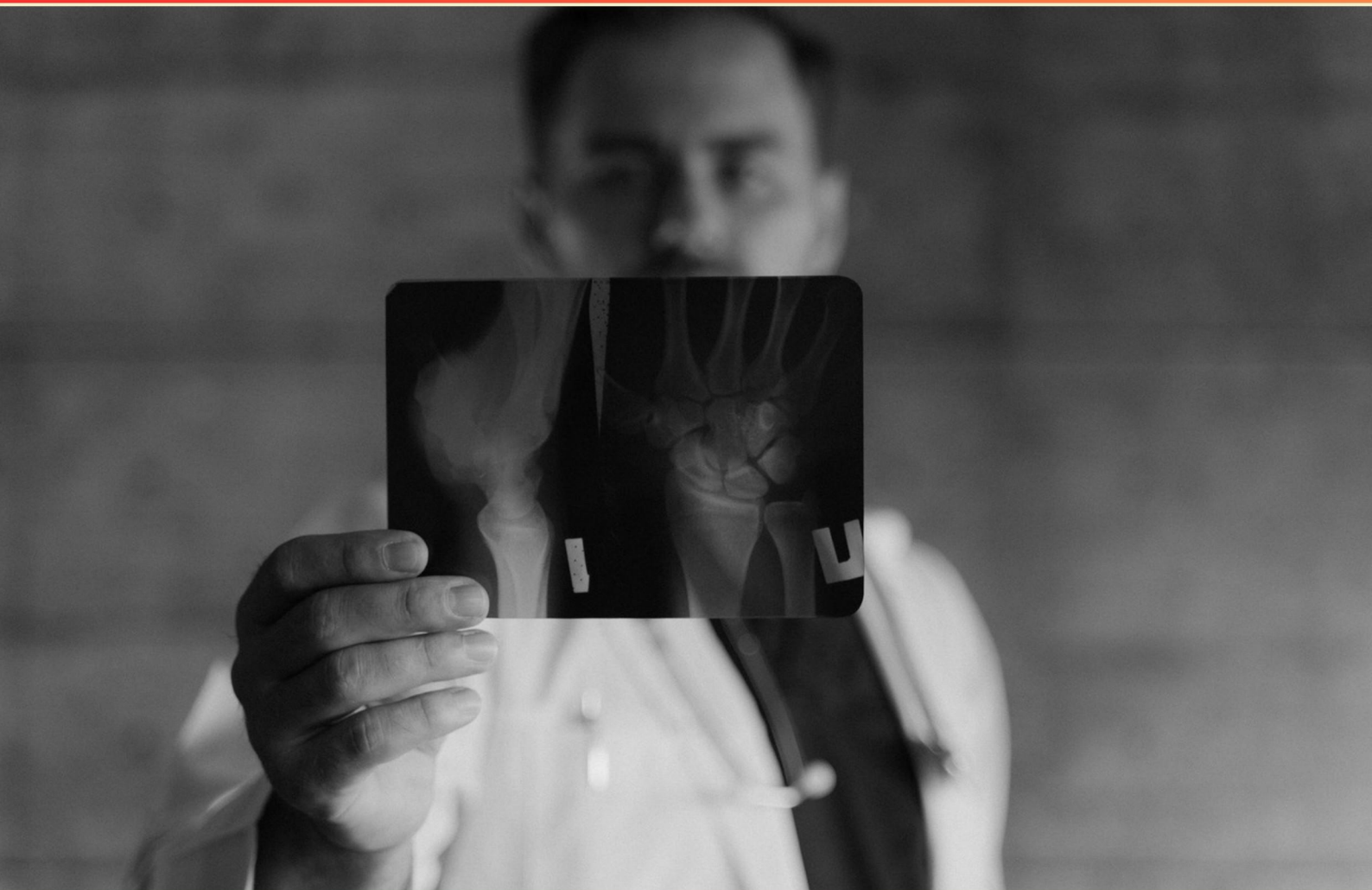


JOINT COMMISSION STROKE PRACTICE EXAM (SAMPLE)

STUDY GUIDE



SAMPLE STUDY GUIDE WITH LIMITED QUESTIONS

**VISIT US ONLINE FOR
THE FULL VERSION STUDY GUIDE**

<https://jointcommissionstroke.examzify.com>



Copyright © 2026 by Examzify - A Kaluba Technologies Inc. product.

ALL RIGHTS RESERVED.

