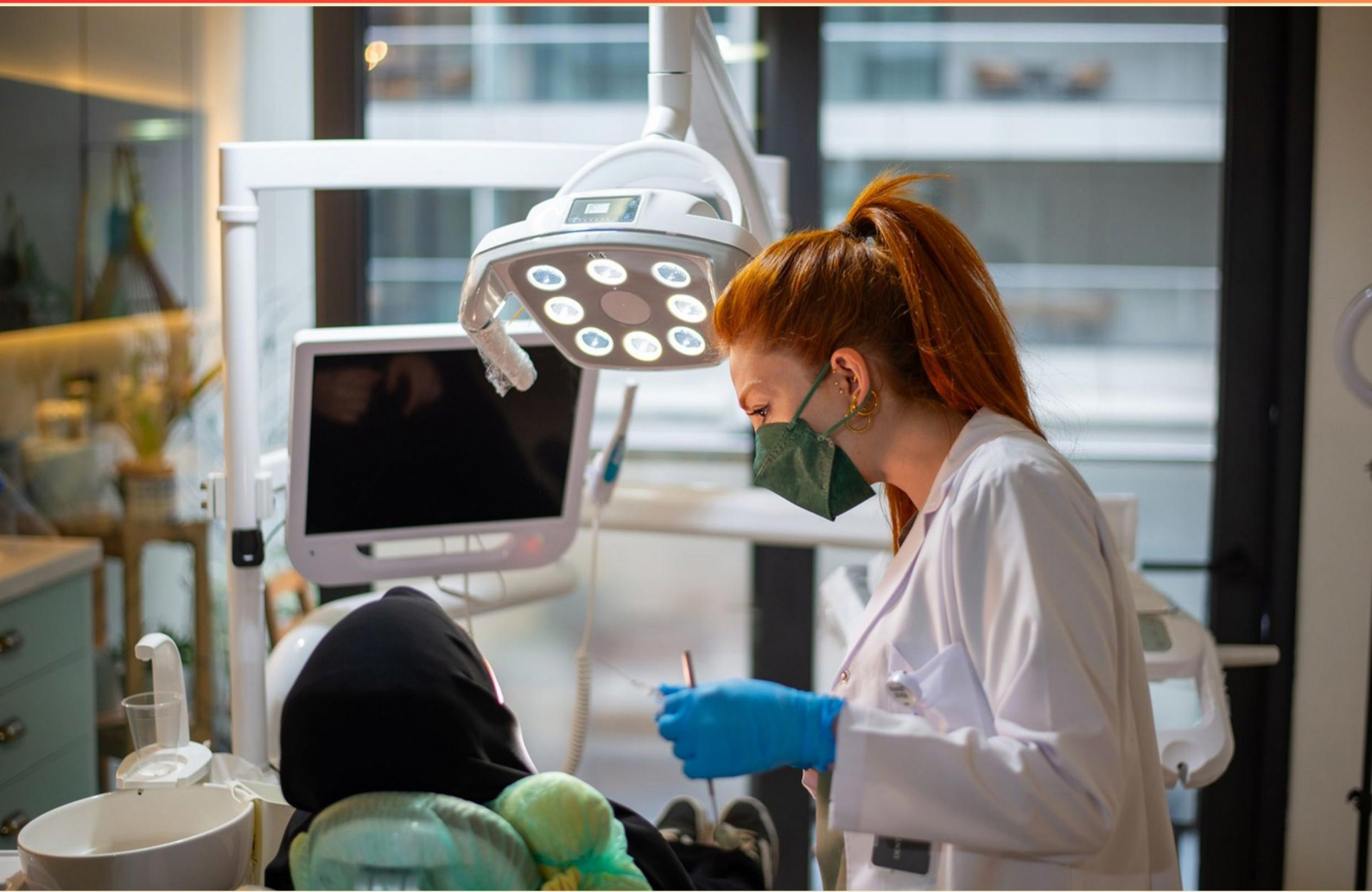


NATIONAL DENTAL ASSISTING EXAMINING BOARD (NDAEB) PRACTICE EXAM (SAMPLE) STUDY GUIDE



SAMPLE STUDY GUIDE WITH LIMITED QUESTIONS

VISIT US ONLINE FOR
THE FULL VERSION STUDY GUIDE

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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. Before surgery, a patient is explained the procedure and then signs an authorization for treatment. What is this process called?
 - A. Patient registration
 - B. Informed consent
 - C. Patient evaluation
 - D. Treatment planning
2. When mixing zinc phosphate cement, a cool, dry slab will _____ the setting time.
 - A. Increase
 - B. Decrease
 - C. Maintain
 - D. Vary
3. What is a primary use of disclosing solution in dentistry?
 - A. To whiten teeth
 - B. To identify areas of plaque
 - C. To enhance the flavor of dental products
 - D. To check for gum disease
4. Infection occurs when what penetrates the host defenses and multiplies?
 - A. Bacteria
 - B. Pathogens
 - C. Viruses
 - D. Antibodies
5. Can patients at high risk for caries undergo coronal polishing?
 - A. Yes, it is always safe
 - B. No, it is contraindicated
 - C. Only with dentist supervision
 - D. Only if they have had recent fluoride treatment

- 6. What is commonly used to assist in distinguishing between different anesthetic solutions?**
- A. Size of the packaging
 - B. Color-coding system
 - C. Manufacturer's name
 - D. Barcodes
- 7. Which properties are required for dental cements used as luting agents?**
- A. High color variability and low viscosity
 - B. Sufficient strength and biological compatibility
 - C. Low melting point and easy cleanup
 - D. High transparency and low adhesion
- 8. How is the dental arch commonly divided?**
- A. Quads
 - B. Sections
 - C. Sextants
 - D. Segments
- 9. Which bone structure forms the bridge of the nose?**
- A. Nasal
 - B. Frontal
 - C. Maxillary
 - D. Zygomatic
- 10. Which of the following statements is not a concept of four-handed dentistry?**
- A. Use of ergonomic instruments
 - B. Efficient workflow
 - C. Wide-winged patient chair back
 - D. Clear communication between dentist and assistant

Answers

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

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Explanations

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1. Before surgery, a patient is explained the procedure and then signs an authorization for treatment. What is this process called?

