement is false. Use both eye protection and a face shield for best safety.

6. The scope of hazard drugs requires protection across which stages?

A. Only compounding

B. Receiving, storage, compounding, administration, and disposal

C. Only receiving

D. Only disposal

Safeguards are needed at every step of handling hazardous drugs because exposure can occur at multiple points, not just one. When receiving, the packaging can leak or be damaged, so containers must be inspected and handled with proper PPE to prevent contact or inhalation. In storage, drugs must be kept with appropriate containment and labeling to avoid accidental exposure and cross-contamination. During compounding, the risk is often highest, so engineering controls like biological safety cabinets or closed-system transfer devices, along with proper gloves, gowns, and eye protection, are essential to prevent spills and aerosols from reaching the worker. Administration also poses exposure risks through splashes or aerosol generation, making continued use of containment and PPE critical. Finally, disposal requires correct waste segregation and handling to prevent environmental release and ensure staff safety. Since each stage carries its own exposure pathways, protection across the entire workflow is necessary, which is why the scope includes receiving, storage, compounding, administration, and disposal.

7. Ante-rooms in hazardous drug facilities are:

A. Always negative pressure

B. Always positive pressure

C. May be negative or neutral depending on design

D. Not used

Ante-rooms serve as buffer spaces that help control airflow and provide a dedicated area for donning, doffing, and transferring materials when handling hazardous drugs. Their pressure relative to surrounding spaces isn't fixed; it's determined by the facility's HVAC design and risk assessment. In some layouts, the ante-room is kept under negative pressure to aid containment when doors are opened and materials move in and out. In other designs, it is kept at neutral pressure to maintain the overall pressure cascade and minimize disruption to the surrounding zones. So, the status can be negative or neutral depending on design—there isn't a universal rule that ante-rooms must always be one or the other.

8. How should you respond to a small HD spill (e.g., a tiny droplet on a surface)?

A. Notify supervisor after finishing shift

B. Ignore small spill

C. Use water and rinse

D. Immediately cover/spread with absorbent material, avoid spreading, wear PPE, use approved neutralizing/decontaminating agents per SOP, and clean up according to spill procedures

Immediate containment and proper decontamination are essential when an HD spill occurs, even if it's small. The safest, most effective response is to act right away by covering or spreading the spill with absorbent material to prevent it from spreading, while donning the appropriate PPE. This keeps exposure off skin, eyes, and clothing and reduces environmental contamination. Then use only approved neutralizing or decontaminating agents as specified by the facility's SOP, and clean up following the exact spill procedures. This sequence—containment, correct PPE, appropriate decontamination, and cleanup per the SOP—ensures the surface is decontaminated and the risk to people and the area is minimized. Situations like delaying action until after a shift, ignoring the spill, or simply rinsing with water fall short because they don't contain the spread, do not remove hazardous residues, and can spread contamination to other surfaces or personnel. Following the established spill procedures with the correct materials and precautions is the reliable way to handle HD spills.

9. Which of the following C-PECs should not be used to compound sterile hazardous drugs?

A. Class 1 BSC

B. Class 2 BSC

C. CACI

D. LAFW

The important idea is containment: hazardous drugs must be kept from escaping into the work environment and from contaminating the product during sterile compounding. For this, the primary engineering control (PEC) used is a containment-type cabinet or isolator that provides both worker protection and product protection, typically a Class II biological safety cabinet or a containment aseptic isolator (CACI). These devices contain any aerosols or vapors and filter air before it exits. A containment device like a Class II BSC or a CACI is designed to capture and filter hazardous substances and keep them from the worker and the surrounding area, making them appropriate for sterile hazardous-drug compounding when properly installed and operated. In contrast, a horizontal laminar flow workbench (LAFW) is intended mainly to protect the product from environmental contamination by supplying filtered air across the work area, but it does not provide containment of hazardous drug vapors or protect the worker from exposure. It recirculates air and does not reliably exhaust hazardous materials to the outside, so it is not suitable for sterile hazardous-drug compounding. So, the LAFW should not be used for sterile hazardous drug compounding; the safer choices are the containment cabinet or isolator options that provide proper containment and filtration.

10. Before exiting the C-SEC, both sets of shoe covers must be removed to prevent transfer of contamination. True or False?

A. True

B. False

C. Not required

D. Only remove one set

Preventing cross-contamination hinges on removing contaminated PPE in a controlled sequence while inside the containment area. Shoe covers are part of that protection, acting as barriers to keep contaminants from being carried into non-controlled spaces. Removing both sets of shoe covers before exiting the C-SEC ensures any contamination on the footwear remains contained and does not get transferred to outer floors or other rooms. After doffing, follow the facility's hand hygiene and re-donning steps. If only one set were removed, or if removal were delayed until outside the C-SEC, there would be a greater risk of contaminating other areas.

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://hazardousdrugmgmt.examzify.com

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