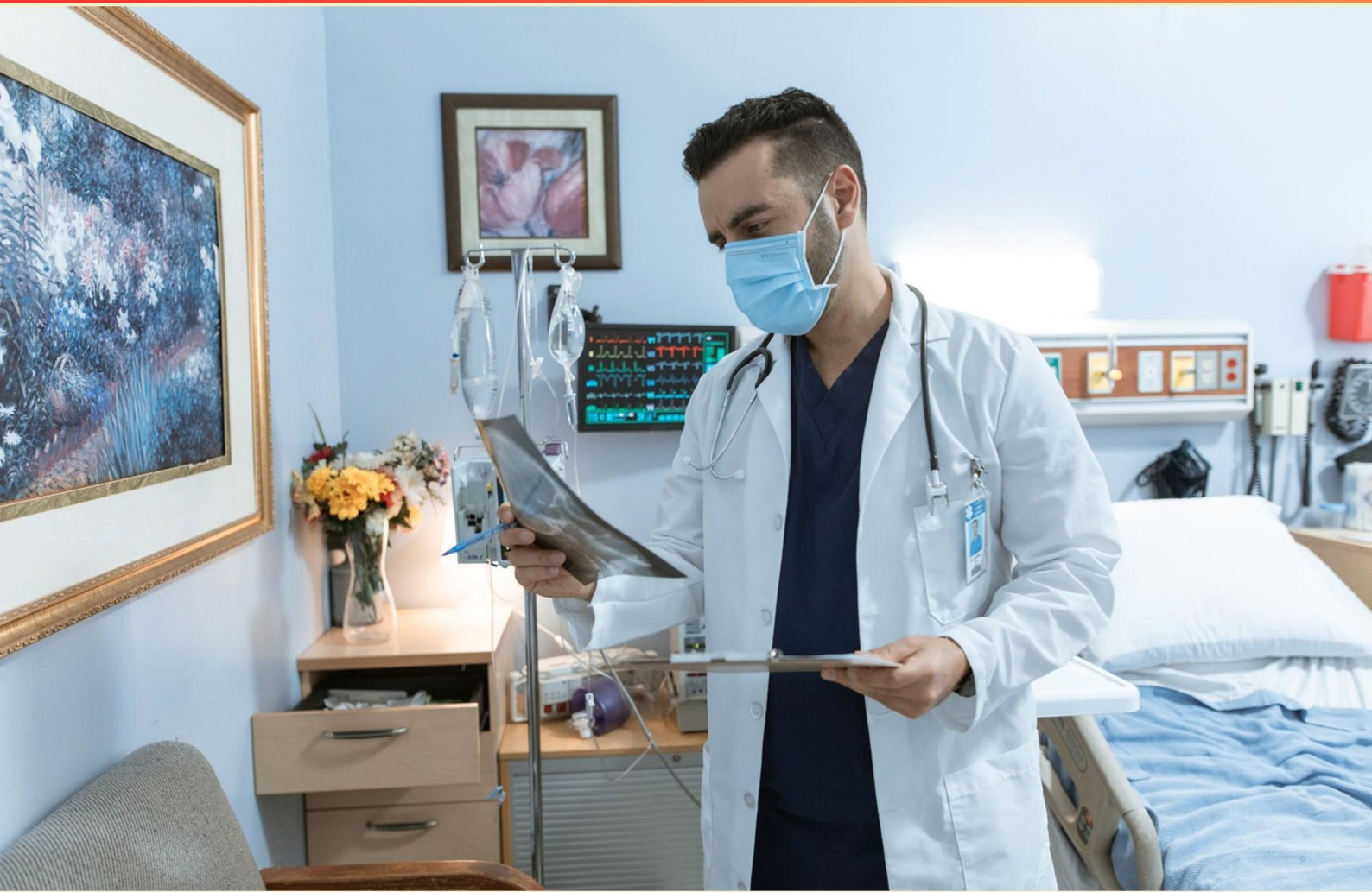


NURSING JURISPRUDENCE AND ETHICS FOR TEXAS NURSES PRACTICE EXAM (SAMPLE) STUDY GUIDE



Prepare with structure. Pass with confidence



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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. A nurse was arrested for making death threats with a gun, then subsequently admitted to a psychiatric facility, and diagnosed with previously untreated and other mental health conditions. The BON is likely to consider the conduct by this nurse as grounds for disciplinary action on the nurse's license due to**
 - A. exposing patients or the public to a communicable disease
 - B. lack of fitness to practice which may impose a risk to patients
 - C. the likeliness the nurse would have the diagnoses for life
 - D. the nurse not obtaining treatment when symptoms first occurred
- 2. What is the principle of "nonmaleficence" in nursing ethics?**
 - A. The obligation to maintain patient confidentiality
 - B. The obligation to avoid causing harm to patients
 - C. The obligation to provide the highest quality of care
 - D. The obligation to act in the patient's best interest
- 3. What is the importance of ethical decision-making in nursing?**
 - A. It reduces the workload for nurses
 - B. It minimizes patient interaction
 - C. It enhances patient welfare and trust
 - D. It complies with healthcare policies
- 4. What does advocacy in nursing primarily involve?**
 - A. Supporting the interests of healthcare providers
 - B. Promoting patient well-being and interests
 - C. Encouraging patients to follow medical advice
 - D. Reporting patient behavior to family members
- 5. How do Texas laws protect whistleblowers in nursing?**
 - A. By promoting unethical behavior
 - B. By providing protection from retaliation
 - C. By encouraging silence on unsafe practices
 - D. By minimizing the importance of ethics in nursing

- 6. Under which paragraph of Board Rule 217.12, Unprofessional Conduct, provides directions for the nurse regarding job abandonment and conduct that may also be Board-reportable?**
- A. Paragraph (12)
 - B. Paragraph (5)
 - C. Paragraph (7)
 - D. Paragraph (8)
- 7. What actions might result in disciplinary measures from the Texas Board of Nursing?**
- A. Following standard protocols
 - B. Substance abuse and patient abandonment
 - C. Providing voluntary overtime
 - D. Offering medical advice to family members
- 8. What ethical principle is prioritized in nursing ethics?**
- A. Maximizing hospital profits
 - B. Maintaining patient confidentiality
 - C. Promoting competition among healthcare providers
 - D. Standardizing drug prescriptions
- 9. How can nurses avoid allegations of patient abandonment according to Board Rule 217.12?**
- A. By ensuring they always have a witness when delivering patient care.
 - B. By reporting any absence from duty to a supervisor and following proper procedures.
