

# Medical Scribe Practice Test (Sample)

## Study Guide



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**SAMPLE**

## **Questions**

SAMPLE

- 1. What common condition might require an EKG to be ordered during a patient's visit?**
  - A. High blood pressure**
  - B. Arrhythmia or suspected heart disease**
  - C. Headaches**
  - D. Diabetes**
- 2. Which condition involves inflammation of the urethra?**
  - A. Cystitis**
  - B. Urethritis**
  - C. Nephritis**
  - D. Urethritis**
- 3. If 20/20 is considered normal vision, what would 20/15 vision indicate?**
  - A. Worse vision**
  - B. Normal vision**
  - C. Better vision**
  - D. Severe vision impairment**
- 4. What does a "maculopapular pattern" refer to in a medical diagnosis?**
  - A. A type of joint swelling**
  - B. A type of skin rash**
  - C. A kind of internal bleeding**
  - D. A neurological symptom**
- 5. What is a common treatment for anaphylaxis?**
  - A. Antihistamines**
  - B. 1:1000 SQ epinephrine**
  - C. Oral corticosteroids**
  - D. IV fluids**

- 6. Which abbreviation is NOT commonly used in ophthalmology?**
- A. RET**
  - B. VA**
  - C. PX**
  - D. LX and T**
- 7. What purpose does a CPT code serve in a medical context?**
- A. It classifies the patient's diagnosis**
  - B. It details medical procedures and services provided**
  - C. It provides a record of the patient's medication**
  - D. It indicates the severity of illness**
- 8. What does the acronym "EKG" stand for?**
- A. Electrocardiographic Kinetics**
  - B. Electrocardiogram**
  - C. Electromagnetic Graph**
  - D. Electrocardiographic Gauge**
- 9. How would you document a patient who has been pregnant 6 times, had 3 live births, and had 3 spontaneous miscarriages?**
- A. G4P3**
  - B. G7P3**
  - C. G6P3**
  - D. G3P6**
- 10. What is the term for a condition where pus accumulates within a capsule that must undergo incision and drainage?**
- A. Abscess**
  - B. Cyst**
  - C. Hemorrhage**
  - D. Fistula**

## **Answers**

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

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## **Explanations**

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**1. What common condition might require an EKG to be ordered during a patient's visit?**

**A. High blood pressure**

**B. Arrhythmia or suspected heart disease**

**C. Headaches**

**D. Diabetes**

An EKG, or electrocardiogram, is a diagnostic tool commonly used to assess the heart's electrical activity and rhythm. It is particularly useful in identifying arrhythmias, which are irregular heartbeats, as well as for diagnosing various forms of heart disease, such as coronary artery disease or heart muscle conditions. When a patient presents with symptoms suggestive of these issues—such as palpitations, chest pain, shortness of breath, or dizziness—an EKG can provide vital information for accurate diagnosis and management. In contrast, while high blood pressure can lead to cardiovascular issues, it does not inherently require an EKG unless there are accompanying symptoms indicative of arrhythmia or heart disease. Headaches and diabetes, although important health concerns, typically do not necessitate an EKG as part of the initial assessment unless there is a specific reason to suspect a cardiac issue. Therefore, the context of the patient's presentation is critical, and when arrhythmias or heart disease are suspected, an EKG is an essential tool for further evaluation.

**2. Which condition involves inflammation of the urethra?**

**A. Cystitis**

**B. Urethritis**

**C. Nephritis**

**D. Urethritis**

Urethritis is the condition that specifically involves inflammation of the urethra, which is the tube that carries urine from the bladder to the outside of the body. This inflammation can result from infection, injury, or irritation, and may cause symptoms such as pain during urination, frequent urination, and discharge from the urethra. Identifying urethritis is important as it can highlight underlying causes such as sexually transmitted infections or other inflammatory conditions. In contrast, cystitis refers to inflammation of the bladder, which can occur due to infections but involves different structures and symptoms. Nephritis involves the inflammation of the kidneys, which can lead to more serious issues such as kidney damage. Urethritis appears to be a misspelling of urethritis and is not a recognized medical term or condition. Understanding these definitions helps in distinguishing between various urinary tract conditions.

**3. If 20/20 is considered normal vision, what would 20/15 vision indicate?**

- A. Worse vision**
- B. Normal vision**
- C. Better vision**
- D. Severe vision impairment**

20/15 vision is considered better than normal vision. The term "20/20" represents the standard for what is typically regarded as normal visual acuity, meaning that a person can see clearly at 20 feet what should normally be seen at that distance. When someone has 20/15 vision, they can see at 20 feet what a person with normal vision would need to be at 15 feet to see clearly. This indicates that their eyesight is sharper or more precise than average, allowing them to discern finer details from a distance compared to someone with 20/20 vision. Thus, 20/15 vision is an indication of superior visual acuity rather than impaired or standard vision.

**4. What does a "maculopapular pattern" refer to in a medical diagnosis?**

- A. A type of joint swelling**
- B. A type of skin rash**
- C. A kind of internal bleeding**
- D. A neurological symptom**

A "maculopapular pattern" refers specifically to a type of skin rash characterized by the presence of both macules and papules. Macules are flat, discolored areas of the skin that can appear in various shapes and colors, while papules are small, raised bumps. When these two elements are combined, it results in a rash that can vary in appearance and may be indicative of various underlying medical conditions, such as infections or allergic reactions. Recognizing a maculopapular pattern is important in clinical practice because it can provide valuable diagnostic clues and guide further evaluation and management of the patient's condition. This terminology is crucial for accurate documentation and communication among healthcare providers.

