

HOSA PHARMACY SCIENCE ASSESSMENT PRACTICE TEST (SAMPLE)

STUDY GUIDE



Prepare with structure. Pass with confidence



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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 drug is recognized as a cardiac glycoside?**
 - A. Dexamethasone
 - B. Digoxin
 - C. Triamterene
 - D. Pantoprazole Sodium

- 2. What is a potential interaction to consider with tuberculosis agents like rifampin?**
 - A. It can cause increased salivation
 - B. It can discolor urine and body fluids
 - C. It increases bowel motility
 - D. It enhances airway smooth muscle relaxation

- 3. Which vitamin is essential for healthy fetal development in pregnant women?**
 - A. Vitamin B7
 - B. Vitamin B9
 - C. Vitamin C
 - D. Vitamin D

- 4. What is the typical use of Large Volume Parenterals?**
 - A. Antibiotic administration
 - B. Electrolyte replacement and hydration
 - C. Local anesthesia
 - D. Chemotherapy

- 5. What does the term "bioequivalence" refer to regarding generic drugs?**
 - A. Similar effectiveness to the brand name product
 - B. Same testing and clinical trials as brand name drugs
 - C. Comparable side effects to the brand name product
 - D. Identical packaging as the brand name product

- 6. Drugs classified under Schedule III Narcotics have what level of abuse potential?**
- A. High potential for abuse
 - B. Medium potential for abuse
 - C. No potential for abuse
 - D. Very low potential for abuse
- 7. What does a topical medication target?**
- A. Systemic effects
 - B. Localized effects
 - C. Oral absorption
 - D. Intramuscular delivery
- 8. What mechanism of action do mast cell stabilizers primarily use?**
- A. Block gastric acid secretion
 - B. Inhibit inflammatory cells
 - C. Relax airway smooth muscle
 - D. Decrease bowel motility
- 9. What is the correct position for technicians to work inside a Horizontal Laminar Airflow Workbench?**
- A. 6 inches inside the hood
 - B. 12 inches from the front of the hood
 - C. 3 inches above the work surface
 - D. At the edge of the hood
- 10. What is the primary indication for Potassium Chloride?**
- A. Treatment of hypertension
 - B. Treatment of insomnia
 - C. Treatment of potassium deficiency
 - D. Treatment of depression

Answers

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

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Explanations

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1. Which drug is recognized as a cardiac glycoside?

- A. Dexamethasone
- B. Digoxin**
- C. Triamterene
- D. Pantoprazole Sodium

A cardiac glycoside refers to a class of medications that are derived from the leaves of the foxglove plant and are primarily used in the treatment of various heart conditions, specifically to enhance the contractility of the heart muscle. Digoxin falls under this classification and is utilized clinically to manage heart failure and atrial fibrillation by increasing the force of cardiac contractions and controlling heart rate. Dexamethasone and Triamterene do not share the cardiac glycoside properties or uses; Dexamethasone is a corticosteroid primarily used for its anti-inflammatory and immunosuppressive effects, while Triamterene is a potassium-sparing diuretic that is often used to treat hypertension and edema, not directly influencing heart contractility. Pantoprazole Sodium is a proton pump inhibitor used to treat gastrointestinal conditions such as GERD, and it does not have any applicability as a cardiac glycoside. Thus, Digoxin is the correct choice because of its specific role in improving heart function through mechanisms characteristic of cardiac glycosides.

2. What is a potential interaction to consider with tuberculosis agents like rifampin?

- A. It can cause increased salivation
- B. It can discolor urine and body fluids**
- C. It increases bowel motility
- D. It enhances airway smooth muscle relaxation

Tuberculosis agents, such as rifampin, can indeed cause discoloration of urine and body fluids. This interaction is due to the drug's ability to stain bodily fluids, leading to a reddish-brown color in urine, saliva, tears, and sweat. This is a noteworthy characteristic that helps healthcare providers and patients recognize that the color change is related to the medication rather than a sign of an adverse effect or medical concern. While rifampin is not notably associated with increased salivation, enhanced bowel motility, or airway smooth muscle relaxation, awareness of its impact on bodily fluid coloration is crucial for patient education and monitoring. By understanding this potential interaction, healthcare professionals can provide appropriate counseling and reassurance to patients who may be alarmed by these changes during their treatment.

