

# Master Canadian Nursing Abbreviations Practice (Sample)

## Study Guide



**Everything you need from our exam experts!**

**This is a sample study guide. To access the full version with hundreds of questions,**

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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. Don't worry about getting everything right, 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, and take breaks to retain information better.**

## 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.**

## 7. Use Other Tools

**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!**

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## **Questions**

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- 1. What is meant by the abbreviation "D/C" in medical contexts?**
  - A. Discontinue**
  - B. Doctor's clinic**
  - C. Direct care**
  - D. Diagnosis code**
  
- 2. The abbreviation 'CBC' refers to?**
  - A. Central Brain Control**
  - B. Complete Blood Count**
  - C. Chronic Bronchitis Condition**
  - D. Cardio-Breath Cycle**
  
- 3. What does the abbreviation "mg" represent in medication dosages?**
  - A. Milligram**
  - B. Microgram**
  - C. Milliliter**
  - D. Millimolar**
  
- 4. In nursing assessments, what does "ALOC" refer to?**
  - A. Altered level of consciousness**
  - B. Active locus of control**
  - C. Automated level of care**
  - D. Annual level of competency**
  
- 5. 'PERLA' stands for what?**
  - A. Pupils Equal and Reactive to Light and Accommodation**
  - B. Periodic Evaluation of Regional Lung Assessment**
  - C. Portable Electric Reactive Light Appliance**
  - D. Public Education and Recreational Leadership Association**
  
- 6. What does LFA stand for?**
  - A. Light forearm**
  - B. Left forearm**
  - C. Longitudinal facial asymmetry**
  - D. Low frequency analysis**

**7. What does 'CAD' stand for in medical abbreviation?**

- A. Cervical Axial Decompression**
- B. Coronary Artery Disease**
- C. Chronic Anxiety Disorder**
- D. Calcium Deficiency**

**8. In terms of vital signs, what does "HR" stand for?**

- A. Heart rate**
- B. Hormonal response**
- C. High risk**
- D. Health record**

**9. What does EEG stand for?**

- A. Elelctro encephalogram**
- B. Effective ego gain**
- C. Environmental engineering group**
- D. Elastic electronography**

**10. What does "VS" stand for in vitals monitoring?**

- A. Vital signs**
- B. Visual status**
- C. Vascular score**
- D. Volume state**

## **Answers**

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

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## **Explanations**

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## 1. What is meant by the abbreviation "D/C" in medical contexts?

- A. Discontinue**
- B. Doctor's clinic**
- C. Direct care**
- D. Diagnosis code**

The abbreviation "D/C" is commonly used in medical contexts to denote "Discontinue." This term is frequently seen in nursing and medical documentation when referring to the cessation of a medication, treatment, or procedure. For instance, if a doctor decides that a patient no longer requires a certain medication, the nursing staff would document that the medication is to be D/C'd. Using this abbreviation helps streamline communication among healthcare providers, ensuring clarity about the intended actions regarding patient care. The other choices represent possibilities but do not capture the standard usage of "D/C" in clinical settings. While "Doctor's clinic" might refer to a physical location, it is not an established abbreviation in medical records. "Direct care" pertains to the hands-on treatment provided to patients but does not relate to the abbreviation in question. Lastly, "Diagnosis code" is a term associated with coding for medical diagnoses but is not abbreviated as "D/C." Thus, when interpreting "D/C" in nursing and medical documentation, "Discontinue" is the accepted and widely understood terminology.

## 2. The abbreviation 'CBC' refers to?

- A. Central Brain Control**
- B. Complete Blood Count**
- C. Chronic Bronchitis Condition**
- D. Cardio-Breath Cycle**

Out of the four choices, only B accurately represents the meaning of the abbreviation CBC. A, C, and D are incorrect because they do not align with the commonly used abbreviation in the medical field. A is incorrect because there is no such term as "Central Brain Control". C is incorrect as CBC does not stand for "Chronic Bronchitis Condition", rather this condition is usually abbreviated as "CBC". Similarly, D is incorrect since CBC does not refer to "Cardio-Breath Cycle" and there is no such commonly used abbreviation in the medical field. It is important to understand and correctly interpret medical abbreviations in order to communicate effectively in a medical setting.

### 3. What does the abbreviation "mg" represent in medication dosages?

- A. Milligram**
- B. Microgram**
- C. Milliliter**
- D. Millimolar**

The abbreviation "mg" represents milligram, which is a unit of mass commonly used to measure medication dosages. Understanding this abbreviation is crucial for safe medication administration, as it helps ensure that patients receive the correct amount of medication. A milligram is equal to one-thousandth of a gram, making it a precise measure for substances that may have potent effects even in small amounts. In clinical practice, dosages often need to be accurately calculated in milligrams to avoid overdosing or underdosing patients, emphasizing the importance of correctly interpreting this abbreviation for effective patient care.

