

# National Association Medical Staff Services (NAMSS) Certification 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. The NPDB began collecting reports in which year?**
  - A. 1988**
  - B. 1990**
  - C. 1992**
  - D. 1994**
  
- 2. Which organization is the only one required to query the NPDB?**
  - A. Hospitals**
  - B. Clinics**
  - C. Medical schools**
  - D. Individual practitioners**
  
- 3. A request to follow the agenda is called what?**
  - A. Call for Order of the Day**
  - B. Main Motion**
  - C. Subsidiary Motion**
  - D. Privileged Motion**
  
- 4. According to the source, in what year did the U.S. Constitution go into effect?**
  - A. 1776**
  - B. 1789**
  - C. 1800**
  - D. 1791**
  
- 5. In 1990, the NPDB did which of the following?**
  - A. Opened only**
  - B. Began collecting reports only**
  - C. Both opened and began collecting reports**
  - D. Neither occurred**

- 6. Patrick v Burget is best known for which regulatory concept that led to HCQIA?**
- A. Anticompetitive Peer Review**
  - B. Duty to disclose patient information**
  - C. Charitable immunity**
  - D. Governing Body authority**
- 7. Which pair of years correctly represents the events?**
- A. 1984 and 1988**
  - B. 1986 and 1990**
  - C. 1988 and 1992**
  - D. 1990 and 1994**
- 8. Darling v Charleston concerned the end of charitable immunity. What is Hospitals' responsibility after this decision?**
- A. End of charitable immunity; hospitals are independently responsible for monitoring and supervising care**
  - B. Charitable immunity remains in effect**
  - C. Hospitals are only responsible for billing**
  - D. Hospitals can delegate supervision to staff without oversight**
- 9. What change occurred in 2004 related to NPDB?**
- A. Practitioners could add statements to their NPDB reports**
  - B. NPDB started reporting to credit bureaus**
  - C. Hospitals were no longer required to query NPDB**
  - D. HIPDB merged with NPDB**
- 10. In which year was HCQIA enacted according to the material?**
- A. 1982**
  - B. 1986**
  - C. 1990**
  - D. 1994**

## Answers

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

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## **Explanations**

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**1. The NPDB began collecting reports in which year?**

- A. 1988**
- B. 1990**
- C. 1992**
- D. 1994**

The year the NPDB began collecting reports is 1990. This started under the Health Care Quality Improvement Act of 1986, with the Data Bank going live to gather and store information about adverse actions, professional sanctions, and medical malpractice payments to help with credentialing and licensure decisions. The other years don't align with when data collection actually began, which is why 1990 is the correct reference.

**2. Which organization is the only one required to query the NPDB?**

- A. Hospitals**
- B. Clinics**
- C. Medical schools**
- D. Individual practitioners**

The NPDB is used by organizations that credential or privilege physicians to gather information about adverse actions, sanctions, and malpractice payments involving practitioners. Hospitals are required under the Health Care Quality Improvement Act to query the NPDB as part of credentialing or privileging decisions before granting or renewing privileges. Clinics, medical schools, and individual practitioners are not mandated to perform NPDB queries by this federal framework. Therefore, hospitals are the only type of organization routinely required to query the NPDB.

**3. A request to follow the agenda is called what?**

- A. Call for Order of the Day**
- B. Main Motion**
- C. Subsidiary Motion**
- D. Privileged Motion**

This question is about a procedural tool used to keep a meeting on its planned schedule. When someone calls for the orders of the day, they are requesting that the assembly stick to the agenda and proceed to the next item as planned. It's about enforcing the sequence of business, not about proposing new action or changing how motions are handled. A main motion would introduce a substantive action, a subsidiary motion would affect how another motion is considered, and a privileged motion covers urgent or immediate concerns—none of those centers on following the agenda. The explicit term for insisting the meeting follow the agenda is the call for the orders of the day.

**4. According to the source, in what year did the U.S. Constitution go into effect?**

- A. 1776
- B. 1789**
- C. 1800
- D. 1791

The date the Constitution went into effect is tied to when the new framework could actually operate after enough states agreed to it. The Constitution was drafted, then ratified by nine states, enabling a functioning national government. The government under the new framework began in 1789, marked by Washington's inauguration and the first Congress convening. That's why 1789 is the year the Constitution went into effect. The other years correspond to related events: 1776 is when independence was proclaimed, 1791 is when the Bill of Rights was ratified, and 1800 is not tied to the Constitution's start.

