MCCLURE HSHS CURRENT ISSUES IN HEALTHCARE PRACTICE TEST (SAMPLE)

STUDY GUIDE

SAMPLE STUDY GUIDE WITH LIMITED QUESTIONS

VISIT US ONLINE FOR THE FULL VERSION STUDY GUIDE

https://mcclurehshscurrentissuesinhc.examzify.com

Table of Contents

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

1. Which U.S. federal agency is responsible for protecting human health and the environment, focusing on air, water, and land regulations?

A. Agency for Environmental Safety

B. National Institute of Environmental Health

C. Environmental Commission

D. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA)

2. Which term refers to medicines and biologics themselves, including vaccines, antibiotics, and hormonal therapies?

A. Cytotoxic waste

B. Pathological waste

C. Pharmaceuticals

D. Radioactive medical waste

3. Which law promotes the adoption and meaningful use of health information technology, particularly electronic health records, and strengthens privacy and security rules for electronic health data?

A. Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act (HIPAA)

B. Health Information Technology for Economic and Clinical Health Act (HITECH)

C. Medical Privacy and Security Act

D. Digital Health Records Act

4. Which term describes the science and system of protecting and improving the health of entire communities through education, policy, research, and preventive care?

A. Medicine

B. Public health

C. Private healthcare

D. Stakeholder

5. Non-malfeasance is best described as which principle?

A. Do no harm; avoid causing unnecessary pain or injury

B. Maximize benefits

C. Respect patient autonomy

D. Ensure equal access to care

6. What health issues are commonly seen in low GDP nations?

A. Infectious Disease and Maternal/Infant Health

B. Non-Communicable Diseases

C. Chronic Illnesses

D. Lifestyle Diseases

7. Which of the following is a chemical environmental hazard?

A. Formaldehyde

B. Parasitic Worms

C. Malaria

D. Hurricanes

8. 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

9. Which term refers to a movement advocating using advanced technologies to enhance human abilities beyond normal limits, raising ethical dilemmas?

A. Transhumanism

B. Bioethics

C. Humanism

D. Enhancement medicine

10. Which items are commonly included in electronic Protected Health Information (ePHI)?

A. Electronic records, emails, X-ray images, and data from medical devices

B. Public health statistics

C. Pharmacist licenses

D. IRS filings

Answers

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

Explanations

1. Which U.S. federal agency is responsible for protecting human health and the environment, focusing on air, water, and land regulations?

A. Agency for Environmental Safety

B. National Institute of Environmental Health

C. Environmental Commission

D. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA)

The main idea is identifying which federal body handles nationwide protections for health and the environment through air, water, and land rules. The Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) is the agency responsible for this. Created in 1970 to consolidate environmental programs, the EPA sets and enforces standards under laws like the Clean Air Act and Clean Water Act, regulates pollution, issues permits, and oversees cleanup of hazardous wastes. It works with states and communities to implement protections that reduce health risks from pollution and protect ecosystems. The other options aren't real federal agencies with this mandate, so they don't fit the role described.

2. Which term refers to medicines and biologics themselves, including vaccines, antibiotics, and hormonal therapies?

A. Cytotoxic waste

B. Pathological waste

C. Pharmaceuticals

D. Radioactive medical waste

Medicines and biologics themselves are referred to as pharmaceuticals. This term covers the substances used to diagnose, treat, prevent, or manage diseases, including vaccines, antibiotics, and hormonal therapies. They are distinct from the other categories because those names describe types of waste generated in healthcare settings—cytotoxic waste involves hazardous drug residues, pathological waste includes tissues or body parts, and radioactive medical waste contains radioactive materials from certain procedures. Understanding that pharmaceuticals describe the drugs and biologics themselves helps keep the focus on the products used in patient care rather than the waste streams they may become.

3. Which law promotes the adoption and meaningful use of health information technology, particularly electronic health records, and strengthens privacy and security rules for electronic health data?

A. Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act (HIPAA)

B. Health Information Technology for Economic and Clinical Health Act (HITECH)

C. Medical Privacy and Security Act

D. Digital Health Records Act

This question tests how policy drives the adoption of health information technology and the protection of electronic health data. The law that does both—promoting widespread use of electronic health records through incentives and establishing meaningful use criteria, while also strengthening privacy and security provisions for electronic health information—is the Health Information Technology for Economic and Clinical Health Act. It was created to accelerate the adoption of EHRs and to formalize meaningful use, guiding how providers demonstrate the effective use of digital records. At the same time, it expanded and reinforced HIPAA's privacy and security rules—tightening breach notifications and enforcement—so that electronic data have stronger protections as their use expands. HIPAA, by itself, set baseline privacy and security standards but didn't include the incentives or the specific meaningful use framework. The other options aren't recognized federal laws that target EHR adoption or the expanded privacy/security framework in this integrated way.

4. Which term describes the science and system of protecting and improving the health of entire communities through education, policy, research, and preventive care?

