

# McClure HSHS Current Issues in Healthcare Practice Test (Sample)

## Study Guide



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

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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 primary purpose of segregation at the point of waste generation?**
  - A. To classify waste by color**
  - B. To facilitate safe disposal by separating hazardous waste**
  - C. To speed disposal**
  - D. To reduce costs**
  
- 2. What term refers to a secure, digital version of a patient's comprehensive medical history, including diagnoses, medications, treatment plans, immunizations, allergies, and test results?**
  - A. Health Information Exchange**
  - B. Interoperability**
  - C. Telemedicine**
  - D. Electronic Health Records**
  
- 3. Which term describes the overarching discipline focused on preventing disease and promoting health at the population level?**
  - A. Public health**
  - B. Medicine**
  - C. Private healthcare**
  - D. Stakeholder**
  
- 4. Which faith emphasizes rest on the Sabbath, a vegetarian diet, abstinence from alcohol, tobacco, and narcotics, and trust in divine power?**
  - A. Hinduism/Hindus**
  - B. Seventh-day Adventists**
  - C. Judaism/Jews**
  - D. Islam/Muslims**

- 5. Which plan is a hybrid managed care option that requires selecting a primary care provider and obtaining referrals for specialists, often with lower premiums but higher costs for out-of-network care?**
- A. HMO**
  - B. Point of service plan (POS)**
  - C. Exclusive provider organization (EPO)**
  - D. Preferred provider organization (PPO)**
- 6. What is GDP?**
- A. The total monetary value of all goods and services produced by a country's citizens, regardless of location**
  - B. The total market value of all final goods and services produced within a country's borders in a specific time period, usually a year**
  - C. The average annual income per capita**
  - D. The total value of all exports minus imports**
- 7. In which system are healthcare services financed by multiple public and private payers, rather than a single payer?**
- A. Single-payer healthcare system**
  - B. Universal healthcare**
  - C. Multi-payer healthcare system**
  - D. Public health**
- 8. What term refers to any substance, state, or event that threatens the environment or human health?**
- A. Environmental Hazard**
  - B. Public Hazard**
  - C. Occupational Hazard**
  - D. Health Risk**

- 9. Which plan is described as a hybrid option that requires selecting a primary care physician and obtaining referrals, and is abbreviated POS?**
- A. Health maintenance organization (HMO)**
  - B. Preferred provider organization (PPO)**
  - C. Exclusive provider organization (EPO)**
  - D. Point of service plan (POS)**
- 10. Which term describes an urban environment with an abundance of several non-nutritious food options such as corner stores or fast-food restaurants; few grocery stores but easy local access to non-nutritious food?**
- A. Urban**
  - B. Food Desert**
  - C. Malnutrition**
  - D. Food Swamp**

## Answers

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

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## **Explanations**

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**1. What is the primary purpose of segregation at the point of waste generation?**

**A. To classify waste by color**

**B. To facilitate safe disposal by separating hazardous waste**

**C. To speed disposal**

**D. To reduce costs**

The main idea is to facilitate safe disposal by separating hazardous waste from nonhazardous waste at the point of generation. When hazardous materials—such as infectious waste, sharps, or chemical hazards—are kept apart from general trash, each stream can be handled, contained, labeled, and treated using the appropriate method. This minimizes the risk of exposure to staff, patients, and the environment, prevents dangerous interactions if wastes are mixed, and helps ensure compliance with safety and environmental regulations. Color coding or specific containers are useful tools to support this goal, but they're means to achieve safe disposal, not the purpose itself. Speeding disposal or reducing costs may be secondary benefits, but they are not the primary reason for segregation.