- A. Patient registration
- B. Informed consent**
- C. Patient evaluation
- D. Treatment planning

The process of a patient being explained a procedure and then signing an authorization for treatment is referred to as informed consent. This is a fundamental aspect of patient care in healthcare practices, including dentistry. Informed consent ensures that the patient understands the nature of the treatment, the risks, benefits, and alternatives before agreeing to proceed. It is a legal and ethical requirement that empowers patients to make informed decisions about their health care. Informed consent is critical because it protects patient autonomy and promotes a trusting relationship between the patient and healthcare provider. By providing comprehensive information and ensuring that the patient comprehends it, the healthcare provider allows the patient to participate actively in their treatment decisions. This process is not only a safeguard for patients but also a key element in the legal documentation of their treatment journey. Other terms related to patient interactions, such as patient registration, patient evaluation, and treatment planning, do not specifically pertain to the agreement or understanding of a procedure prior to its execution. Patient registration is about collecting personal and insurance information, patient evaluation involves assessing the patient's health status, and treatment planning refers to the formulation of a strategy for the patient's care based on their specific needs. Each of these plays a significant role in the patient care process, but they do not encapsulate

2. When mixing zinc phosphate cement, a cool, dry slab will _____ the setting time.

- A. Increase
- B. Decrease**
- C. Maintain
- D. Vary

When mixing zinc phosphate cement, using a cool, dry slab will decrease the setting time. The temperature of the mixing surface impacts the exothermic reaction that occurs as the cement sets. A cooler slab helps to dissipate heat more quickly, thus leading to a faster setting process. Conversely, a warmer slab would allow heat to accumulate around the materials, potentially prolonging the setting time as the reaction is slowed down. Therefore, the combination of a cool surface and a dry environment collectively contributes to a reduction in the overall time it takes for the cement to set effectively.

