

HOSA MEDICAL TERMINOLOGY PRACTICE TEST (SAMPLE)

STUDY GUIDE



Prepare with structure. Pass with confidence



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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	15

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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. What is the abbreviation for tuberculosis?**
 - A. TB
 - B. TBC
 - C. TUB
 - D. TUR

- 2. What does the prefix "arthr-" relate to?**
 - A. Joint
 - B. Bone
 - C. New
 - D. Inflammation

- 3. What does the prefix "hist" denote in medical terminology?**
 - A. Tumor
 - B. Cancer
 - C. Tissue
 - D. Cells

- 4. What does edema refer to in medical terminology?**
 - A. Aging process of the skin
 - B. Puffy swelling of tissue due to fluid accumulation
 - C. The process of healing wounds
 - D. Excessive blood flow to the tissues

- 5. Which organ is primarily affected by respiratory diseases?**
 - A. Heart
 - B. Liver
 - C. Lung
 - D. Kidney

- 6. What does the term "trache-" refer to in medical terminology?**
 - A. Vein
 - B. Trachea
 - C. Joint
 - D. Within

7. What is indicated by the prefix "xanth"?

- A. Red
- B. Yellow
- C. Black
- D. Green

8. What is the definition of the suffix "-tomy"?

- A. Removal of
- B. Incision into
- C. Repair of
- D. Replacement of

9. What is hemodialysis primarily used for?

- A. To replace kidney function
- B. To increase urine flow
- C. To test urine samples
- D. To enhance blood circulation

10. What are renal calculi commonly referred to as?

- A. Kidney stones
- B. Bladder infections
- C. Kidney damage
- D. Urinary obstructions

Answers

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

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Explanations

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1. What is the abbreviation for tuberculosis?

- A. TB**
- B. TBC
- C. TUB
- D. TUR

The abbreviation for tuberculosis is commonly accepted as TB. This abbreviation is derived from the first letters of each of the syllables in the word "tuberculosis." The 'T' stands for "tubercle," which refers to the small nodules that form in the lungs as a result of the infection, and the 'B' stands for "bacillus," which is a type of bacterium responsible for causing tuberculosis. Using the abbreviation TB is prevalent in medical literature, clinical discussions, and healthcare documentation, making it widely recognized and understood. It provides a concise way to refer to this significant infectious disease, which is crucial for communication among healthcare professionals when discussing patient conditions and treatment plans. Other options do not accurately represent the accepted abbreviation for tuberculosis. TBC and TUB could lead to confusion, as they do not have established meanings in clinical practice, and TUR is unrelated to tuberculosis altogether. Thus, TB remains the standard and clear abbreviation used in the medical community.

2. What does the prefix "arthr-" relate to?

- A. Joint**
- B. Bone
- C. New
- D. Inflammation

The prefix "arthr-" specifically refers to joints in medical terminology. It is derived from the Greek word "arthron," which means joint. This prefix is commonly seen in various medical terms related to the joints such as "arthritis," which denotes inflammation of one or more joints, and "arthroscopy," a procedure used to visualize the inside of a joint. Understanding this prefix is crucial for comprehending a wide range of conditions and treatments that involve joints in the human body. The other options represent different anatomical or pathological terms; "bone" refers to the skeletal structure, "new" relates to the formation of new tissue or cells, and "inflammation" reflects a bodily response to injury or infection. Each has its own specific prefixes and terminology, which illustrates the diverse nature of medical vocabulary.

3. What does the prefix "hist" denote in medical terminology?

- A. Tumor
- B. Cancer
- C. Tissue**
- D. Cells

The prefix "hist" originates from the Greek word "histos," which means tissue. In medical terminology, it is commonly used to refer to tissue structure, composition, and related contexts. For example, "histology" is the study of tissues and their structures, lending importance to understanding how tissues function and their role in health and disease. When discussing conditions or scientific studies that involve tissues, this prefix is key to conveying that focus. Therefore, recognizing "hist" as related to tissue helps in grasping the terminology used in various medical fields.

4. What does edema refer to in medical terminology?

- A. Aging process of the skin
- B. Puffy swelling of tissue due to fluid accumulation**
- C. The process of healing wounds
- D. Excessive blood flow to the tissues

Edema refers specifically to the puffy swelling of tissue that occurs when excess fluid accumulates in the interstitial spaces of the body. This can happen for a variety of reasons, including inflammation, injury, or as a side effect of certain medical conditions such as heart, liver, or kidney disease. The accumulation of fluid can cause noticeable swelling in areas such as the legs, feet, or abdomen, and can be a key indicator of underlying health issues. The other options do not relate to the definition of edema. The aging process of the skin involves changes such as thinning, loss of elasticity, and the appearance of wrinkles, separate from fluid accumulation. The healing of wounds encompasses cellular and tissue repair mechanisms, which also do not involve fluid retention in that context. Lastly, excessive blood flow to tissues may indicate hyperemia, which relates to increased blood supply rather than fluid accumulation per se.