 - C. By limiting patient interaction to essential communication only.
 - D. By not accepting job offers that require overtime work.
- 10. What is the primary purpose of a nursing license?**
- A. To allow nurses to work in any healthcare field
 - B. To ensure nurses are qualified to provide care
 - C. To provide nurses with legal immunity
 - D. To enable nurses to become supervisors

Answers

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

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Explanations

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1. A nurse was arrested for making death threats with a gun, then subsequently admitted to a psychiatric facility, and diagnosed with previously untreated and other mental health conditions. The BON is likely to consider the conduct by this nurse as grounds for disciplinary action on the nurse's license due to
- A. exposing patients or the public to a communicable disease
 - B. lack of fitness to practice which may impose a risk to patients**
 - C. the likeliness the nurse would have the diagnoses for life
 - D. the nurse not obtaining treatment when symptoms first occurred

The correct answer highlights the major concern regarding the nurse's ability to practice safely and competently. The Board of Nursing (BON) prioritizes patient safety and the public's welfare above all in its regulatory efforts. When a nurse engages in threatening behavior, particularly involving a weapon, it raises significant questions about their mental fitness to provide safe care. This behavior not only potentially jeopardizes patient safety but also indicates a level of instability or impairment that could influence their decision-making and coping abilities in a clinical setting. Lack of fitness to practice encompasses both mental and physical health concerns that can affect a nurse's performance and judgment. Such conduct is serious because it can undermine the trust that patients and the public place in the nursing profession. The focus here is not solely on the nurse's mental health condition but on how it directly impacts their fitness to practice effectively and safely. The other options tend to misinterpret the crux of the issue. Although communicable diseases and treatment adherence are critical elements of nursing practice, they do not address the immediate implication of the nurse's violent behavior and underlying mental health issues as it pertains to the risk they pose to patient safety. The notion that the nurse might have lifelong diagnoses doesn't sufficiently connect to the current risk posed by their

2. What is the principle of "nonmaleficence" in nursing ethics?
- A. The obligation to maintain patient confidentiality
 - B. The obligation to avoid causing harm to patients**
 - C. The obligation to provide the highest quality of care
 - D. The obligation to act in the patient's best interest