### 4. In nursing assessments, what does "ALOC" refer to?

- A. Altered level of consciousness**
- B. Active locus of control**
- C. Automated level of care**
- D. Annual level of competency**

The term "ALOC" stands for "Altered Level of Consciousness." This abbreviation is commonly used in nursing assessments to describe a patient's state of consciousness that deviates from the normal alert state. It can indicate various conditions ranging from mild confusion to deep unresponsiveness and is essential in evaluating a patient's neurological status. Recognizing ALOC is crucial for nurses as it helps to identify worsening conditions that may require immediate medical attention. The assessment might involve evaluating the patient's responsiveness, orientation to person, place, and time, and ability to follow commands, which can provide insights into underlying health issues, including neurological disorders, intoxication, or metabolic imbalances. Understanding ALOC helps healthcare professionals in monitoring changes in a patient's condition and making informed decisions regarding further testing or interventions. This clinical terminology aids in effective communication among healthcare providers, ensuring that all team members are aware of the patient's cognitive and neurological status.

### 5. 'PERLA' stands for what?

- A. Pupils Equal and Reactive to Light and Accommodation**
- B. Periodic Evaluation of Regional Lung Assessment**
- C. Portable Electric Reactive Light Appliance**
- D. Public Education and Recreational Leadership Association**

PERLA stands for Pupils Equal and Reactive to Light and Accommodation, and is a term commonly used in the medical field to describe the normal response of a person's pupils to light and the ability of the pupils to constrict or dilate to accommodate for near and far vision. Option B is incorrect because it is referring to a lung assessment, not the eye. Option C is incorrect because it does not make sense in the context of medical terminology. Option D is incorrect because it does not have any relevance to the medical field.

## 6. What does LFA stand for?

- A. Light forearm
- B. Left forearm**
- C. Longitudinal facial asymmetry
- D. Low frequency analysis

LFA stands for "left forearm." This term is used in medical settings to refer to the left side of the forearm. Option A, "light forearm," is not a commonly used term in medical settings. Option C, "longitudinal facial asymmetry," is unrelated to the forearm and refers to differences or disproportions in the shape or size of the face. Option D, "low frequency analysis," is also unrelated to the forearm and refers to a method of analyzing data or signals with lower frequencies. Therefore, option B is the only option that correctly represents the acronym LFA.

## 7. What does 'CAD' stand for in medical abbreviation?

- A. Cervical Axial Decompression
- B. Coronary Artery Disease**
- C. Chronic Anxiety Disorder
- D. Calcium Deficiency

CAD stands for Coronary Artery Disease in medical abbreviations. This term refers to the blockage or narrowing of the blood vessels that supply the heart with oxygen and nutrients. Option A, C, and D are incorrect because they do not relate to the medical field or specifically to heart health. Cervical Axial Decompression is a treatment for neck pain, Chronic Anxiety Disorder is a mental health condition, and Calcium Deficiency is a nutritional issue. Therefore, these options can be eliminated as potential answers for the meaning of CAD in medical abbreviation.

## 8. In terms of vital signs, what does "HR" stand for?

- A. Heart rate**
- B. Hormonal response
- C. High risk
- D. Health record

The abbreviation "HR" in the context of vital signs specifically stands for "heart rate." Heart rate is a critical measure that indicates the number of times the heartbeats in a minute, which is essential for assessing an individual's cardiovascular health and overall physiological status. When monitoring vital signs, healthcare professionals commonly evaluate heart rate alongside other measurements such as blood pressure, respiratory rate, and temperature to gain a comprehensive understanding of a patient's health. A normal resting heart rate typically ranges from 60 to 100 beats per minute, and deviations from this range can indicate underlying medical conditions or necessitate further investigation. The other choices—hormonal response, high risk, and health record—do not pertain to the measurement of vital signs and therefore are not applicable in this context. Each of these terms relates to different aspects of health and medical assessment but does not accurately describe the specific vital sign measure indicated by "HR."

## 9. What does EEG stand for?

- A. Elelctro encephalogram**
- B. Effective ego gain**
- C. Environmental engineering group**
- D. Elastic electronography**

Electro encephalogram, commonly abbreviated as EEG, is a medical test that uses electrodes to record the electrical activity in the brain. This option is correct because it accurately represents the full form of EEG. The other options, while having some similar sounding words, are not related to the medical test and do not accurately describe the acronym. B Effective ego gain is not a commonly known term and has no relation to EEG. C: Environmental engineering group is also not related to the medical test and is not a commonly used term. D: Elastic electronography is not a commonly used term in the medical field and does not accurately represent the acronym EEG.

## 10. What does "VS" stand for in vitals monitoring?

- A. Vital signs**
- B. Visual status**
- C. Vascular score**
- D. Volume state**

The abbreviation "VS" in the context of vitals monitoring stands for "Vital Signs." Vital signs are key indicators of a patient's physiological status and encompass measurements like heart rate, blood pressure, respiratory rate, and temperature. These metrics provide essential information that helps healthcare providers assess a patient's overall health, detect changes in their condition, and guide clinical decision-making. Accurate monitoring of vital signs is crucial in both routine assessments and in critical situations, making this term foundational in nursing and medical practice. Understanding this abbreviation is vital for anyone involved in patient care, particularly in nursing and other healthcare fields.

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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](mailto:hello@examzify.com).**

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

**<https://canadiannursingabbreviations.examzify.com>**

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

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