**5. What is a common treatment for anaphylaxis?**

- A. Antihistamines
- B. 1:1000 SQ epinephrine**
- C. Oral corticosteroids
- D. IV fluids

The common treatment for anaphylaxis is the administration of epinephrine, specifically at a concentration of 1:1000 via subcutaneous injection. Anaphylaxis is a severe, life-threatening allergic reaction that can lead to difficulty breathing, swelling of the throat, and a rapid drop in blood pressure. Epinephrine counteracts these symptoms by causing vasoconstriction, bronchodilation, and increased heart rate, which can quickly stabilize the patient's condition. Epinephrine is the first-line treatment because it targets multiple systems affected during anaphylaxis, rapidly reversing the life-threatening effects of the reaction. It is crucial that epinephrine is given immediately when anaphylaxis is suspected, as it significantly reduces mortality associated with this condition. Other treatments like antihistamines, oral corticosteroids, and IV fluids may be used as adjuncts or supportive measures, but they are not the primary intervention for the acute management of anaphylaxis. Antihistamines can assist with symptoms but do not resolve airway issues or cardiovascular instability. Oral corticosteroids help reduce inflammation over time but do not act quickly enough to treat anaphylaxis. IV fluids may be administered if the patient is experiencing shock, but they do not address the underlying cause of anaphyl

**6. Which abbreviation is NOT commonly used in ophthalmology?**

- A. RET
- B. VA
- C. PX
- D. LX and T**

In the context of ophthalmology, the abbreviations commonly used include those that relate to visual acuity and eye assessments. "VA" stands for Visual Acuity, which is a standard measurement in eye examinations to assess the clarity of vision. "RET" refers to retinal findings, which are essential for diagnosing various eye conditions. "PX" is often short for "prescription," particularly in the context of eyeglasses or contact lenses. On the other hand, "LX and T" is not a recognized abbreviation in ophthalmology. It may be confused with terms used in other medical fields or practices, but it does not have a specific or widely accepted meaning within ophthalmology literature. Understanding the common abbreviations used in medical documentation is vital, as they help facilitate clear communication and documentation among healthcare professionals.

**7. What purpose does a CPT code serve in a medical context?**

- A. It classifies the patient's diagnosis**
- B. It details medical procedures and services provided**
- C. It provides a record of the patient's medication**
- D. It indicates the severity of illness**

The correct choice recognizes that a CPT (Current Procedural Terminology) code is specifically designed to detail medical procedures and services provided by healthcare professionals. These codes are utilized for billing and insurance purposes, as they serve to communicate the specific nature of the services rendered during a patient visit or treatment. By accurately coding the procedures performed, healthcare providers ensure proper reimbursement from insurance companies and maintain a clear record of what services were delivered to the patient. While the other options may touch upon aspects of medical documentation, they do not align with the specific role of CPT codes, which focus squarely on procedures and services rather than classifications of diagnoses, medication records, or indications of illness severity. This distinction is crucial, as it helps streamline healthcare processes related to payment and service documentation.

**8. What does the acronym “EKG” stand for?**

- A. Electrocardiographic Kinetics**
- B. Electrocardiogram**
- C. Electromagnetic Graph**
- D. Electrocardiographic Gauge**

The acronym “EKG” stands for Electrocardiogram. This term refers to a medical test that records the electrical activity of the heart over a period of time using electrodes placed on the skin. The resulting graphic representation shows the heart's rhythm, electrical impulses, and overall health, which are crucial for diagnosing various cardiac conditions. Understanding this term is essential for medical professionals, as it is a common procedure performed in various healthcare settings to monitor heart health and detect issues such as arrhythmias, heart attacks, and other cardiac conditions. The other options presented do not accurately reflect the term used to describe this vital test.

**9. How would you document a patient who has been pregnant 6 times, had 3 live births, and had 3 spontaneous miscarriages?**

- A. G4P3**
- B. G7P3**
- C. G6P3**
- D. G3P6**

The correct documentation for a patient with a history of 6 pregnancies, including 3 live births and 3 spontaneous miscarriages, is represented by G6P3. In a gravida/para (G/P) system, "G" stands for the number of times a woman has been pregnant, and "P" stands for the number of pregnancies that resulted in a live birth. In this case, the patient has been pregnant 6 times (3 live births + 3 miscarriages). Therefore, "G" is 6. Since the patient has had 3 live births, "P" is 3. Thus, the correct documentation would be G6P3, clearly indicating this patient's obstetric history. This format allows healthcare providers to quickly understand a patient's obstetric history and is crucial for assessing risks and managing care in future pregnancies. Other entries, such as G4P3 or G7P3, would misrepresent the total number of pregnancies the patient has had, leading to potential misinterpretations of her obstetric history.

**10. What is the term for a condition where pus accumulates within a capsule that must undergo incision and drainage?**

- A. Abscess**
- B. Cyst**
- C. Hemorrhage**
- D. Fistula**

The condition described as an accumulation of pus within a capsule that requires incision and drainage is referred to as an abscess. An abscess forms when an area of body tissue becomes infected, resulting in localized inflammation and the accumulation of pus, which is a thick fluid composed of dead white blood cells, bacteria, and tissue debris. The presence of this encapsulated pus requires a surgical procedure for drainage to alleviate pressure, remove the infection, and promote healing. In contrast, a cyst is a closed sac that may contain fluid, air, or semi-solid material, and while they may need to be drained, they do not necessarily contain pus or indicate infection in the same way an abscess does. Hemorrhage refers to bleeding, which does not involve pus accumulation. A fistula is an abnormal connection between two body parts, often due to disease or injury, and does not specifically relate to pus collection or require drainage in the context defined. Thus, the term abscess accurately captures the specific nature of the condition in question.