No part of this book may be reproduced or transferred in any form or by any means, graphic, electronic, or mechanical, including photocopying, recording, web distribution, taping, or by any information storage retrieval system, without the written permission of the author.

Notice: Examzify makes every reasonable effort to obtain accurate, complete, and timely information about this product from reliable sources.

SAMPLE

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	16

SAMPLE

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

SAMPLE

- 1. What documentation should be used for patients receiving alteplase?**
 - A. Patient health summary
 - B. Medications administration history
 - C. alteplase flowsheet
 - D. Patient discharge note
- 2. What guideline supports the use of evidence-based practices in stroke care?**
 - A. Joint Commission on Accreditation
 - B. National Stroke Association Guidelines
 - C. American Heart Association/American Stroke Association Guidelines
 - D. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention Recommendations
- 3. Which training is essential for caring for complex stroke patients?**
 - A. Basic life support
 - B. NIHSS
 - C. Advanced cardiac life support
 - D. Pediatric advanced life support
- 4. When should a speech therapy consultation be requested for stroke patients?**
 - A. When the patient requests it
 - B. After a successful swallow screen
 - C. Only after all other options are exhausted
 - D. When they fail the dysphagia screening
- 5. What factor is most important in determining the treatment plan for stroke patients?**
 - A. The patient's age
 - B. The type of stroke
 - C. The patient's weight
 - D. The duration of symptoms

- 6. What feedback is provided to staff regarding stroke core measures?**
- A. Dashboards and staff meetings
 - B. Core measure results and incident reports
 - C. Dashboards, core measure results, briefs, and staff meetings
 - D. Monthly audits and staff evaluations
- 7. What initiative focuses on the standardized care measures for stroke patients?**
- A. Improving documentation
 - B. Stroke core measures
 - C. Depression screening
 - D. Dysphagia screening
- 8. Which tool is used by EMS to assess for large vessel occlusion (LVO)?**
- A. FAST score
 - B. RACE score
 - C. CT scan
 - D. NIHSS
- 9. What type of stroke is characterized by a blockage in a blood vessel?**
- A. Hemorrhagic stroke
 - B. Ischemic stroke
 - C. Transient ischemic attack
 - D. Cerebral venous sinus thrombosis
- 10. What is a key nursing consideration when administering thrombolytics?**
- A. Checking the patient's heart rate only
 - B. Using a single IV site
 - C. Accurate weight measurement
 - D. Limit neuro assessments

Answers

SAMPLE

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

SAMPLE

Explanations

SAMPLE

1. What documentation should be used for patients receiving alteplase?

- A. Patient health summary
- B. Medications administration history
- C. alteplase flowsheet**
- D. Patient discharge note

The use of an alteplase flowsheet is essential for documenting patients receiving alteplase, particularly in the context of acute ischemic stroke management. This specialized flowsheet provides a structured format that captures critical information necessary for both safe administration and monitoring of the medication. It includes important data points such as the time of administration, patient assessments before and during the infusion, vital signs, and any potential side effects or complications observed. The alteplase flowsheet is particularly important because alteplase has strict administration guidelines and time constraints, making it crucial to have a detailed record that acknowledges adherence to protocol. It allows healthcare providers to ensure that each aspect of care is followed appropriately and that any adverse reactions can be tracked and managed effectively. In contrast, while other documentation options like the patient health summary, medications administration history, or the patient discharge note contain valuable information, they do not offer the specific detail and immediacy required for the monitoring and administration of alteplase. These documents could support patient care in broader contexts but do not serve the specialized need that a flowsheet provides in acute stroke treatment scenarios.

2. What guideline supports the use of evidence-based practices in stroke care?

- A. Joint Commission on Accreditation
- B. National Stroke Association Guidelines
- C. American Heart Association/American Stroke Association Guidelines**
- D. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention Recommendations

The American Heart Association/American Stroke Association Guidelines play a crucial role in supporting the use of evidence-based practices in stroke care. These guidelines are developed based on extensive research and clinical evidence, aiming to provide healthcare professionals with the best strategies for evaluating and managing stroke patients effectively. By adhering to these guidelines, clinicians can apply the latest research findings to improve patient outcomes, ensuring that care is aligned with proven interventions that enhance recovery and minimize complications. The emphasis on evidence-based practices means that decisions about treatment protocols, rehabilitation, and secondary prevention strategies are grounded in the most current and rigorous scientific data available. In contrast, the other options, while they may hold significance in the broader context of healthcare or public health, do not specifically outline the evidence-based practices in stroke care as comprehensively as the AHA/ASA guidelines do. The Joint Commission on Accreditation focuses more on hospital accreditation and quality improvement processes, the National Stroke Association provides general guidelines but may not be as detailed; and the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention primarily focus on public health recommendations rather than clinical practice guidelines specifically tailored for stroke care.

