

# NCLEX ARCHER PHARMACOLOGY PRACTICE TEST (SAMPLE)

## STUDY GUIDE



## SAMPLE STUDY GUIDE WITH LIMITED QUESTIONS

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<https://nclexarcherpharmacology.examzify.com>



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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 statement made by a client prescribed sucralfate indicates the need for further teaching?**
  - A. I should take this medication one hour after meals.
  - B. I will remain upright for 30 minutes after taking this medicine.
  - C. This medication will help with my peptic ulcer disease.
  - D. I may dissolve this medication in warm water.
- 2. What condition is zolpidem primarily indicated for?**
  - A. A. Attention Deficit Hyperactivity Disorder
  - B. B. Generalized Anxiety Disorder
  - C. C. Narcolepsy
  - D. D. Insomnia
- 3. What medication is often prescribed to prevent venous thromboembolism (VTE) in postoperative patients?**
  - A. Enoxaparin
  - B. Verapamil
  - C. Tranexamic acid
  - D. Ropinirole
- 4. Which of the following conditions is sertraline primarily prescribed to treat?**
  - A. Severe migraines
  - B. Major Depressive Disorder
  - C. Chronic pain
  - D. Severe insomnia
- 5. Which medication is commonly prescribed for managing an abdominal aortic aneurysm?**
  - A. Naproxen
  - B. Digoxin
  - C. Atenolol
  - D. Prednisone

- 6. Doxycycline is effective against which type of sensitivity?**
- A. Viral infections
  - B. Fungal infections
  - C. Bacterial infections
  - D. Parasitic infections
- 7. Which of the following statements regarding beta-blockers is true?**
- A. Increase blood pressure
  - B. Decrease the workload of the heart
  - C. Increase contractility
  - D. Increase cardiac output
- 8. The nurse is caring for a client diagnosed with Generalized Anxiety Disorder (GAD). Which medication should the nurse anticipate being prescribed?**
- A. Haloperidol
  - B. Fluphenazine
  - C. Buspirone
  - D. Methylphenidate
- 9. Which medication is commonly prescribed for a patient newly diagnosed with Rheumatoid Arthritis?**
- A. Calcitonin
  - B. Methotrexate
  - C. Ibuprofen
  - D. Glucosamine
- 10. When instructing a client about oxymetazoline nasal spray, what is the most important guideline the nurse should provide?**
- A. Use this medication only when needed.
  - B. Do not use this medication for more than three days.
  - C. Rinse your mouth after administration.
  - D. Use a saline nasal spray after this medication.

## **Answers**

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

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## **Explanations**

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1. Which statement made by a client prescribed sucralfate indicates the need for further teaching?

- A. I should take this medication one hour after meals.
- B. I will remain upright for 30 minutes after taking this medicine.
- C. This medication will help with my peptic ulcer disease.
- D. I may dissolve this medication in warm water.

*Sucralfate is a medication primarily used to treat and prevent ulcers in the intestines by forming a protective barrier over the ulcer site. The statement indicating the need for further teaching revolves around the timing of medication intake. Sucralfate should actually be taken on an empty stomach, ideally one hour before meals or two hours after meals. This timing allows for optimal efficacy, as food can interfere with the medication's ability to coat the ulcer. Additionally, taking it an hour after meals may reduce its effectiveness as the protective barrier could not form as intended against stomach acids and the digestive process that occurs after eating. The other statements made by the client align well with the proper use of sucralfate. Remaining upright for 30 minutes after taking the medication helps ensure it reaches the stomach properly and reduces the risk of aspiration. Affirming that sucralfate will assist with peptic ulcer disease shows an understanding of its purpose, and stating that it may be dissolved in warm water indicates a willingness to comply with instructions, even though it is not the standard practice for sucralfate.*

2. What condition is zolpidem primarily indicated for?

- A. A. Attention Deficit Hyperactivity Disorder
- B. B. Generalized Anxiety Disorder
- C. C. Narcolepsy
- D. D. Insomnia

*Zolpidem is primarily indicated for the treatment of insomnia, which is a condition where individuals have difficulty falling asleep or staying asleep. As a short-acting non-benzodiazepine hypnotic, zolpidem works by enhancing the effects of a neurotransmitter in the brain called gamma-aminobutyric acid (GABA), leading to sedation and sleep induction. This medication is specifically designed to address sleep disturbances and is not intended for managing conditions like attention deficit hyperactivity disorder, generalized anxiety disorder, or narcolepsy. While those conditions may involve sleep issues to some extent, zolpidem's primary function is to help patients with insomnia achieve better quality sleep, making it the most appropriate choice for this question.*

