

# NAPLEX (North American Pharmacist Licensure Examination) Practice Exam (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 does IRIS stand for?**

- A. Immediate response immune syndrome**
- B. Immune reconstitution inflammatory syndrome**
- C. Immediate reactivation inflammatory syndrome**
- D. Immune response issue syndrome**

**2. What is the primary concern using Long-acting Beta-2 Agonists (LABA) in asthma therapy?**

- A. Increased risk of pneumonia**
- B. Oral candidiasis**
- C. Increased risk of death/hospitalizations if used as monotherapy**
- D. Increased risk of osteoporosis**

**3. Which of the following is not a symptom of hypoglycemia?**

- A. Hunger**
- B. Fever**
- C. Shakiness**
- D. Dizziness**

**4. Which leukotriene modifying agent is mentioned as being used for the treatment of allergic rhinitis?**

- A. Zafirlukast**
- B. Montelukast**
- C. Zileuton**
- D. All of the above**

**5. At which step of the asthma treatment algorithm should one start if symptoms are daily, waking at night is more than or equal to once a week, or the initial presentation is with an exacerbation?**

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

**6. What is the recommended trough level monitoring range for Tacrolimus?**

- A. 3-15 ng/mL
- B. 100-400 ng/mL
- C. 3-8 ng/mL
- D. 5-10 ng/mL

**7. What is a symptom that indicates a possible pinworm infection?**

- A. Fever
- B. Anal itching
- C. Cough
- D. Nausea

**8. For an acute gout attack, steroids can be administered in all of the following ways EXCEPT?**

- A. Orally
- B. Inhalation
- C. Intra-articular
- D. Intravenously

**9. What drug is associated with an increased risk of C. diff, fractures, and nosocomial pneumonia?**

- A. H2RAs
- B. PPIs
- C. NSAIDs
- D. SSRIs

**10. What is the primary intervention in hemorrhagic stroke (ICH)?**

- A. Elevate head of bed by 30 degrees
- B. Administer oral anticoagulants
- C. Immediate surgery
- D. Physical therapy

## **Answers**

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

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## **Explanations**

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## 1. What does IRIS stand for?

- A. Immediate response immune syndrome
- B. Immune reconstitution inflammatory syndrome**
- C. Immediate reactivation inflammatory syndrome
- D. Immune response issue syndrome

IRIS stands for Immune Reconstitution Inflammatory Syndrome. This syndrome occurs in some HIV-infected individuals after the initiation of antiretroviral therapy, leading to a paradoxical worsening of pre-existing infections or the development of new inflammatory conditions as the immune system begins to recover. It is important for healthcare providers to be aware of IRIS to effectively manage patients experiencing this condition. The other options provided are not correct. Option A (Immediate response immune syndrome) and Option C (Immediate reactivation inflammatory syndrome) do not accurately represent what IRIS stands for or what it entails. Option D (Immune response issue syndrome) is a vague representation and does not accurately describe the specific phenomenon known as Immune Reconstitution Inflammatory Syndrome.

## 2. What is the primary concern using Long-acting Beta-2 Agonists (LABA) in asthma therapy?

- A. Increased risk of pneumonia
- B. Oral candidiasis
- C. Increased risk of death/hospitalizations if used as monotherapy**
- D. Increased risk of osteoporosis

The primary concern with using Long-acting Beta-2 Agonists (LABA) in asthma therapy is the increased risk of death or hospitalizations if used as monotherapy. LABAs should never be used as monotherapy for asthma due to the potential for serious adverse events such as worsening of asthma symptoms and increased risk of severe exacerbations. It is essential to always use LABAs in combination with inhaled corticosteroids to provide effective asthma control and reduce the risk of adverse outcomes. Options A, B, and D are not the primary concerns associated with using LABAs in asthma therapy.

## 3. Which of the following is not a symptom of hypoglycemia?

- A. Hunger
- B. Fever**
- C. Shakiness
- D. Dizziness

Hypoglycemia, also known as low blood sugar, is a condition that occurs when the level of glucose in the blood drops lower than normal. This can be caused by factors such as skipping a meal, taking too much insulin, or overly strenuous exercise. Symptoms of hypoglycemia include hunger, shakiness, dizziness, fatigue, and confusion. Fever is not a symptom of hypoglycemia and is typically associated with other medical conditions. Therefore, option B is not a symptom of hypoglycemia, making it the correct answer.

**4. Which leukotriene modifying agent is mentioned as being used for the treatment of allergic rhinitis?**

- A. Zafirlukast**
- B. Montelukast**
- C. Zileuton**
- D. All of the above**

Montelukast is a leukotriene modifying agent that is commonly used to treat allergic rhinitis. Zafirlukast and zileuton are also leukotriene modifiers, but they are not specifically mentioned as being used for the treatment of allergic rhinitis. Therefore, choosing option D, which suggests all three options are correct, would be incorrect. Choosing option A or C would not provide the most accurate answer to the question.