The principle of nonmaleficence in nursing ethics refers specifically to the obligation to avoid causing harm to patients. This foundational ethical tenet underscores the importance of nurses being vigilant in their actions, ensuring that their practices do not inflict harm, whether it be physical, psychological, or emotional. Nurses are required to critically assess interventions for their potential risks and benefits, prioritizing patient safety and well-being as fundamental to their practice. In the context of nursing, nonmaleficence transcends mere absence of harm; it emphasizes active efforts taken to prevent harm from occurring and requires nurses to be knowledgeable and skilled in their practices to mitigate any potential risks. This principle works hand-in-hand with other ethical obligations, such as beneficence, which focuses on actions that promote patient well-being. The other options, while important ethical principles in nursing, do not specifically define nonmaleficence. Maintaining patient confidentiality pertains to the ethical obligation of confidentiality, providing high-quality care relates to the principle of beneficence, and acting in the patient's best interest aligns more with the principle of advocating for the patient's needs and preferences. Each of these principles plays a role in nursing ethics, but they do not capture the essence of nonmaleficence

3. What is the importance of ethical decision-making in nursing?

- A. It reduces the workload for nurses
- B. It minimizes patient interaction
- C. It enhances patient welfare and trust**
- D. It complies with healthcare policies

The significance of ethical decision-making in nursing is primarily rooted in its ability to enhance patient welfare and build trust. When nurses engage in ethical decision-making, they are guided by principles such as compassion, respect, autonomy, and justice, which are fundamental to providing high-quality patient care. By prioritizing the needs and rights of patients, ethical decision-making ensures that care is patient-centered and supportive of their best interests. This approach not only promotes the physical and emotional well-being of patients but also fosters a therapeutic relationship characterized by trust. Patients who feel that their nurses are making ethical choices are likely to be more open, communicative, and compliant with their treatment plans, ultimately leading to better health outcomes. In contrast, options that suggest reducing workload or minimizing patient interaction do not promote a holistic approach to care and may lead to poorer outcomes. Compliance with healthcare policies, while important, is a means to an end rather than the ultimate goal in ethical practice. It is the commitment to ethical decision-making that truly underlies the nurse's professional responsibility to advocate for and uphold the dignity and rights of those they serve.

4. What does advocacy in nursing primarily involve?

- A. Supporting the interests of healthcare providers
- B. Promoting patient well-being and interests**
- C. Encouraging patients to follow medical advice
- D. Reporting patient behavior to family members

Advocacy in nursing primarily involves promoting patient well-being and interests. This means that nurses are committed to representing and defending the rights of their patients, ensuring that their needs and preferences are prioritized in their care. This role requires nurses to understand the values, beliefs, and desires of their patients, enabling them to convey those effectively within the healthcare system. Advocacy may involve providing patients with information about their treatment options, helping them navigate complex healthcare choices, and ensuring that their voices are heard in discussions about their care. While other options may encompass aspects that relate to nursing, they do not represent the core purpose of advocacy. Supporting the interests of healthcare providers can sometimes diverge from the patient's best interests, and encouraging patients to follow medical advice is part of patient education rather than direct advocacy. Reporting patient behavior to family members could breach patient confidentiality and autonomy, which are also paramount in the advocacy role. Thus, promoting patient well-being and interests stands as the essential foundation of advocacy in nursing.

5. How do Texas laws protect whistleblowers in nursing?

- A. By promoting unethical behavior
- B. By providing protection from retaliation**
- C. By encouraging silence on unsafe practices
- D. By minimizing the importance of ethics in nursing

The correct response highlights that Texas laws offer protection from retaliation for whistleblowers in nursing. This is crucial because it encourages nurses to report unsafe practices, violations of patient safety, or unethical behavior without fear of losing their jobs or facing other forms of retribution. Such protections are implemented to foster a culture of transparency and accountability in healthcare, ensuring that patient care standards are upheld. Laws like the Texas Whistleblower Act specifically safeguard employees who report wrongdoing, reinforcing the principle that advocating for patient safety and ethical standards is paramount in nursing practice. This legal protection is vital for encouraging professionals to speak up about issues that could endanger patients or violate ethical standards, as it creates a safe environment for addressing concerns.

6. Under which paragraph of Board Rule 217.12, Unprofessional Conduct, provides directions for the nurse regarding job abandonment and conduct that may also be Board-reportable?

- A. Paragraph (12)**
- B. Paragraph (5)
- C. Paragraph (7)
- D. Paragraph (8)

Board Rule 217.12, also known as the Texas Board of Nursing Unprofessional Conduct Rule, provides guidelines for the nursing professional's conduct relating to job abandonment and Board-reportable actions. Paragraph (12) states that failure to provide reasonable and appropriate patient care, including failure to report continued exposure to patient safety risks, amounts to unprofessional conduct which is punishable by the Board. The other options are not relevant to job abandonment or Board-reportable actions. Paragraph (5) pertains to practicing with a revoked, suspended, or inactive nursing license. Paragraph (7) refers to false, misleading, or deceptive practices in nursing practice. Paragraph (8) discusses misappropriation of a patient's property. Therefore, option A is the only relevant choice.