**3. What medication is often prescribed to prevent venous thromboembolism (VTE) in postoperative patients?**

**A. Enoxaparin**

B. Verapamil

C. Tranexamic acid

D. Ropinirole

*Enoxaparin is a low molecular weight heparin commonly prescribed to prevent venous thromboembolism (VTE) in postoperative patients. It works by inhibiting factor Xa and, to a lesser extent, factor IIa (thrombin), leading to a decreased tendency for blood to clot. Postoperative patients are at an increased risk for VTE due to factors such as immobility, surgical trauma, and inflammation. Enoxaparin is often recommended because it has a predictable anticoagulant response and can be administered subcutaneously, making it convenient for use in a hospital or home setting. Other options do not serve the same purpose. Verapamil is a calcium channel blocker primarily used to manage hypertension and certain heart conditions, rather than for thromboembolic prevention. Tranexamic acid is an antifibrinolytic medication used to reduce bleeding, particularly in surgical settings, but it does not prevent blood clots. Ropinirole is a dopamine agonist used in the treatment of Parkinson's disease and restless legs syndrome, unrelated to VTE prevention. Thus, enoxaparin is the ideal choice for reducing the risk of thromboembolic events in patients recovering from surgery.*

**4. Which of the following conditions is sertraline primarily prescribed to treat?**

A. Severe migraines

**B. Major Depressive Disorder**

C. Chronic pain

D. Severe insomnia

*Sertraline is primarily prescribed to treat Major Depressive Disorder (MDD) as it is classified as a selective serotonin reuptake inhibitor (SSRI). SSRIs work by increasing the levels of serotonin in the brain, which is a neurotransmitter that significantly impacts mood and emotional well-being. By enhancing serotonin transmission, sertraline effectively alleviates symptoms of depression, making it a first-line treatment choice for MDD. The other options, while representing real conditions, are not the primary indications for sertraline. Severe migraines are typically managed with a different class of medications such as triptans or NSAIDs. Chronic pain often requires a combination of pain management strategies, including analgesics or other treatments, instead of SSRIs. Severe insomnia may be treated with medications specifically designed for sleep disorders, though some SSRIs can have sedative effects, they are not primarily used for treating insomnia on their own. Thus, sertraline's primary role in treating Major Depressive Disorder highlights its effectiveness in addressing that particular mental health condition.*

**5. Which medication is commonly prescribed for managing an abdominal aortic aneurysm?**

- A. Naproxen
- B. Digoxin
- C. Atenolol**
- D. Prednisone

*Managing an abdominal aortic aneurysm often involves controlling factors such as blood pressure and heart rate to reduce the risk of rupture. Atenolol, a selective beta-1 adrenergic antagonist, is commonly prescribed for this purpose. By lowering heart rate and reducing myocardial contractility, atenolol effectively decreases the strain on the aortic wall, thereby minimizing the risk of aneurysm growth and rupture. The use of medications like naproxen, which is a non-steroidal anti-inflammatory drug (NSAID), does not target the cardiovascular parameters that are critical in managing an abdominal aortic aneurysm. Similarly, digoxin, primarily used to treat heart failure and certain types of arrhythmias, does not have a direct role in managing aneurysms. Prednisone, a corticosteroid, is effective for inflammatory conditions but does not address the hemodynamic issues associated with an abdominal aortic aneurysm. Thus, atenolol plays a key role by addressing the underlying cardiac factors that contribute to the risk associated with this condition.*

**6. Doxycycline is effective against which type of sensitivity?**

- A. Viral infections
- B. Fungal infections
- C. Bacterial infections**
- D. Parasitic infections

*Doxycycline is a broad-spectrum antibiotic that is primarily effective against bacterial infections. It belongs to the tetracycline class of antibiotics, which work by inhibiting protein synthesis in bacteria, ultimately stopping their growth and allowing the immune system to eliminate the infection. Doxycycline is used to treat a variety of conditions caused by bacteria, including respiratory tract infections, acne, and certain sexually transmitted infections, among others. In terms of sensitivity, bacterial infections are typically assessed through culture and sensitivity tests, which identify the specific bacteria causing the infection and their susceptibility to various antibiotics, including doxycycline. This makes doxycycline a key choice in the treatment of infections where bacterial sensitivity is established. Other types of infections, such as viral, fungal, and parasitic, require different classes of medications that target their specific biological mechanisms, as antibiotics like doxycycline are ineffective against them. This highlights the importance of properly identifying the pathogen causing an infection to ensure appropriate treatment.*

