

# Health and Safety Code Practice Test (Sample)

## Study Guide



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**SAMPLE**

## **Questions**

- 1. Which of the following is a common prescription opioid?**
  - A. Hydrocodone**
  - B. Lithium**
  - C. Clonazepam**
  - D. Atorvastatin**
- 2. What street name is used to refer to freebase cocaine?**
  - A. Blow**
  - B. Crack**
  - C. Coke**
  - D. Rock**
- 3. Which agency is known for analyzing controlled substances?**
  - A. FBI**
  - B. Texas Department of Transportation**
  - C. Texas Department of Public Safety**
  - D. Environmental Protection Agency**
- 4. What happens to the parole eligibility date if there is a delay caused by the time between an indictment and the arrest of the inmate?**
  - A. It is expedited by one year for each month**
  - B. It is delayed by three years for every twelve months**
  - C. It remains unchanged regardless of time**
  - D. It is increased by six months for each month**
- 5. When a defendant manufactures or delivers a controlled substance that leads to death, which aspect is crucial for determining the severity of the punishment?**
  - A. The amount of the substance**
  - B. The presence of minors**
  - C. Proof of intent to distribute**
  - D. Evidence of resulting death or serious injury**

- 6. From whom are frequent or chronic users of prescribed pain relievers more likely to obtain their prescriptions?**
- A. A family member**
  - B. A doctor**
  - C. A friend**
  - D. A stranger**
- 7. What is commonly required for the prescription of a dangerous drug?**
- A. Oral Agreement**
  - B. Written Prescription**
  - C. Any type of contract**
  - D. Parole Approval**
- 8. Which of the following items is NOT listed as a chemical precursor under HSC 481.124?**
- A. Anhydrous ammonia**
  - B. Phenylacetic acid**
  - C. Hydrofluoric acid**
  - D. Ephedrine**
- 9. Barbiturates are commonly used as what?**
- A. Stimulants**
  - B. Antidepressants**
  - C. Analgesics**
  - D. Sedatives**
- 10. What term describes drugs created using artificial chemicals rather than natural ingredients?**
- A. Simulated Drugs**
  - B. Synthetic Drug**
  - C. Designer Substance**
  - D. Man-made Chemicals**

## **Answers**

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

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## **Explanations**

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**1. Which of the following is a common prescription opioid?**

**A. Hydrocodone**

**B. Lithium**

**C. Clonazepam**

**D. Atorvastatin**

Hydrocodone is a common prescription opioid widely used for its pain-relieving properties. It belongs to the class of drugs known as narcotics, which are effective in managing moderate to severe pain by acting on the opioid receptors in the brain. This action not only alleviates pain but can also produce feelings of euphoria, which can contribute to its potential for misuse and addiction. In contrast, the other choices do not belong to the opioid category. Lithium is primarily used as a mood stabilizer in the treatment of bipolar disorder. Clonazepam is a benzodiazepine used to treat anxiety and seizure disorders, working as a central nervous system depressant. Atorvastatin is a statin medication used to lower cholesterol levels and reduce the risk of cardiovascular disease. Each of these medications serves distinctly different therapeutic purposes, which further reinforces why hydrocodone is the correct answer in identifying a common prescription opioid.

**2. What street name is used to refer to freebase cocaine?**

**A. Blow**

**B. Crack**

**C. Coke**

**D. Rock**

The term that refers to freebase cocaine is commonly associated with the name "crack." Crack cocaine is a specific form of cocaine that has been processed to create small, hard rocks. This method allows users to smoke the substance, leading to a rapid and intense high. The name "crack" comes from the crackling sound that occurs when the substance is heated. In contrast, while terms like "blow," "coke," and "rock" are also colloquially associated with cocaine in various forms, "crack" distinctly refers to the specific freebase cocaine product that is typically sold in a solid form, making it the most accurate choice in this context. The differentiation in terminology is important for understanding the various forms and methods of use associated with cocaine.

**3. Which agency is known for analyzing controlled substances?**

- A. FBI**
- B. Texas Department of Transportation**
- C. Texas Department of Public Safety**
- D. Environmental Protection Agency**

The Texas Department of Public Safety (DPS) is primarily responsible for the analysis of controlled substances within the state. This agency plays a significant role in law enforcement, which includes the regulation and control of drug trafficking and substance abuse. DPS oversees drug analysis to provide law enforcement agencies with scientific testing results that are crucial for prosecutions and public safety measures. In contrast, the FBI generally handles federal investigations that may include narcotics trafficking on a broader level rather than state-specific controlled substance analysis. The Texas Department of Transportation focuses on traffic safety and infrastructure rather than substance analysis, and the Environmental Protection Agency is dedicated to environmental protection and does not specialize in analyzing controlled substances related to law enforcement. Thus, the Texas Department of Public Safety stands out as the agency that specifically addresses the analytical needs surrounding controlled substances in Texas.

**4. What happens to the parole eligibility date if there is a delay caused by the time between an indictment and the arrest of the inmate?**

- A. It is expedited by one year for each month**
- B. It is delayed by three years for every twelve months**
- C. It remains unchanged regardless of time**
- D. It is increased by six months for each month**

The correct response reflects the legal provisions that address delays in the criminal justice process, specifically related to parole eligibility dates. When there is a delay caused by the time between an indictment and the arrest of the inmate, the law often stipulates a specific adjustment to ensure fairness in the system. In this case, the parole eligibility date is delayed by three years for every twelve months of delay. This adjustment serves to provide a legal mechanism for addressing the impacts that prolonged delays can have on an inmate's eventual opportunity for parole. Delays in processing due to issues like awaiting indictment can significantly affect the timeline of the legal proceedings, and as a result, corrections to the parole eligibility date are needed to account for these extended periods of inactivity. The other choices do not align with the established legal framework for managing such delays, ensuring that the process remains just for all parties involved.