3. What is a primary use of disclosing solution in dentistry?

- A. To whiten teeth
- B. To identify areas of plaque**
- C. To enhance the flavor of dental products
- D. To check for gum disease

The primary use of disclosing solution in dentistry is to identify areas of plaque. This solution is a colored liquid or tablet that, when applied to the teeth, stains dental plaque, making it visible. This helps both dental professionals and patients recognize areas where plaque accumulates and may require more effective cleaning practices. This visual indication is important for educating patients about their oral hygiene habits, thereby promoting better plaque control and overall oral health. By highlighting plaque, it encourages patients to focus on areas they may be neglecting during their brushing and flossing routines, ultimately serving as a tool for improving their oral hygiene practices.

4. Infection occurs when what penetrates the host defenses and multiplies?

- A. Bacteria
- B. Pathogens**
- C. Viruses
- D. Antibodies

The correct answer identifies pathogens as the entities that can penetrate host defenses and multiply, leading to infection. Pathogens encompass a broad range of microorganisms, including bacteria, viruses, fungi, and parasites, which are capable of causing disease. When a pathogen enters the body, it can evade various immune defenses, such as skin barriers and immune responses, allowing it to replicate and spread. This concept is crucial in understanding infectious diseases, as recognizing the role of pathogens informs prevention and treatment strategies. Other choices like bacteria and viruses represent specific types of pathogens but do not cover the entire spectrum. Antibodies, on the other hand, are part of the immune response and do not cause infection; instead, they help the body to fight off infections. Understanding the broader category of pathogens is essential in the context of infection control and disease management in dental assisting and healthcare in general.

5. Can patients at high risk for caries undergo coronal polishing?

- A. Yes, it is always safe
- B. No, it is contraindicated**
- C. Only with dentist supervision
- D. Only if they have had recent fluoride treatment

Coronal polishing is a dental procedure aimed at removing plaque and stains from the coronal surfaces of teeth, usually performed to enhance oral hygiene. However, for patients who are classified as high risk for caries, this procedure may not be advisable. High-risk patients typically exhibit conditions such as rampant decay, dry mouth, significant gingival disease, or other factors that predispose them to carious lesions. The rationale against performing coronal polishing on these patients primarily stems from the potential to remove protective layers and minerals that have built up on the teeth, which can render them more susceptible to caries. Additionally, the use of a rotary instrument involved in the polishing process can cause micro-abrasions and dentin exposure, further increasing the risk of decay in susceptible individuals. In these cases, prioritizing preventive care, such as fluoride treatments, dietary counseling, and enhanced home care, is essential to manage their heightened risk for developing caries. Therefore, it is prudent to avoid coronal polishing in these patients, making the correct answer to the question that it is contraindicated.

6. What is commonly used to assist in distinguishing between different anesthetic solutions?

- A. Size of the packaging
- B. Color-coding system**
- C. Manufacturer's name
- D. Barcodes

The color-coding system is commonly used to assist in distinguishing between different anesthetic solutions due to its effectiveness in providing immediate visual recognition. Each anesthetic agent is associated with a specific color, which allows dental professionals to quickly identify the solution they are about to use. This visual cue is particularly important in fast-paced clinical settings, where clear differentiation between anesthetics can help prevent medication errors. The size of the packaging is not a reliable method for distinguishing anesthetic solutions, as different manufacturers might use varying sizes for their products regardless of the anesthetic type. While the manufacturer's name could provide some information about the anesthetic, it is not as immediate or visually helpful as color-coding. Barcodes also may provide identification but generally require scanning technology and are not as quickly recognizable as the color-coded system for immediate use during procedures.