**2. What term refers to a secure, digital version of a patient's comprehensive medical history, including diagnoses, medications, treatment plans, immunizations, allergies, and test results?**

**A. Health Information Exchange**

**B. Interoperability**

**C. Telemedicine**

**D. Electronic Health Records**

The main idea here is a secure, digital record that holds a patient's entire medical history in one place. That description points to Electronic Health Records. EHRs compile diagnoses, medications, treatment plans, immunizations, allergies, and test results, and are designed to be accessed by authorized clinicians across care settings to support ongoing, coordinated care and informed decision-making. Health Information Exchange focuses on moving data between organizations, interoperability is the ability of different systems to use shared data, and telemedicine refers to delivering care remotely. So the digital, comprehensive medical record term best fits Electronic Health Records.

**3. Which term describes the overarching discipline focused on preventing disease and promoting health at the population level?**

**A. Public health**

**B. Medicine**

**C. Private healthcare**

**D. Stakeholder**

Public health is the field that aims to protect and improve health at the population level through prevention and promotion, not just treatment of individuals. It uses tools like epidemiology and surveillance to track who gets sick and why, environmental health to ensure safe water and air, and social and behavioral sciences to encourage healthier choices. It also involves policy, programs, and interventions that address broad determinants of health—things like housing, education, income, and access to care—so entire communities stay healthier and health disparities shrink. This population-focused, prevention-oriented scope is why it's the best description. Medicine concentrates on diagnosing and treating individual patients, private healthcare refers to how care is delivered rather than a field of study, and stakeholder is a person or group with an interest, not a discipline.

**4. Which faith emphasizes rest on the Sabbath, a vegetarian diet, abstinence from alcohol, tobacco, and narcotics, and trust in divine power?**

**A. Hinduism/Hindus**

**B. Seventh-day Adventists**

**C. Judaism/Jews**

**D. Islam/Muslims**

This question tests recognizing a faith tradition that combines a weekly day of rest with worship, a health-minded lifestyle, and reliance on divine power. Seventh-day Adventists are known for observing the Sabbath on Saturday, dedicating that day to rest and worship. They also promote a health reform that often includes a vegetarian diet and abstinence from alcohol, tobacco, and narcotics as part of honoring God with the body. At the same time, they emphasize trusting in God's power and guidance in daily life. While other traditions may touch on one or two of these aspects, this particular combination—Saturday Sabbath rest, healthful living with dietary and substance-use restrictions, and dependence on divine strength—fits Adventist practice most closely.

5. Which plan is a hybrid managed care option that requires selecting a primary care provider and obtaining referrals for specialists, often with lower premiums but higher costs for out-of-network care?

A. HMO

**B. Point of service plan (POS)**

C. Exclusive provider organization (EPO)

D. Preferred provider organization (PPO)

This question centers on how a Point of Service plan works as a hybrid managed care option. In a Point of Service plan you choose a primary care provider who coordinates most of your care. To see specialists, you typically need a referral from that PCP. The plan often offers lower premiums than a PPO, but you'll pay higher out-of-pocket costs if you use providers outside the plan's network. This combination—PCP-directed care with referrals, plus some in-network/out-of-network flexibility at a cost trade-off—embodies the hybrid nature of a POS. Other options don't fit this description as well. An HMO usually requires a PCP and referrals with little to no out-of-network coverage. An EPO generally requires staying in-network and doesn't typically involve referrals. A PPO offers more out-of-network freedom and doesn't require a PCP referral, but it isn't a hybrid like a POS.

6. What is GDP?

A. The total monetary value of all goods and services produced by a country's citizens, regardless of location

**B. The total market value of all final goods and services produced within a country's borders in a specific time period, usually a year**

C. The average annual income per capita

D. The total value of all exports minus imports

GDP is the total market value of all final goods and services produced within a country's borders during a specific time period. This focus on location means what's produced domestically counts, even if the producers are foreign-owned, while production by residents outside the country does not. Counting only final goods avoids double counting from intermediate steps in a production process. GDP is measured in monetary terms and can be discussed in nominal terms (using current prices) or real terms (adjusted for inflation to compare across years). A common way to think about it is the sum of consumption, investment, government spending, and net exports (exports minus imports). This definition distinguishes GDP from metrics like gross national product, which counts the output of a country's residents no matter where it's produced. In short, GDP = a country's domestic production valued at market prices over a given period.