**5. At which step of the asthma treatment algorithm should one start if symptoms are daily, waking at night is more than or equal to once a week, or the initial presentation is with an exacerbation?**

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

In asthma treatment, the steps of the treatment algorithm are based on the severity of symptoms and the level of asthma control. Step 4 of the asthma treatment algorithm is recommended when symptoms are daily, waking at night is more than or equal to once a week, or when the initial presentation is with an exacerbation. At this step, medium-dose inhaled corticosteroids with a long-acting beta-agonists (LABA) are usually recommended as the initial controller therapy for asthma. Therefore, starting treatment at Step 4 in this scenario aligns with the guidelines for managing asthma in patients with these specific symptoms and presentation.

**6. What is the recommended trough level monitoring range for Tacrolimus?**

- A. 3-15 ng/mL**
- B. 100-400 ng/mL**
- C. 3-8 ng/mL**
- D. 5-10 ng/mL**

Tacrolimus is an immunosuppressive medication commonly used after organ transplants. The recommended trough level monitoring range for Tacrolimus is 3-15 ng/mL. This range allows healthcare providers to ensure that the drug is within therapeutic levels to prevent organ rejection while minimizing the risk of toxicity. Options B, C, and D provide monitoring ranges that are either too high or too narrow, which can lead to suboptimal treatment outcomes or an increased risk of adverse effects.

**7. What is a symptom that indicates a possible pinworm infection?**

- A. Fever**
- B. Anal itching**
- C. Cough**
- D. Nausea**

A common symptom of a pinworm infection is anal itching, especially at night. This itching is due to the female pinworms laying their eggs around the anus, causing irritation. Symptoms such as fever, cough, and nausea are not typically associated with pinworm infections.

**8. For an acute gout attack, steroids can be administered in all of the following ways EXCEPT?**

- A. Orally**
- B. Inhalation**
- C. Intra-articular**
- D. Intravenously**

Steroids can be administered in different ways for the treatment of acute gout attacks. Orally, intra-articularly (injection directly into the joint), and intravenously are common routes of steroid administration for this purpose. However, inhalation is not a typical route for administering steroids in the context of acute gout attacks. Inhalation is commonly used for conditions like asthma or chronic obstructive pulmonary disease (COPD), but it is not a recommended route for managing acute gout attacks. Therefore, option B is the correct answer.

**9. What drug is associated with an increased risk of C. diff, fractures, and nosocomial pneumonia?**

- A. H2RAs**
- B. PPIs**
- C. NSAIDs**
- D. SSRIs**

Proton pump inhibitors (PPIs) are associated with an increased risk of *Clostridium difficile* infection (C. diff) due to their impact on the gastrointestinal flora. PPIs can alter the balance of bacteria in the gut, making individuals more susceptible to C. diff colonization and infection. Furthermore, PPI use has been linked to an increased risk of fractures, particularly hip, wrist, and spine fractures. Prolonged use of PPIs can lead to decreased calcium absorption, which may contribute to bone density loss and subsequent fractures. PPIs have also been associated with an increased risk of nosocomial pneumonia, especially in hospitalized patients. By reducing gastric acid secretion, PPIs can allow for the overgrowth of bacteria in the stomach, which can then be aspirated into the lungs, leading to pneumonia. Among the other options: - H2 receptor antagonists (H2RAs) are not typically associated with an increased risk of C. diff, fractures, or nosocomial pneumonia. - NSAIDs are known to increase the risk of gastrointestinal ulcers and bleeding, but they are not specifically linked to C. diff, fractures, or nosocomial pneumonia. - Selective serotonin reuptake inhibitors (SSRIs) are antidepressants and are not directly associated with the risks mentioned in the question.

**10. What is the primary intervention in hemorrhagic stroke (ICH)?**

- A. Elevate head of bed by 30 degrees**
- B. Administer oral anticoagulants**
- C. Immediate surgery**
- D. Physical therapy**

Hemorrhagic stroke (ICH) is characterized by bleeding in the brain, and it is a medical emergency that requires immediate intervention. The primary intervention for hemorrhagic stroke is to elevate the head of the bed by 30 degrees. This position helps to reduce intracranial pressure and prevent further bleeding. Administering oral anticoagulants, such as warfarin or aspirin, would be contraindicated as they can worsen bleeding. Immediate surgery may be necessary in some cases, but it is not the primary intervention. Physical therapy is not recommended in the acute phase of hemorrhagic stroke and may be started once the patient is stable.

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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://naplex.examzify.com>**

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

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