3. Which training is essential for caring for complex stroke patients?

- A. Basic life support
- B. NIHSS**
- C. Advanced cardiac life support
- D. Pediatric advanced life support

The National Institutes of Health Stroke Scale (NIHSS) is a critical tool used in the assessment of stroke severity. Training in the NIHSS is essential for healthcare professionals caring for complex stroke patients because it provides a standardized method for evaluating the neurological status of a patient who has suffered a stroke. This tool helps in determining the best treatment options, monitoring patient progress, and facilitating communication among healthcare teams regarding the patient's condition. Understanding and effectively using the NIHSS enables clinicians to accurately assess and document the degree of stroke-related deficits, which is crucial for timely and appropriate interventions. This form of training directly correlates with improving patient outcomes, as the timely administration of stroke therapies can significantly impact recovery. Other training options, while valuable in various contexts, do not specifically focus on the complexities associated with stroke care. Basic life support provides foundational skills for emergency response but lacks the specificity needed for stroke management. Advanced cardiac life support is vital for cardiac emergencies and may occasionally intersect with stroke care but is not specialized for assessing or treating stroke patients specifically. Pediatric advanced life support focuses on the needs of pediatric patients, which is outside the scope of adult stroke care. Thus, the NIHSS training stands out as the most relevant and beneficial for those involved in the care of

4. When should a speech therapy consultation be requested for stroke patients?

- A. When the patient requests it
- B. After a successful swallow screen
- C. Only after all other options are exhausted
- D. When they fail the dysphagia screening**

Requesting a speech therapy consultation for stroke patients is critical when they fail the dysphagia screening. This is because the dysphagia screening is designed to identify patients who may have difficulty swallowing, which is a common complication following a stroke. When a patient fails this screening, it indicates a higher risk of aspiration and other swallowing-related issues, necessitating a timely and specialized evaluation by a speech therapist. Speech therapists play a crucial role in assessing swallowing function and providing interventions that can help prevent complications such as aspiration pneumonia and ensure safe feeding strategies. Prompt consultation helps facilitate appropriate management plans tailored to the individual's needs and ensures that any communication deficits or swallowing difficulties are addressed as early as possible, improving overall patient outcomes after a stroke.

5. What factor is most important in determining the treatment plan for stroke patients?

- A. The patient's age
- B. The type of stroke**
- C. The patient's weight
- D. The duration of symptoms

The type of stroke is crucial in determining the treatment plan for stroke patients because it directly influences the appropriate interventions and medications that should be administered. There are primarily two types of strokes: ischemic and hemorrhagic. In ischemic strokes, where a blockage restricts blood flow to the brain, treatments may include thrombolysis (the use of clot-busting drugs) and thrombectomy (mechanical removal of the clot). On the other hand, hemorrhagic strokes, which occur when a blood vessel ruptures and causes bleeding in or around the brain, require different approaches such as controlling bleeding, blood pressure management, and sometimes surgical intervention. By accurately identifying the type of stroke, healthcare providers can tailor treatments quickly and effectively to improve patient outcomes. This specificity is essential, as administering treatment appropriate for one type of stroke to a patient suffering from another can lead to complications or worsen the patient's condition. Understanding the nature of the stroke ensures that critical time-sensitive interventions are employed, essential for minimizing brain damage and maximizing recovery.

6. What feedback is provided to staff regarding stroke core measures?

- A. Dashboards and staff meetings
- B. Core measure results and incident reports
- C. Dashboards, core measure results, briefs, and staff meetings**
- D. Monthly audits and staff evaluations

The feedback provided to staff regarding stroke core measures encompasses a comprehensive approach that includes dashboards, core measure results, briefs, and staff meetings. Dashboards serve as visual representations of performance data, allowing staff to quickly assess their adherence to stroke care protocols and identify areas for improvement. Core measure results offer quantitative data that reflect the outcomes of stroke care practices, thus highlighting the effectiveness of implemented protocols. Briefs synthesize information in a concise manner, providing staff with essential updates and insights into stroke care initiatives and outcomes. Staff meetings facilitate open communication and discussion regarding these measures, enabling team members to share experiences and strategies for improvement. This multifaceted feedback mechanism ensures that all staff members are engaged and informed about their performance in delivering high-quality stroke care while also encouraging a culture of continuous improvement.