**7. Which of the following statements regarding beta-blockers is true?**

- A. Increase blood pressure
- B. Decrease the workload of the heart**
- C. Increase contractility
- D. Increase cardiac output

*Beta-blockers are a class of medications that primarily work by blocking the effects of adrenaline on the beta-adrenergic receptors in the heart. This leads to several cardiovascular effects, one of which is the reduction of the heart's workload. By decreasing heart rate and the force of contraction, beta-blockers lower myocardial oxygen demand, making them particularly useful in conditions like hypertension, heart failure, and angina. The ability of beta-blockers to decrease the workload of the heart helps in preventing complications related to excessive cardiac stress. This is vital in managing various cardiovascular conditions, as it allows the heart to function more efficiently without straining. Reducing the workload also assists in lowering blood pressure and improving overall cardiac function. Other choices do not align with the primary effects of beta-blockers. They are not aimed at increasing blood pressure, contractility, or cardiac output; rather, they work to stabilize these parameters to prevent adverse cardiovascular events. Thus, the truthful statement regarding beta-blockers pertains to their ability to decrease the workload of the heart.*

**8. The nurse is caring for a client diagnosed with Generalized Anxiety Disorder (GAD). Which medication should the nurse anticipate being prescribed?**

- A. Haloperidol
- B. Fluphenazine
- C. Buspirone**
- D. Methylphenidate

*Buspirone is commonly prescribed for clients with Generalized Anxiety Disorder (GAD) because it is an anxiolytic that helps alleviate symptoms of anxiety without the sedative effects often associated with other medications. Unlike benzodiazepines, which can be addictive and lead to dependence, buspirone has a lower risk of abuse and is typically well-tolerated by patients. It works by affecting serotonin and dopamine receptors, which can help to reduce anxiety levels and improve mood over time. The other medication options provided are not typically indicated for GAD. Haloperidol and fluphenazine are antipsychotic medications used primarily for conditions such as schizophrenia and acute psychosis, which do not align with the treatment needs for anxiety disorders. Methylphenidate, a stimulant, is primarily used to treat attention deficit hyperactivity disorder (ADHD) and narcolepsy, making it unsuitable for managing anxiety symptoms.*

**9. Which medication is commonly prescribed for a patient newly diagnosed with Rheumatoid Arthritis?**

- A. Calcitonin
- B. Methotrexate**
- C. Ibuprofen
- D. Glucosamine

*Methotrexate is commonly prescribed for patients newly diagnosed with Rheumatoid Arthritis because it is a disease-modifying antirheumatic drug (DMARD) that helps to slow the progression of the disease and prevent joint damage. Methotrexate works by inhibiting the metabolism of folate, which is crucial for the proliferation of rapidly dividing cells, including inflammatory cells involved in autoimmune processes. By reducing inflammation and autoimmunity, methotrexate improves symptoms and overall functioning for individuals with Rheumatoid Arthritis. In contrast, calcitonin is primarily used to treat osteoporosis and certain conditions like Paget's disease, making it less relevant for Rheumatoid Arthritis. Ibuprofen, while it can provide symptomatic relief from pain and inflammation, does not modify the disease progression and is typically used for short-term management of pain rather than long-term treatment. Glucosamine is often used as a dietary supplement for osteoarthritis to help with joint health but lacks strong evidence in treating Rheumatoid Arthritis specifically and does not have the same impact on disease progression.*

**10. When instructing a client about oxymetazoline nasal spray, what is the most important guideline the nurse should provide?**

- A. Use this medication only when needed.
- B. Do not use this medication for more than three days.**
- C. Rinse your mouth after administration.
- D. Use a saline nasal spray after this medication.

*Oxymetazoline nasal spray is a topical decongestant commonly used to relieve nasal congestion due to colds, allergies, or sinusitis. One key guideline for clients using this medication is to limit its use to prevent rebound congestion, a condition where nasal congestion actually worsens after the medication is stopped. This can occur if oxymetazoline is used for more than three consecutive days, leading to a cycle of dependency on the spray for relief. By instructing clients not to use the medication for more than three days, the nurse helps prevent this potential side effect, ensuring that the client can safely benefit from relief without developing a reliance on the medication.*

## 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://nclexarcherpharmacology.examzify.com>

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

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