3. Which vitamin is essential for healthy fetal development in pregnant women?

- A. Vitamin B7
- B. Vitamin B9**
- C. Vitamin C
- D. Vitamin D

Vitamin B9, also known as folate or folic acid in its synthetic form, is crucial for healthy fetal development during pregnancy. It plays a significant role in DNA synthesis, cell division, and overall growth. Adequate levels of folate are essential to prevent neural tube defects, which affect the brain and spinal cord of the developing fetus. It is recommended that women who are planning to become pregnant or who are pregnant consume sufficient amounts of folate to support optimal fetal health. Folate is found naturally in foods like leafy greens, legumes, and fortified cereals, and supplementation is often recommended to ensure that enough is present during the critical stages of fetal development. In contrast, while other vitamins such as B7 (biotin), C, and D have their own important functions in the body, they are not specifically linked to the prevention of neural tube defects or overall growth and development of the fetus in the same critical way that Vitamin B9 is.

4. What is the typical use of Large Volume Parenterals?

- A. Antibiotic administration
- B. Electrolyte replacement and hydration**
- C. Local anesthesia
- D. Chemotherapy

Large Volume Parenterals (LVPs) are typically utilized for electrolyte replacement and hydration due to their ability to deliver a significant volume of fluid directly into the bloodstream. This is especially critical in scenarios where a patient is unable to take oral fluids, such as in cases of severe dehydration or certain medical conditions that necessitate rapid restoration of fluid balance. LVPs can provide essential nutrients and maintain fluid balance very effectively and are often preferred in hospital settings for patients requiring intravenous therapy. Their composition can include various electrolytes, such as sodium, potassium, and chloride, which are vital for maintaining physiological function. Other options, while important in their own rights, do not reflect the primary purpose of LVPs. Antibiotic administration, local anesthesia, and chemotherapy typically involve smaller volume parenterals tailored to specific dosing requirements or routes of administration rather than the large volumes associated with hydration and electrolyte replenishment.

5. What does the term "bioequivalence" refer to regarding generic drugs?

- A. Similar effectiveness to the brand name product**
- B. Same testing and clinical trials as brand name drugs
- C. Comparable side effects to the brand name product
- D. Identical packaging as the brand name product

The term "bioequivalence" pertains to the comparison of generic drugs to their brand-name counterparts in terms of their bioavailability, which is the degree and rate at which the active ingredient or active moiety is absorbed and becomes available at the site of action. When a generic drug is considered bioequivalent to a brand name drug, it means that both the generic and the brand name drug will deliver the same amount of active ingredient into the bloodstream at the same rate and in the same duration. This ensures that the generic drug has similar effectiveness to the brand name product when administered in the same dosage form and route. Bioequivalence does not necessarily imply that the two drugs undergo the same rigorous testing or clinical trials, which is why the choice stating that they have the same testing and clinical trials is not correct. Additionally, bioequivalence does not require that the side effects be the same, nor does it involve the requirement for identical packaging. Therefore, the concept primarily focuses on the effectiveness and therapeutic equivalence of the generic in comparison to the brand name drug, validating its efficacy and safety for use in patients.

6. Drugs classified under Schedule III Narcotics have what level of abuse potential?

- A. High potential for abuse
- B. Medium potential for abuse**
- C. No potential for abuse
- D. Very low potential for abuse

Drugs classified under Schedule III Narcotics are recognized for having a medium potential for abuse. This classification indicates that while these substances can lead to physical dependence and psychological dependence, their potential for abuse is lower than that of Schedule I and Schedule II drugs, which have a high potential for abuse. Schedule III analgesics, such as certain combinations of hydrocodone and acetaminophen, can provide therapeutic benefits but are also subject to restrictions and monitoring. This categorization is critical for regulating these substances, ensuring they are used responsibly while acknowledging their potential risks. Understanding the scheduling of drugs helps in managing prescriptions and preventing misuse, which is why it's important to differentiate these levels of potential abuse in pharmacology.