7. What initiative focuses on the standardized care measures for stroke patients?

- A. Improving documentation
- B. Stroke core measures**
- C. Depression screening
- D. Dysphagia screening

The focus on standardized care measures for stroke patients is encapsulated in stroke core measures. These core measures are specifically designed to ensure that all patients receive the appropriate and evidence-based treatments necessary to improve outcomes following a stroke. They include key components such as timely assessment, treatment initiation, and preventative measures which are crucial for the effective management of stroke care. Implementing these standardized measures allows healthcare providers to streamline care processes, enhance patient safety, and ultimately improve the quality of care delivered to stroke patients. This approach also facilitates benchmarking and comparison between institutions, supporting continuous quality improvement in stroke management practices. In contrast, while improving documentation is important for effective communication and care coordination, it does not specifically target standardized treatment protocols. Similarly, depression screening and dysphagia screening are essential components of stroke care, but they are individual assessments rather than a comprehensive framework of standardized care measures for stroke management.

8. Which tool is used by EMS to assess for large vessel occlusion (LVO)?

- A. FAST score
- B. RACE score**
- C. CT scan
- D. NIHSS

The RACE score is specifically designed to assess for large vessel occlusion (LVO) in the context of acute stroke evaluations conducted by emergency medical services (EMS). The RACE score evaluates several clinical parameters that are indicative of the presence of an LVO, such as the patient's level of consciousness, arm movement, leg movement, and facial droop. Using the RACE score allows EMS personnel to identify patients who may benefit from rapid transport to a primary stroke center or a comprehensive stroke center, where advanced imaging and potential interventions can be quickly initiated. The score facilitates efficient and accurate triage for patients experiencing strokes, enabling timely interventions that are critical for optimal treatment outcomes. In contrast, the FAST score, while useful for quickly identifying signs of stroke, does not specifically assess for LVO. A CT scan is a diagnostic imaging tool used after the initial assessment to visualize the brain's structure but is not utilized directly by EMS in real-time assessments. The NIHSS (National Institutes of Health Stroke Scale) is a comprehensive tool used to quantify the severity of a stroke but is not primarily aimed at evaluating LVO in pre-hospital settings. Thus, the RACE score stands out as the most appropriate tool for EMS to assess for large vessel occlusion.

9. What type of stroke is characterized by a blockage in a blood vessel?

- A. Hemorrhagic stroke
- B. Ischemic stroke**
- C. Transient ischemic attack
- D. Cerebral venous sinus thrombosis

An ischemic stroke is characterized by a blockage in a blood vessel that supplies blood to the brain. This blockage can occur due to a clot that develops within an artery (known as a thrombus) or when a clot travels from another part of the body and obstructs a cerebral artery (this is called an embolism). The lack of blood flow to the affected area of the brain deprives it of oxygen and nutrients, leading to brain cell death and resulting in the neurological deficits associated with stroke symptoms. In contrast, a hemorrhagic stroke occurs due to bleeding in or around the brain, which is fundamentally different from a blockage. A transient ischemic attack (TIA), while related, is characterized by temporary blockages that resolve quickly, thereby not causing permanent damage. Cerebral venous sinus thrombosis, while it involves a blockage, specifically affects the venous system of the brain and is less common as a type of stroke compared to ischemic stroke. Understanding the mechanisms of stroke types is essential for appropriate treatment and management.

10. What is a key nursing consideration when administering thrombolytics?

- A. Checking the patient's heart rate only
- B. Using a single IV site
- C. Accurate weight measurement**
- D. Limit neuro assessments

Accurate weight measurement is a critical nursing consideration when administering thrombolytics because the dosage of these medications is often calculated based on the patient's weight. This is essential to ensure that the patient receives the correct amount of medication to effectively dissolve the clot while minimizing the risk of complications such as bleeding. An inaccurate weight could lead to either underdosing, which may result in ineffective treatment, or overdosing, which significantly increases the risk of serious side effects. In the context of administering thrombolytics, it is paramount for nurses to adhere strictly to dosage guidelines that relate to the patient's weight. This ensures that the therapeutic effects are maximized while maintaining patient safety. Additionally, accurate weight measurement is necessary for monitoring potential changes in a patient's condition that may influence treatment decisions.

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://jointcommissionstroke.examzify.com>

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

SAMPLE