7. What actions might result in disciplinary measures from the Texas Board of Nursing?

- A. Following standard protocols
- B. Substance abuse and patient abandonment**
- C. Providing voluntary overtime
- D. Offering medical advice to family members

Substance abuse and patient abandonment are serious violations that can lead to disciplinary measures from the Texas Board of Nursing. Engaging in substance abuse while practicing nursing undermines the nurse's ability to provide safe and effective care to patients, posing a significant risk to patient safety and wellbeing. The nursing profession mandates that practitioners maintain a high standard of ethical practice, and substance abuse directly contradicts this obligation. Patient abandonment occurs when a nurse fails to provide necessary care to a patient or leaves a patient without making appropriate arrangements for their continuity of care. This is a serious breach of professional responsibility, as nurses have a legal and ethical duty to ensure their patients receive the care they need. In contrast, following standard protocols and providing voluntary overtime are generally in line with nursing best practices and demonstrate a commitment to the profession. Offering medical advice to family members may not constitute a violation by itself, but it could lead to issues if that advice is given outside the professional scope of practice or without adequate context and understanding of the patient's medical history. Hence, substance abuse and patient abandonment are clear actions that would attract disciplinary action from the Texas Board of Nursing due to their impact on patient safety and the integrity of the nursing profession.

8. What ethical principle is prioritized in nursing ethics?

- A. Maximizing hospital profits
- B. Maintaining patient confidentiality**
- C. Promoting competition among healthcare providers
- D. Standardizing drug prescriptions

The prioritization of maintaining patient confidentiality in nursing ethics emphasizes the fundamental trust between healthcare providers and patients. This ethical principle safeguards the privacy of individuals regarding their personal and health information, which is vital for fostering an environment where patients feel secure to share sensitive details necessary for their care. Upholding confidentiality not only fulfills the ethical commitment of nurses to protect their patients' rights but also complies with legal standards, such as those outlined in the Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act (HIPAA). In practice, maintaining patient confidentiality ensures that personal health information is not disclosed without consent, reinforcing patients' autonomy and dignity. This trust is critical in building effective nurse-patient relationships, thereby leading to improved health outcomes and patient satisfaction. The focus on this ethical principle is central to nursing practice, guiding nurses in their day-to-day interactions and decision-making processes with patients and their families.

9. How can nurses avoid allegations of patient abandonment according to Board Rule 217.12?

- A. By ensuring they always have a witness when delivering patient care.**
- B. By reporting any absence from duty to a supervisor and following proper procedures.
- C. By limiting patient interaction to essential communication only.
- D. By not accepting job offers that require overtime work.

The correct approach to avoiding allegations of patient abandonment is centered on the awareness of duty and the protocols for communication regarding patient care. Reporting any absence from duty to a supervisor and adhering to established procedures is crucial. This ensures that there is an understanding of any changes in the nurse's availability or capacity to care for patients. Maintaining clear communication and following the proper protocols can help prevent misunderstandings that may lead to allegations of abandonment. It demonstrates a commitment to patient care and accountability, reassuring that the nurse is acting within professional and ethical boundaries. Proper reporting also ensures that patient care is transitioned smoothly to other qualified personnel, thus safeguarding the patient's well-being. In contrast, merely having a witness when delivering patient care does not directly address the legal responsibilities concerning patient abandonment or the necessity for clear communication with supervisors and colleagues about one's availability.

10. What is the primary purpose of a nursing license?

- A. To allow nurses to work in any healthcare field
- B. To ensure nurses are qualified to provide care**
- C. To provide nurses with legal immunity
- D. To enable nurses to become supervisors

The primary purpose of a nursing license is to ensure that nurses are qualified to provide care. This licensing process involves rigorous education and examination that confirms a nurse's knowledge, skills, and competencies needed to provide safe and effective patient care. By requiring a nursing license, regulatory bodies aim to protect the public by guaranteeing that only those who meet certain professional standards can practice nursing. This assurance of qualifications helps maintain trust in the healthcare system, as patients and their families can feel confident that nurses have met the necessary criteria to deliver quality care. The other options do not encapsulate the primary purpose of nursing licensure. While a license may facilitate employment in various healthcare settings, its fundamental role is not to allow nurses to work in any field. Additionally, licensure does not provide legal immunity; rather, it holds nurses accountable to standards of care and ethical practice. Lastly, while nurses can attain supervisory positions, the primary function of the license is not specifically to enable this advancement but to ensure competency in patient care.

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:

<https://texasnursejurisprudence.examzify.com>

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

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