5. Which organ is primarily affected by respiratory diseases?

- A. Heart
- B. Liver
- C. Lung**
- D. Kidney

The primary organ affected by respiratory diseases is the lung. Respiratory diseases encompass a variety of conditions that impact the airways and lung tissue, thereby affecting breathing and gas exchange. Diseases such as asthma, chronic obstructive pulmonary disease (COPD), pneumonia, and lung cancer specifically target the lungs, leading to inflammation, obstruction, or scarring of lung tissue. Understanding the role of the lungs in the respiratory system is essential since they are responsible for inhaling oxygen from the atmosphere and expelling carbon dioxide, a waste product of metabolism. Any disease that compromises lung function can significantly impact overall health and oxygen supply to the body. In contrast, while the heart, liver, and kidneys can all be indirectly affected by respiratory conditions (for example, the heart may work harder if the lungs are not providing adequate oxygen), they are not the primary organs involved in these diseases. The direct link between respiratory ailments and lung function makes the lungs the correct answer.

6. What does the term "trache-" refer to in medical terminology?

- A. Vein
- B. Trachea**
- C. Joint
- D. Within

The term "trache-" specifically refers to the trachea, which is commonly known as the windpipe. It is a vital structure in the respiratory system that connects the larynx (voice box) to the bronchi of the lungs, allowing air to pass in and out during breathing. The word root "trache-" originates from the Greek word "tracheia," meaning "rough," which accurately describes the trachea's cartilaginous structure that provides support while remaining flexible for movement. Understanding the significance of "trache-" is especially important for health professionals as it is frequently used in various medical terms related to the respiratory system, such as tracheostomy (creating an opening in the trachea) and tracheobronchial (pertaining to the trachea and bronchi). This clarity around the terminology helps in better communication within the medical field and assists in diagnoses and treatment planning.

7. What is indicated by the prefix "xanth"?

- A. Red
- B. Yellow**
- C. Black
- D. Green

The prefix "xanth" derives from the Greek word "xanthos," meaning yellow. In medical terminology, it is commonly used to describe yellowish hues or conditions associated with the color yellow. For instance, it appears in words like "xanthoderma," which refers to yellow discoloration of the skin, and "xanthoma," which describes fatty deposits that can appear as yellowish lesions on the skin. This understanding is crucial for interpreting medical terminology related to color, particularly in diagnostic contexts.

8. What is the definition of the suffix "-tomy"?

- A. Removal of
- B. Incision into**
- C. Repair of
- D. Replacement of

The suffix "-tomy" is defined as "incision into." This term originates from the Greek word "tomia," meaning cutting, which is commonly used in medical terminology to describe surgical procedures in which an incision is made to access a body part or organ for diagnostic or therapeutic purposes. For example, in the term "laparotomy," it refers specifically to an incision into the abdominal cavity. Understanding this suffix is crucial for recognizing and interpreting various medical procedures and their implications in healthcare settings.

9. What is hemodialysis primarily used for?

- A. To replace kidney function**
- B. To increase urine flow
- C. To test urine samples
- D. To enhance blood circulation

Hemodialysis is primarily used as a treatment for kidney failure when the kidneys are unable to adequately filter waste products and excess fluids from the blood. This process involves diverting blood from the body into a machine that eliminates toxins and then returns the cleaned blood to the body. The significance of hemodialysis lies in its ability to mimic the essential functions of healthy kidneys, making it a vital therapy for individuals with chronic kidney disease or acute kidney injury. The other options do not accurately reflect the purpose of hemodialysis. For example, increasing urine flow is more related to renal function rather than a treatment intervention. Testing urine samples pertains to diagnostic assessments rather than treatment. Lastly, enhancing blood circulation could be associated with various medical treatments but is not a primary function of hemodialysis. Understanding the primary role of hemodialysis helps clarify its importance in managing kidney-related health issues.

10. What are renal calculi commonly referred to as?

- A. Kidney stones
- B. Bladder infections
- C. Kidney damage
- D. Urinary obstructions

Renal calculi are commonly referred to as kidney stones. This term specifically describes the solid masses formed in the kidneys when certain substances in the urine crystallize. Kidney stones can vary in size and consist of different materials, such as calcium oxalate, struvite, or uric acid. Understanding this terminology is crucial, as it relates directly to the anatomy and physiology of the human urinary system and how various conditions can affect it. The term "kidney stones" is widely accepted in both medical settings and general conversations about health, making it important for students of medical terminology to know this association.

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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.

Or visit your dedicated course page for more study tools and resources:

<https://hosamedicalterminology.examzify.com>

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

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