7. What does a topical medication target?

- A. Systemic effects
- B. Localized effects**
- C. Oral absorption
- D. Intramuscular delivery

Topical medications specifically target localized effects, which means they are designed to act on a particular area of the body, such as the skin or mucous membranes, where they are applied. The purpose of these medications is to deliver therapeutic agents directly to the site of action, minimizing systemic absorption and potential side effects that can arise from medications that enter the bloodstream. For instance, a cream used to treat a skin condition will be applied directly on the affected area, delivering the medication where it is needed most. This localized delivery is particularly advantageous in treating conditions like skin infections, inflammation, or pain because it provides relief at the site without the wider effects that systemic medications might have throughout the entire body. In contrast, systemic effects imply that a medication would impact the entire body, which is typical for oral or injectable forms of medication. Oral absorption pertains to how drugs are absorbed into the bloodstream through the digestive system, while intramuscular delivery indicates the route of administration directly into muscle tissue. These methods are not the focus of topical medications, which remain localized to provide targeted treatment.

8. What mechanism of action do mast cell stabilizers primarily use?

- A. Block gastric acid secretion
- B. Inhibit inflammatory cells**
- C. Relax airway smooth muscle
- D. Decrease bowel motility

Mast cell stabilizers primarily act by inhibiting inflammatory cells, which is crucial in preventing the release of mediators that contribute to inflammation and allergic reactions. By stabilizing mast cells, these medications prevent the release of substances like histamine and leukotrienes, which are involved in allergic responses and asthma. This action helps to reduce the symptoms associated with these conditions, making mast cell stabilizers effective for managing allergic reactions and helping with long-term control of asthma. The other choices represent mechanisms of action for different classes of medications. Blocking gastric acid secretion is typical for proton pump inhibitors or H₂ antagonists. Relaxing airway smooth muscle is a mechanism tied to bronchodilators like beta-agonists. Decreasing bowel motility relates to medications that induce constipation or slow down gastrointestinal activity. Thus, the correct mechanism associated with mast cell stabilizers aligns with their role in inhibiting the action and effectiveness of inflammatory cells.

9. What is the correct position for technicians to work inside a Horizontal Laminar Airflow Workbench?

- A. 6 inches inside the hood**
- B. 12 inches from the front of the hood
- C. 3 inches above the work surface
- D. At the edge of the hood

The correct position for technicians working inside a Horizontal Laminar Airflow Workbench is 6 inches inside the hood. This positioning is crucial for maintaining the integrity of the sterile environment that the laminar airflow system is designed to provide. When technicians stay within this distance, they ensure that they are fully within the airflow zone, where clean air flows, minimizing the risk of contamination from outside particles and ensuring that any potentially harmful microorganisms are swept away from the work area and products being handled. This distance allows the laminar airflow to effectively create a sterile working environment, which is especially important when preparing medications or compounding sterile products. Maintaining the 6-inch distance also helps ensure that the technician does not disrupt the airflow pattern, providing optimal protection for both the technician and the products being prepared. This practice aligns with aseptic techniques and the necessary protocols for compounding in a pharmacy setting.

10. What is the primary indication for Potassium Chloride?

- A. Treatment of hypertension
- B. Treatment of insomnia
- C. Treatment of potassium deficiency**
- D. Treatment of depression

Potassium Chloride is primarily indicated for the treatment of potassium deficiency, a condition also known as hypokalemia. This deficiency can occur due to various reasons, including the use of certain diuretics, prolonged vomiting or diarrhea, and inadequate dietary intake. Potassium is an essential electrolyte vital for several bodily functions, including nerve conduction, muscle contraction, and maintaining proper fluid balance. Supplementation with Potassium Chloride helps restore normal potassium levels in patients, preventing potential complications that can arise from low potassium, such as arrhythmias, muscle weakness, and cramping. While the other choices may represent potential health issues, they do not reflect the primary therapeutic use of Potassium Chloride. It is not utilized for managing hypertension, insomnia, or depression, which involves different treatment modalities. Hence, Potassium Chloride's specific role in correcting potassium deficits makes it a crucial treatment in maintaining electrolyte balance in patients.

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://hosapharmacyscience.examzify.com>

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

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