**5. In 1990, the NPDB did which of the following?**

- A. Opened only
- B. Began collecting reports only
- C. Both opened and began collecting reports**
- D. Neither occurred

The NPDB is a centralized repository that stores information about adverse professional actions and malpractice payments involving healthcare practitioners to help protect patients and inform credentialing decisions. In 1990, it became operational by both opening for authorized access and starting to collect reports from reporting entities such as state licensing boards and hospitals. This means information began to flow into the database and could be queried by authorized users, fulfilling its purpose as a tool for transparency and accountability. The option indicating only opening or only collecting misses the essential point that both actions occurred, establishing the NPDB's ability to store and share critical practitioner history from the outset.

**6. Patrick v Burget is best known for which regulatory concept that led to HCQIA?**

- A. Anticompetitive Peer Review**
- B. Duty to disclose patient information
- C. Charitable immunity
- D. Governing Body authority

Patrick v. Burget helps establish the idea that actions taken in a professional peer-review process can be immune from antitrust liability when they are conducted in good faith to protect patient care. This concept—immunity for peer review activities that might otherwise be viewed as anticompetitive—paved the way for the Health Care Quality Improvement Act, which codified and extended protections for participants in peer-review proceedings. The other options don't fit because they relate to patient privacy disclosures, charitable immunity, or general hospital governance, none of which capture the specific shield given to peer-review actions aimed at quality improvement.

**7. Which pair of years correctly represents the events?**

- A. 1984 and 1988**
- B. 1986 and 1990**
- C. 1988 and 1992**
- D. 1990 and 1994**

Matching the dates to the event timeline is key. The events in the prompt occur in two specific years that fit the described sequence and any implied interval. The pair 1986 and 1990 preserves the stated timing between events, aligning with the timeline given in the question. The other year pairs place an event outside the described window or disrupt the interval, so they don't match the events as described. So, 1986 and 1990 is the pairing that fits the described timeline.

**8. Darling v Charleston concerned the end of charitable immunity. What is Hospitals' responsibility after this decision?**

- A. End of charitable immunity; hospitals are independently responsible for monitoring and supervising care**
- B. Charitable immunity remains in effect**
- C. Hospitals are only responsible for billing**
- D. Hospitals can delegate supervision to staff without oversight**

Darling v. Charleston Community Memorial Hospital shifted the focus from charitable immunity to hospital accountability. With the end of charitable immunity, a hospital can be held liable for negligent care because of its own failures in supervision and control, not because of its charitable status. This means the hospital has an independent duty to monitor and supervise the care provided by its physicians and other staff. In practical terms, the hospital must implement and enforce proper credentialing and privileging processes, ensure adequate supervision and oversight of patient care, and maintain quality and safety programs. Delegating tasks to staff or physicians does not absolve the hospital from responsibility; the hospital must still oversee how those tasks are carried out to prevent negligence. So the correct understanding is that the end of charitable immunity places the hospital under a duty to actively monitor and supervise the care being delivered.

**9. What change occurred in 2004 related to NPDB?**

- A. Practitioners could add statements to their NPDB reports**
- B. NPDB started reporting to credit bureaus**
- C. Hospitals were no longer required to query NPDB**
- D. HIPDB merged with NPDB**

The key idea is that a policy change in 2004 allowed practitioners to add statements to their NPDB reports. This gave clinicians a formal way to respond to or add context to adverse actions that appeared in the data bank. When a credentialing committee views an NPDB entry, they can also see the practitioner's attached statement, which may explain extenuating circumstances, outline corrective steps taken, or dispute aspects of the action. This promotes fairness by providing the provider's perspective and helps readers interpret the information more accurately. The other options don't fit this 2004 change. NPDB information isn't reported to credit bureaus, so that option isn't accurate. Hospitals' credentialing workflows still involve querying NPDB for relevant actions, so the idea that querying became unnecessary isn't correct. And the voluntary merger of HIPDB with NPDB did not occur in 2004, as those organizations were aligned later, not as a 2004 merger.

**10. In which year was HCQIA enacted according to the material?**

- A. 1982**
- B. 1986**
- C. 1990**
- D. 1994**

HCQIA stands for the Health Care Quality Improvement Act, and the year it was enacted is 1986. This federal law was created to support and protect professional review activities aimed at improving care, by providing immunity from damages for good-faith peer review actions and by establishing the National Practitioner Data Bank to track disciplinary histories. Because the material identifies 1986 as the enactment year, that is the correct choice. The other years do not match the enactment date.

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

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

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