

Medical Coding 205 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. Which part of the colon is located between the hepatic flexure and the splenic flexure?**
 - A. Ascending colon**
 - B. Descending colon**
 - C. Transverse colon**
 - D. Sigmoid colon**

- 2. What is the correct ICD-10 code for an umbilical hernia with obstruction, without gangrene?**
 - A. K40.0**
 - B. K42.0**
 - C. K41.0**
 - D. K42.9**

- 3. What type of patient is seen for ongoing care at a healthcare facility?**
 - A. Established patient**
 - B. New patient**
 - C. Acute patient**
 - D. Chronic patient**

- 4. According to guidelines, which code should not be assigned if insulin is temporarily administered to control blood sugar during an encounter?**
 - A. Z79.4**
 - B. E89.1**
 - C. E03.5**
 - D. E10.11**

- 5. In the treatment of fractures, which of the following devices is utilized in external fixation?**
 - A. Intramedullary nail**
 - B. Plate and screws**
 - C. Halo**
 - D. External rod**

- 6. Which of the following is an example of an organ system?**
- A. Cardiovascular**
 - B. Skeletal**
 - C. Neurologic**
 - D. All of the above**
- 7. A urinalysis can be performed using which of the following methods?**
- A. Automated only**
 - B. Visual inspection only**
 - C. Non-automated or automated**
 - D. Microscopic only**
- 8. In the context of medical coding, what does CPT stand for?**
- A. Clinical Procedure Testing**
 - B. Current Procedural Terminology**
 - C. Coding Practice Techniques**
 - D. Categorized Patient Tests**
- 9. In which section of the CPT code book are the E/M codes listed?**
- A. Radiology**
 - B. Evaluation and Management**
 - C. Pathology and Laboratory**
 - D. Surgery**
- 10. How many categories of glaucoma are there?**
- A. 2**
 - B. 3**
 - C. 5**
 - D. 4**

Answers

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

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Explanations

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1. Which part of the colon is located between the hepatic flexure and the splenic flexure?

- A. Ascending colon**
- B. Descending colon**
- C. Transverse colon**
- D. Sigmoid colon**

The section of the colon that lies between the hepatic flexure and the splenic flexure is correctly identified as the transverse colon. This part of the large intestine runs horizontally across the abdomen, connecting the ascending colon, which begins at the cecum on the right side of the body, to the descending colon on the left side. The hepatic flexure, also known as the right colic flexure, is where the ascending colon bends to become the transverse colon, while the splenic flexure, or left colic flexure, is where the transverse colon curves down to transition into the descending colon. Understanding this anatomical arrangement is essential for medical coding and clinical understanding, as it informs the locations of potential diseases, surgical procedures, or interventions that target specific areas of the colon.

2. What is the correct ICD-10 code for an umbilical hernia with obstruction, without gangrene?

- A. K40.0**
- B. K42.0**
- C. K41.0**
- D. K42.9**

The correct ICD-10 code for an umbilical hernia with obstruction, without gangrene, is K42.0. This code specifically describes an umbilical hernia that has become obstructed. Axial codes like K42.0 are designated for conditions related to the abdomen, particularly ventral hernias such as umbilical hernias. It's important to note that the term "obstruction" indicates a complication that necessitates a specific code that reflects this additional detail in the patient's condition. The absence of gangrene in this case allows for the use of K42.0 rather than codes that would indicate more severe conditions, such as gangrene, which would be a different classification altogether. Understanding the nuances of coding, such as differentiating between types of hernias and their complications, is crucial for accurate medical coding and documentation.