A. Medicine

B. Public health

C. Private healthcare

D. Stakeholder

Public health is the field that focuses on protecting and improving the health of entire communities through prevention, policy, education, and research. It works at the population level rather than just treating individual patients, aiming to prevent illness before it starts and to promote healthier environments for everyone. Think of efforts like vaccination campaigns, clean water and sanitation standards, policies that reduce tobacco use, and programs that promote healthy lifestyles. These activities rely on educating the public, enacting smart policies, studying health trends, and delivering preventive care to communities. Medicine, by contrast, centers on diagnosing and treating illnesses in individual patients, while private healthcare refers to care delivered within private settings or systems, and a stakeholder is any person or group with an interest in an outcome.

5. Non-malfeasance is best described as which principle?

A. Do no harm; avoid causing unnecessary pain or injury

B. Maximize benefits

C. Respect patient autonomy

D. Ensure equal access to care

Non-maleficence centers on the obligation to avoid causing harm to patients. It's the principle captured by "do no harm," guiding decisions to minimize unnecessary pain, injury, or suffering that could come from treatment. This is why the option describing avoiding harm and unnecessary harm is the best fit. The other concepts describe related duties in different ways: maximizing benefits reflects beneficence (doing good for the patient), respecting autonomy focuses on honoring the patient's choices, and ensuring equal access aligns with justice (fair distribution of care).

6. What health issues are commonly seen in low GDP nations?

A. Infectious Disease and Maternal/Infant Health

B. Non-Communicable Diseases

C. Chronic Illnesses

D. Lifestyle Diseases

In low GDP nations, the health problems you're most likely to encounter are infectious diseases and issues surrounding maternal and infant health. Limited access to clean water and sanitation, vaccines, adequate nutrition, and skilled birth attendance contribute to a higher burden of illnesses like malaria, tuberculosis, HIV/AIDS, diarrheal diseases, and other infections. At the same time, maternal and infant health suffers because prenatal care, safe delivery services, and neonatal care are often less available, leading to higher maternal and infant mortality and morbidity. Non-communicable and lifestyle-related diseases do appear in many places, especially as economies develop, but the pattern that's historically most characteristic of very low-income settings centers on infectious diseases and maternal–child health challenges.

7. Which of the following is a chemical environmental hazard?

A. Formaldehyde

B. Parasitic Worms

C. Malaria

D. Hurricanes

Formaldehyde fits as a chemical environmental hazard because it is a chemical substance released into the environment that can harm people through inhalation or skin contact. It's found in some building materials and consumer products, and exposure can irritate the eyes, nose, and throat, with long-term exposure linked to cancer risk, making it a classic chemical hazard in indoor and environmental contexts. The other options involve biological pathogens (parasitic worms and malaria) or natural weather-related physical harm (hurricanes), not chemical hazards.

8. 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.

9. Which term refers to a movement advocating using advanced technologies to enhance human abilities beyond normal limits, raising ethical dilemmas?

A. Transhumanism

B. Bioethics

C. Humanism

D. Enhancement medicine

The key idea here is a movement that promotes using advanced technologies to push human abilities beyond what's normally possible, with careful attention to the ethical questions that such changes raise. Transhumanism is the term that captures this stance. It envisions using tools like genetic editing, cybernetic implants, brain–computer interfaces, artificial intelligence, and other life-extension or cognitive-enhancement technologies to improve physical strength, mental performance, senses, and longevity. This brings up ethical dilemmas about who gets access to these technologies, how to ensure safety and informed consent, potential impacts on identity and what it means to be human, and broader social implications such as inequality and governance. Bioethics, while central to analyzing ethical issues in biology and medicine, isn't the movement advocating for enhancement itself. Humanism focuses on human values and dignity in a broad philosophical sense rather than a concrete program of technologically augmenting humans. Enhancement medicine might describe practices aimed at improving function, but it isn't the recognized movement name that specifically advocates pushing humanity beyond natural limits.

10. Which items are commonly included in electronic Protected Health Information (ePHI)?

A. Electronic records, emails, X-ray images, and data from medical devices

B. Public health statistics

C. Pharmacist licenses

D. IRS filings

ePHI covers health information that is stored or transmitted electronically. When health data is in digital form or stored in electronic systems, it's protected as ePHI because it can be linked to an individual. So electronic records like electronic health records, emails that include a patient's health details, digital X-ray images, and data from medical devices that contain patient identifiers all count as ePHI. These are common, everyday formats through which health information travels and is stored in modern healthcare. Public health statistics are typically released in de-identified, aggregated form, so they don't identify individuals and aren't considered PHI. Pharmacist licenses are professional credentials, not patient health information. IRS filings are tax records and unrelated to an individual's health data. The items that qualify as ePHI are the electronic formats that contain health information about identifiable individuals.

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://mcclurehshscurrentissuesinhc.examzify.com

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