

Ivy Tech Medical Terminology Practice Test (Sample)

Study Guide



Everything you need from our exam experts!

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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. Which root means blood?**
 - A. Blood**
 - B. Liver**
 - C. Iris**
 - D. Thirst**

- 2. Ellipto denotes which shape?**
 - A. Round**
 - B. Oval shaped**
 - C. Square**
 - D. Crescent**

- 3. Which root denotes the fallopian tube?**
 - A. Oophor/o**
 - B. Ureter/o**
 - C. Cyst/o**
 - D. Salping/o**

- 4. Which term divides the body into left and right?**
 - A. Supine**
 - B. Nystagmus**
 - C. Sagittal plane**
 - D. Petechia**

- 5. Which term means crushing of gallstones?**
 - A. Cholecystogram**
 - B. Thoracentesis**
 - C. Cholelithotripsy**
 - D. Pneumothorax**

- 6. The combining form xanth/o means?**
 - A. White**
 - B. Orange**
 - C. Yellow**
 - D. Purple**

7. Which root means liver?

- A. Blood**
- B. Liver**
- C. Dura**
- D. Fascia**

8. The combining form meaning stone is which term?

- A. -rrhage**
- B. Bronchi**
- C. Bronchus**
- D. Litho**

9. The conjunctiva lines which structures?

- A. Eyelids only**
- B. Eyeball only**
- C. Eyelids and eyeball**
- D. Cornea and sclera**

10. BS stands for which term?

- A. Blood sugar**
- B. Bronchial secretions**
- C. Biopsy specimen**
- D. Bone scan**

Answers

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

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Explanations

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1. Which root means blood?

- A. Blood**
- B. Liver
- C. Iris
- D. Thirst

Roots carry the basic meaning of a term. For blood, the common morphemes are hem-, hemat-, or hemo- (from the Greek haima), which show the concept of blood in medical terms. In this simple item, the option that names blood directly expresses the idea, so it best conveys the meaning being tested. The other options point to different concepts—liver to hepat-; iris to irid- or ir-; thirst to dips—so they don't match the target meaning as closely. In practice, you'd see hemat- or hem- in words like hematology or hemoglobin, illustrating how the root connects to blood.

2. Ellipto denotes which shape?

- A. Round
- B. Oval shaped**
- C. Square
- D. Crescent

Ellipto denotes an oval or ellipse-shaped form. In medical terminology, shape descriptors come from roots that identify the figure, and an ellipse is essentially a stretched circle, making oval-shaped the correct idea. This root shows up in terms like elliptocyte, where cells are oval rather than perfectly round. The other shapes—round, square, and crescent—use different descriptors, so ellipto points specifically to an oval/elliptical form.

3. Which root denotes the fallopian tube?

- A. Oophor/o
- B. Ureter/o
- C. Cyst/o
- D. Salping/o**

Think in terms of body-part roots. The fallopian tube comes from the word salpinx, so the combining form for the Fallopian tube is salping/o. This root is used in terms like salpingitis (inflammation of the fallopian tube) or salpingectomy (removal of the fallopian tube). The other roots point to different structures: oophor/o for the ovary, ureter/o for the ureter, and cyst/o for a bladder or cyst. So salping/o is the correct root for the Fallopian tube.

4. Which term divides the body into left and right?

- A. Supine
- B. Nystagmus
- C. Sagittal plane**
- D. Petechia

In anatomy, planes describe how the body is divided. A sagittal plane is a vertical plane that runs from front to back and divides the body into left and right portions. If it passes exactly along the midline, it's the midsagittal (median) plane, creating equal left and right halves. The other terms don't describe a left-right division: supine means lying on the back, nystagmus is involuntary rhythmic eye movement, and petechia are tiny red or purple spots caused by small hemorrhages in the skin. So the term that divides the body into left and right is the sagittal plane.

5. Which term means crushing of gallstones?

- A. Cholecystogram
- B. Thoracentesis
- C. Cholelithotripsy**
- D. Pneumothorax

Crushing of stones is indicated by the suffix that means crushing, combined with the roots for gall stones. cholelithotripsy uses chole- (bile, gall), lith- (stone), and -tripsy (crushing), so it specifically means crushing gallstones. A related term such as cholecystogram would be an imaging test of the gallbladder with contrast, not a crushing procedure. Thoracentesis is a procedure to remove fluid from the pleural space around the lungs, and pneumothorax is air in the pleural space—neither relates to gallstones or their crushing.

6. The combining form xanth/o means?

- A. White
- B. Orange
- C. Yellow**
- D. Purple

Xanth/o signals yellow in medical terminology. It comes from the Greek xanthos meaning yellow and is used in terms describing yellow coloration or pigment, such as xanthoderma (yellow skin), xanthophyll (yellow pigment in plants and the retina), and xanthoma (yellowish patches due to lipid deposits). Because the question is about what color this combining form denotes, yellow is the correct meaning. White would use leuko- or alb/o, and purple has its own roots, so they don't fit this combining form.

7. Which root means liver?

- A. Blood
- B. Liver**
- C. Dura
- D. Fascia

Root words carry the idea of the body part or tissue the term is about. For liver, the standard medical root is hepat- (often seen as hepat/o- or hepato-). In this list, the option that literally names the organ—liver—best signals the liver as the root meaning. That's why it's the right choice: it directly points to the liver itself. The other options refer to blood, the dura mater, and fascia, which aren't related to the liver. Knowing that the liver root is hepat- helps you recognize liver-related terms like hepatic or hepatology when you encounter them.

8. The combining form meaning stone is which term?

- A. -rrhage
- B. Bronchi
- C. Bronchus
- D. Litho**

The main idea here is recognizing the combining form that means stone. In medical terminology, "litho-" is the combining form derived from the Greek lithos for stone. It's the form you attach to other word parts to indicate stone-related meaning, as in lithography (stone writing), lithotomy (surgical removal of a stone), or lithotripsy (crushing of a stone). The other options don't fit because they relate to different concepts: -rrhage means bleeding or bursting forth; bronchi and bronchus refer to the airways of the lungs, not stone. So litho- is the form that denotes stone.

9. The conjunctiva lines which structures?

- A. Eyelids only
- B. Eyeball only
- C. Eyelids and eyeball**
- D. Cornea and sclera

The conjunctiva is a mucous membrane that lines both the inner surface of the eyelids (palpebral conjunctiva) and the anterior surface of the eyeball (bulbar conjunctiva). It covers the sclera (the white part) but does not cover the cornea, ending at the limbus where the cornea begins. This means it lines eyelids and eyeball, not just one or the other, and not the cornea. So the structures lined by the conjunctiva are the eyelids and the eyeball.

10. BS stands for which term?

- A. Blood sugar**
- B. Bronchial secretions**
- C. Biopsy specimen**
- D. Bone scan**

In medical shorthand, BS most commonly stands for blood sugar, the measured level of glucose in the blood. This abbreviation is routinely used in notes and lab results (for example, a patient's BS value is recorded to monitor diabetes management or acute glucose issues). The other terms are not the standard expansion for this abbreviation in typical charting: biopsy specimen is usually BX, bone scan has its own imaging shorthand, and bronchial secretions aren't standardly abbreviated as BS in routine notes. So, blood sugar is the best fit.

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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://ivytechmedterms.examzify.com>

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

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