7. Which properties are required for dental cements used as luting agents?

- A. High color variability and low viscosity
- B. Sufficient strength and biological compatibility**
- C. Low melting point and easy cleanup
- D. High transparency and low adhesion

Dental cements used as luting agents must possess sufficient strength and biological compatibility to effectively bond dental restorations to tooth structures and to support the functional demands placed on them. Sufficient strength is crucial because the dental cement must endure forces from chewing and other mechanical stresses without failing. If a cement lacks strength, it can lead to loss of retention of the restoration, potentially resulting in patient discomfort, food impaction, and the need for replacement of the restoration. Biological compatibility is equally important, as the dental cement will be in contact with the tooth structure and surrounding tissues. The cement must not cause any adverse reactions in the oral environment, such as irritation to the pulpal tissue or allergic reactions in the gums. Materials that are biologically compatible help ensure a favorable response from the body and contribute to the longevity of the restoration. Other properties listed, such as color variability or low viscosity, might be relevant for specific applications, but they do not directly address the fundamental requirements for cements serving as luting agents. Similarly, attributes like transparency or ease of cleanup, while beneficial in certain contexts, are not fundamental to the primary function of retention and compatibility that are essential for luting agents.

8. How is the dental arch commonly divided?

- A. Quads
- B. Sections
- C. Sextants**
- D. Segments

The dental arch is commonly divided into sextants. This division is based on the layout and arrangement of the teeth in the mouth. In a typical adult dental arch, there are six sextants: three in the maxillary arch (upper) and three in the mandibular arch (lower). Each sextant typically includes two incisors, one canine, two premolars, and three molars, providing a comprehensive view of the teeth in a specific area of the mouth. This classification is particularly useful in dentistry for assessing oral health, planning treatments, and conducting examinations. It allows dental professionals to communicate more effectively about specific sections of the dental arch during procedures or discussions about dental care. The other terms, while related to dental anatomy or divisions, do not reflect the standard division of the dental arch. For example, creating 'quads' would imply a division into four parts, which does not correlate with the actual layout of the teeth in the mouth. 'Sections' might be too vague, and 'segments' does not specifically correspond to the division commonly acknowledged in dentistry. Therefore, sextants remains the most accurate term for this context.

9. Which bone structure forms the bridge of the nose?

- A. Nasal**
- B. Frontal
- C. Maxillary
- D. Zygomatic

The nasal bone structures are specifically responsible for forming the bridge of the nose. Each side of the nasal bridge is made up of two nasal bones that articulate at the midline, creating the prominent structure that is often referred to as the "bridge of the nose." These bones are small and rectangular in shape, situated between the frontal bones and the maxillary bones. The frontal bone contributes to the forehead and the upper part of the eye sockets, but it does not play a direct role in forming the nose's bridge. The maxillary bones, which form the upper jaw and part of the orbits, also do not constitute the bridge itself but rather are positioned below the nasal bones. The zygomatic bones, commonly known as the cheekbones, are located laterally and also do not contribute to the formation of the nasal bridge.

10. Which of the following statements is not a concept of four-handed dentistry?

- A. Use of ergonomic instruments
- B. Efficient workflow
- C. Wide-winged patient chair back**
- D. Clear communication between dentist and assistant

The concept of four-handed dentistry emphasizes a collaborative approach between the dentist and dental assistant to optimize patient care, enhance efficiency, and minimize strain on the healthcare provider. The correct choice highlights that the statement regarding a "wide-winged patient chair back" does not fit within the fundamental principles of four-handed dentistry. The essence of this practice focuses more on ergonomics, workflow efficiency, and communication rather than specific features of patient chair design. In contrast, the use of ergonomic instruments is critical in four-handed dentistry because it allows both the dentist and assistant to work comfortably with tools that support proper body mechanics. Efficient workflow is another core concept, as it ensures that procedures are performed smoothly and promptly, providing better patient experiences and outcomes. Clear communication is also vital, facilitating coordinated actions between the dentist and the assistant to ensure that the procedure runs efficiently and safely. Therefore, while all the other statements align with the principles of four-handed dentistry, the mention of a wide-winged patient chair back does not pertain directly to the operational strategies or collaboration techniques that define this approach.

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:

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

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