**7. In which system are healthcare services financed by multiple public and private payers, rather than a single payer?**

- A. Single-payer healthcare system**
- B. Universal healthcare**
- C. Multi-payer healthcare system**
- D. Public health**

Financing healthcare through multiple payers means there isn't just one entity paying for all services. Costs come from a mix of government programs, private health insurance, employer-sponsored plans, and people paying out of pocket. This setup is described as a multi-payer healthcare system. It contrasts with a single-payer model, where one payer—usually the government—covers most or all healthcare costs for everyone. Universal healthcare refers to ensuring access for all residents, but it doesn't by itself specify how many payers are involved. Public health focuses on population health and prevention rather than how healthcare is financed.

**8. What term refers to any substance, state, or event that threatens the environment or human health?**

- A. Environmental Hazard**
- B. Public Hazard**
- C. Occupational Hazard**
- D. Health Risk**

In environmental health, a hazard is anything in the environment that has the potential to cause harm to people or ecosystems. The term refers to substances, conditions, or events that could threaten health or the environment, even before any exposure occurs. For example, toxic chemicals, air or water pollutants, radioactive materials, pests, or extreme weather events are all hazards because they have the capacity to cause harm. The key distinction is that hazard describes the potential for harm, while risk refers to the likelihood that harm will actually occur given exposure, dose, and duration. So a chemical might be a hazard, but the risk depends on how much someone is exposed to it and for how long. Other terms mentioned are not the same concept: an occupational hazard focuses on hazards specific to the workplace, and health risk emphasizes the probability of health harm from exposure rather than the environmental threat itself. A phrase like public hazard isn't a standard term in this context.

**9. Which plan is described as a hybrid option that requires selecting a primary care physician and obtaining referrals, and is abbreviated POS?**

- A. Health maintenance organization (HMO)**
- B. Preferred provider organization (PPO)**
- C. Exclusive provider organization (EPO)**
- D. Point of service plan (POS)**

Point of service plans blend features of two common types. They operate like a traditional HMO in that you typically choose a primary care physician who coordinates your care and, for many specialist visits, you'll need a referral. That keeps care coordinated and costs predictable. But they also include PPO-like flexibility: you can opt to receive care from out-of-network providers, usually with higher out-of-pocket costs and different coverage levels. So this plan is described as hybrid because you get the PCP gatekeeper and referral process, while still having the option to go out of network. Other options don't fit this exact mix. An HMO emphasizes a PCP and referrals with little to no out-of-network coverage. A PPO lets you see specialists without referrals and offers broad out-of-network coverage without the gatekeeper model. An EPO provides care only from in-network providers and typically doesn't offer out-of-network benefits, also without requiring referrals. The defining hybrid feature of requesting both a PCP referral structure and some out-of-network option points to a Point of Service plan.

**10. Which term describes an urban environment with an abundance of several non-nutritious food options such as corner stores or fast-food restaurants; few grocery stores but easy local access to non-nutritious food?**

- A. Urban**
- B. Food Desert**
- C. Malnutrition**
- D. Food Swamp**

Think of the food environment as a landscape of choices. When the neighborhood is full of corner stores and fast-food outlets and grocery stores are scarce, with easy access to unhealthy foods, that environment is called a food swamp. It captures the idea that many outlets sell non-nutritious options and nutritious options are harder to come by. A food desert describes limited access to nutritious foods due to few grocery stores or transportation barriers, not the prevalence of unhealthy outlets. Malnutrition is about the health outcomes from poor nutrition, not the structure of the food environment. The term urban is just about being in a city, not about food availability. So the scenario fits best with a food swamp.

## 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://mcclurehshscurrentissuesinhc.examzify.com>**

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

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