3. What type of patient is seen for ongoing care at a healthcare facility?

- A. Established patient**
- B. New patient**
- C. Acute patient**
- D. Chronic patient**

An established patient is someone who has received care from a healthcare provider or practice previously and is returning for ongoing management of their health issues. These patients have an established relationship with the provider, which allows for continuity of care. This can involve regular check-ups, the management of chronic conditions, or follow-up appointments after previous treatments. In contrast, a new patient has never been seen by the healthcare provider before and typically requires a more comprehensive evaluation. Acute patients are those experiencing sudden illness or injury needing immediate care, while chronic patients refer to individuals with long-term health conditions who may need regular care, but they are not necessarily established within a specific practice. Thus, the correct identification of an established patient highlights the importance of continuity and familiarity in healthcare delivery.

4. According to guidelines, which code should not be assigned if insulin is temporarily administered to control blood sugar during an encounter?

- A. Z79.4**
- B. E89.1**
- C. E03.5**
- D. E10.11**

The correct code is Z79.4, which stands for "Long-term (current) use of insulin." This code is used to document patients who are on a continuous regimen of insulin for management of diabetes. However, when insulin is administered temporarily, such as during an encounter for blood sugar control, it is not appropriate to assign this code since it implies a chronic condition requiring long-term treatment. In cases where insulin is used only for a short duration, the encounter specifics should reflect that temporary management rather than indicating a chronic or ongoing treatment plan. Hence, assigning Z79.4 would misrepresent the patient's treatment status. The other codes mentioned, while relevant in different contexts, do not apply here as they represent specific conditions related to diabetes or hormone deficiencies but do not pertain to the temporary administration scenario described. Thus, recognizing the temporary nature of insulin use is key to accurate coding, making the choice of Z79.4 not suitable for this instance.

5. In the treatment of fractures, which of the following devices is utilized in external fixation?

- A. Intramedullary nail**
- B. Plate and screws**
- C. Halo**
- D. External rod**

In the treatment of fractures, external fixation is a method that stabilizes fractures using devices that are placed outside of the body. The correct answer involves the use of a device that is specifically designed to provide stabilization without requiring invasive surgery through the affected area. The halo device is a type of external fixation that is primarily used for stabilizing cervical spine injuries through the application of pins that are inserted into the skull and attached to a rigid ring (the halo). The halo provides significant mobility reduction to the cervical spine and ensures proper alignment during the healing process. Its design allows for effective stabilization of complex fractures while minimizing disruption to the surrounding soft tissues. This is particularly important in cases where traditional internal fixation methods, such as plates, screws, or intramedullary nails, may not be appropriate or might pose a higher risk to the patient. Devices like the intramedullary nail, plate and screws, and external rods are typically used for internal fixation or in certain specific external fixation scenarios, but they do not fall under the external fixation category in the same way that a halo does. Each of these devices has their own indication and method of use, which makes the halo a distinctive choice for external fixation in cervical injuries.

6. Which of the following is an example of an organ system?

- A. Cardiovascular**
- B. Skeletal**
- C. Neurologic**
- D. All of the above**

The choice indicating that all provided options represent an organ system is accurate because each example refers to a distinct organ system within the human body, and all of them play crucial roles in maintaining bodily functions. The cardiovascular system encompasses the heart and blood vessels, facilitating the circulation of blood and delivering oxygen and nutrients to tissues while removing waste products. The skeletal system, consisting of bones, cartilage, and ligaments, supports the body structure, protects vital organs, and facilitates movement in conjunction with the muscular system. The neurologic system, which includes the brain, spinal cord, and nerves, is responsible for controlling and coordinating bodily functions, processing sensory information, and enabling responsive actions. Since each of these systems is integral to the overall functioning of the human body, acknowledging that all options represent valid organ systems demonstrates a comprehensive understanding of human anatomy. This reinforces the interconnectedness of the body's systems and highlights the importance of each in maintaining health and homeostasis.