**5. When a defendant manufactures or delivers a controlled substance that leads to death, which aspect is crucial for determining the severity of the punishment?**

**A. The amount of the substance**

**B. The presence of minors**

**C. Proof of intent to distribute**

**D. Evidence of resulting death or serious injury**

The severity of the punishment in cases where a defendant manufactures or delivers a controlled substance resulting in death hinges on the evidence of the resulting death or serious injury. This factor is crucial because it directly relates to the consequences of the defendant's actions. When a death or serious injury occurs, it highlights the grave risks associated with the distribution of controlled substances and underscores the impact of the illegal activity on individuals and society as a whole. This consideration elevates the seriousness of the offense, as it emphasizes the potential life-altering consequences of drug-related actions. Criminal justice systems often impose more substantial penalties when the unlawful behavior results in significant harm or loss of life, reflecting the notion that accountability for such outcomes is vital in deterring similar future conduct and promoting public safety. The other options, while relevant to the larger issue, do not directly address the outcome of death or severe injury, which is the central aspect for determining punishment severity in this context.

**6. From whom are frequent or chronic users of prescribed pain relievers more likely to obtain their prescriptions?**

**A. A family member**

**B. A doctor**

**C. A friend**

**D. A stranger**

Frequent or chronic users of prescribed pain relievers often obtain their prescriptions from a doctor due to the legitimate medical need for pain management. This is particularly true as healthcare providers are responsible for assessing patients' needs and prescribing medications based on their individual conditions. Family members or friends might be sources of medications in some situations, particularly in informal contexts, but it is less common for individuals to rely on them for prescription-level medications due to the legal and ethical implications involved. The choice of a stranger does not typically fit within the context of legal prescription practices, making it an unlikely source for frequent users. Understanding the role of healthcare providers emphasizes the importance of medical oversight in prescribing medications, which is designed to prevent misuse and ensure safe use of pain relievers. This context is crucial when discussing pain management and prescription practices in healthcare.

**7. What is commonly required for the prescription of a dangerous drug?**

- A. Oral Agreement**
- B. Written Prescription**
- C. Any type of contract**
- D. Parole Approval**

A written prescription is commonly required for the prescription of a dangerous drug because it serves as a formal and legal document that outlines the specific medication, dosage, and instructions for the patient. This requirement is in place to ensure patient safety and to maintain appropriate control over the distribution of drugs that may have a potential for abuse or harmful side effects. A written prescription allows pharmacists to verify the legitimacy of the medication being dispensed and helps keep accurate records for regulatory and safety purposes. Other options such as oral agreements, any type of contract, or parole approval do not meet the legal standards established for prescribing dangerous drugs. Oral agreements lack the formal documentation necessary for legal accountability, and contracts can vary widely and do not specifically address the legal requirements of drug prescriptions. Parole approval does not relate to the prescription process at all, as it pertains to legal supervision rather than medical prescriptions.

**8. Which of the following items is NOT listed as a chemical precursor under HSC 481.124?**

- A. Anhydrous ammonia**
- B. Phenylacetic acid**
- C. Hydrofluoric acid**
- D. Ephedrine**

Hydrofluoric acid is not identified as a chemical precursor under HSC 481.124. This statute specifically delineates certain chemicals that are precursors in the synthesis of controlled substances, focusing primarily on those substances that can be used in illegal drug manufacturing processes. Anhydrous ammonia, phenylacetic acid, and ephedrine are among those listed due to their immediate applicability in the production of various illicit drugs. Hydrofluoric acid, while it is a hazardous chemical with industrial applications, does not have a role as a precursor for controlled substances as defined by this particular section of the Health and Safety Code. Thus, it stands apart from the other listed substances in this context.

## 9. Barbiturates are commonly used as what?

- A. Stimulants
- B. Antidepressants
- C. Analgesics
- D. Sedatives**

Barbiturates are primarily classified as sedatives, which means they are substances that promote calmness, relaxation, and sleep. They affect the central nervous system by enhancing the effect of the neurotransmitter gamma-aminobutyric acid (GABA), leading to a decrease in neural activity. This sedative effect makes them useful in treating anxiety, insomnia, and as anesthetics in medical settings. The other options do not accurately describe the primary use of barbiturates. Stimulants are substances that increase activity in the nervous system, while antidepressants are aimed at alleviating symptoms of depression. Analgesics are medications designed to relieve pain. Understanding these classifications helps clarify the specific therapeutic roles that different types of drugs, including barbiturates, play in medical practice.

## 10. What term describes drugs created using artificial chemicals rather than natural ingredients?

- A. Simulated Drugs
- B. Synthetic Drug**
- C. Designer Substance
- D. Man-made Chemicals

The term that best describes drugs created using artificial chemicals rather than natural ingredients is "Synthetic Drug." Synthetic drugs are chemically manufactured substances that are designed to mimic the effects of natural substances. These drugs are often created to produce certain desired effects, and they can vary significantly in structure from their natural counterparts. Synthetic drugs can include a wide range of substances, including those that are used for medicinal purposes as well as those that are created for recreational use. The creation of synthetic drugs often allows for greater control over potency and effects compared to natural substances. This term encapsulates the idea of substances that are not derived from plants or other natural sources, highlighting their chemically engineered nature. Other options do not accurately convey the same meaning. For instance, "Simulated Drugs," while it suggests something artificial, is not a widely accepted term in pharmacology or drug classification. "Designer Substance" implies a more specific market of substances created to evade drug laws, often used interchangeably with synthetic drugs but usually reflecting specific legal contexts. "Man-made Chemicals" is a broader term that could apply to any chemicals produced through human processes, not specifically drugs, thus lacking precision when identifying substances in the context of pharmacology.