7. A urinalysis can be performed using which of the following methods?

- A. Automated only**
- B. Visual inspection only**
- C. Non-automated or automated**
- D. Microscopic only**

A urinalysis can indeed be performed using both non-automated and automated methods, making the choice of non-automated or automated the correct answer. In practice, urinalysis refers to a set of tests performed on urine to evaluate various aspects of health, including the presence of substances that shouldn't be there or abnormalities in the urine's characteristics. Automated methods involve using specialized equipment to analyze urine samples, which increases efficiency and reduces the potential for human error. These machines can rapidly analyze multiple parameters, including pH, specific gravity, protein levels, and the presence of substances like glucose or ketones. On the other hand, non-automated methods include traditional techniques such as visual inspection, chemical dipstick tests, and microscopic examination of urine sediment. Visual inspection allows a technician to note color, clarity, and odor, while dipstick tests measure certain substances through chemical reactions. Microscopic examination can identify cells, crystals, and organisms present in the urine. Given that both methods are valid and commonly used in clinical settings, the correct response encompasses the full range of techniques available for conducting a urinalysis. This flexibility allows healthcare providers to choose the most appropriate testing method based on the clinical scenario and available resources.

8. In the context of medical coding, what does CPT stand for?

- A. Clinical Procedure Testing**
- B. Current Procedural Terminology**
- C. Coding Practice Techniques**
- D. Categorized Patient Tests**

CPT stands for Current Procedural Terminology, a standardized coding system developed by the American Medical Association (AMA) that is used to describe medical, surgical, and diagnostic services and procedures. It provides a uniform language that accurately communicates medical services between physicians, patients, and third-party payers. This allows for easier reporting and billing processes. Current Procedural Terminology plays a critical role in medical billing, as it helps ensure that procedures and services are documented and billed correctly. The codes assigned within the CPT system correspond to specific medical procedures and services, creating a reliable method for reporting and facilitating reimbursement. Understanding CPT is essential for medical coders, as it is widely used in health care settings and is integral to coding for insurance claims. Each code in the CPT system includes detailed descriptions, making it easier for healthcare providers to follow proper coding guidelines and ensuring accurate communication about the procedures performed.

9. In which section of the CPT code book are the E/M codes listed?

- A. Radiology**
- B. Evaluation and Management**
- C. Pathology and Laboratory**
- D. Surgery**

The E/M codes, or Evaluation and Management codes, are specifically listed in the Evaluation and Management section of the Current Procedural Terminology (CPT) code book. This section is dedicated to codes that describe a physician's time and effort spent on patient care during various types of visits, such as consultations, hospital admissions, and office visits. Each code in this section provides a way to categorize the different levels of service based on factors like the complexity of the visit, the nature of the presenting problem, and the time spent with the patient. This standardization helps in billing practices and ensures that healthcare providers are appropriately compensated for the services they deliver. Other sections of the CPT code book, such as Radiology, Pathology and Laboratory, or Surgery, contain codes relevant to their specific fields, which do not include the E/M codes. Therefore, referencing the Evaluation and Management section is essential for accurate coding and reimbursement related to patient evaluations and management services.

10. How many categories of glaucoma are there?

- A. 2**
- B. 3**
- C. 5**
- D. 4**

Glaucoma is commonly classified into several categories based on the mechanism of increased intraocular pressure (IOP) and other clinical features. The primary categories include: 1. ****Open-Angle Glaucoma****: This is the most prevalent form of glaucoma where the angle between the iris and the cornea is normal, but the drainage system of the eye is not functioning effectively. 2. ****Angle-Closure Glaucoma****: This occurs when the iris is too close to the drainage angle in the eye, blocking the outflow of fluid. It can happen suddenly (acute) or gradually (chronic). 3. ****Normal-Tension Glaucoma****: In this condition, optic nerve damage occurs despite normal IOP levels, indicating that other factors contribute to nerve damage. 4. ****Secondary Glaucoma****: This category includes any form of glaucoma resulting from other medical conditions, eye injuries, or medications that affect intraocular pressure. These classifications help in diagnosing and determining the appropriate treatment for the specific type of glaucoma. Understanding these categories is crucial for medical coding purposes, as they will dictate how conditions are classified and billed in healthcare settings.

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://medicalcoding205.examzify.com>

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

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