

Paramedic Medical Terminology 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

- 1. Pur is a root meaning which substance?**
 - A. Blood**
 - B. Pus**
 - C. Muscle**
 - D. Fat**
- 2. Which prefix means blood?**
 - A. Hydro**
 - B. Hem**
 - C. Hepat**
 - D. Homo**
- 3. The suffix -static in medical terminology conveys which meaning?**
 - A. Opening**
 - B. Movement**
 - C. Breath**
 - D. Stopping**
- 4. What does lact(o) refer to in medical terminology?**
 - A. Salt**
 - B. Milk**
 - C. Sugar**
 - D. Blood**
- 5. -lysis denotes which process?**
 - A. Growing**
 - B. Destroying**
 - C. Healing**
 - D. Cutting**
- 6. The combining form "electr(o)" means?**
 - A. Running**
 - B. Pain**
 - C. Electricity**
 - D. Swelling**

- 7. Which prefix means above and is used to form the term describing location above, such as ' supra '?**
- A. Super**
 - B. Tel**
 - C. Sym**
 - D. Supra**
- 8. The term meaning 'shake' is.**
- A. Cyan(o)**
 - B. Crypto**
 - C. Cuss**
 - D. Corp**
- 9. The suffix -graph means**
- A. Written, recording**
 - B. Knowledge**
 - C. Tongue**
 - D. Glucose**
- 10. The combining form myco- is used to indicate which biological group?**
- A. Bacteria**
 - B. Virus**
 - C. Fungus**
 - D. Algae**

Answers

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

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Explanations

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1. Pur is a root meaning which substance?

- A. Blood
- B. Pus**
- C. Muscle
- D. Fat

Pur- denotes pus. In medical terms, roots point to the substance or concept at the heart of the word, and pur- specifically shows up in words describing pus as found in infections—purulent means containing or producing pus, and purulence refers to the presence of pus. This is distinct from other bodily substances: blood would be indicated by hem- or hemat-, muscle by myo- or sarco-, and fat by adip- or lip-. So pur- is the correct meaning because it directly ties to pus and its clinical contexts.

2. Which prefix means blood?

- A. Hydro
- B. Hem**
- C. Hepat
- D. Homo

The concept being tested is recognizing prefixes that indicate a body substance or organ. The prefix that means blood is hem- (also seen as hemat- in many terms). It appears in words like hemoglobin and hematology, where the root signals blood. The given option uses hem, which aligns with that meaning. In contrast, hydro- refers to water (hydrotherapy), hepat- refers to the liver (hepatology), and homo- means same or similar (homogeneous). Therefore, the best choice is the one that denotes blood.

3. The suffix -static in medical terminology conveys which meaning?

- A. Opening
- B. Movement
- C. Breath
- D. Stopping**

The suffix -static signals stopping or inhibiting activity, keeping something from changing or moving. In medicine, you'll see this in terms like bacteriostatic, which means preventing bacteria from multiplying. That idea of arresting action is why -static is understood as stopping. Because of that, it isn't about opening (that would be -ostomy/-otomy), movement (that would involve endings like -kinesis), or breath (which uses -pnea). So -static best conveys the meaning of stopping.

4. What does lact(o) refer to in medical terminology?

- A. Salt
- B. Milk**
- C. Sugar
- D. Blood

lacto- comes from a root meaning milk. In medical terms it's attached to other words to signal milk-related meaning, like lactose (milk sugar), lactase (the enzyme that digests milk sugar), and lactation (the production of milk). This contrasts with other roots: salt uses sal- or similar forms, sugar uses sacchar- or gluc-, and blood uses hem- or sanguin-. So lacto- specifically points to milk.

5. -lysis denotes which process?

- A. Growing
- B. Destroying**
- C. Healing
- D. Cutting

-lysis denotes the process of breaking down, dissolving, or destroying something. In medical terms, this suffix signals destruction or dissolution of cells, tissues, or substances, as seen in examples like hemolysis (rupture of red blood cells) or fibrinolysis (breakdown of fibrin in clots). Growth, healing, and cutting describe increasing, repairing, or severing/incising, respectively, and do not fit the meaning of -lysis. That makes destroying the correct interpretation.

6. The combining form "electr(o)" means?

- A. Running
- B. Pain
- C. Electricity**
- D. Swelling

The combining form electr(o) denotes electricity, especially electrical activity in the body. The small interfix "o" is just a connective vowel used to join the root to other word parts. You'll see it in terms like electrocardiography or electroencephalography, which describe recording the heart's or brain's electrical activity. That's why this form means electricity. The other options don't fit because they relate to movement, pain, or swelling, which use different roots (for example, running would tie to a root about movement, pain to a root like -algia, swelling to edema).

7. Which prefix means above and is used to form the term describing location above, such as ' supra '?

- A. Super**
- B. Tel**
- C. Sym**
- D. Supra**

Supra- denotes position above or over and is used to form terms that describe being located above another structure. In medical terminology, this combining form appears in words like supraorbital (above the eye socket) or suprarenal (above the kidney), showing its precise sense of being overhead. The example given, supra, is the exact form of this prefix, which is why it's the correct choice. While super- also means above, it more often signals superiority or excess and is used in different contexts, so it doesn't specifically convey the anatomical sense of "above" as cleanly. Tel- and sym- do not convey an above relationship—tel- relates to distance or end, and sym- means together or with.

8. The term meaning 'shake' is.

- A. Cyan(o)**
- B. Crypto**
- C. Cuss**
- D. Corp**

Shake in medical terminology is described by roots that mean movement or trembling, especially trem- (as in tremor) or kines-/kinesio- (as in kinesiology, kinetic). The option cyan(o) denotes blue, crypto- denotes hidden, and corp- denotes body. None of these convey the idea of shaking or tremor. The key idea to take away is that movement-related terms come from trem- or kines-/kinesio-, so when you're asked for a term meaning "shake," look for those roots rather than color or concealment or body qualifiers.

9. The suffix -graph means

- A. Written, recording**
- B. Knowledge**
- C. Tongue**
- D. Glucose**

The main idea here is what the suffix -graph conveys in medical terms: it signals writing or recording. The Greek root graphein means to write, so terms ending in -graph refer to something that writes, records, or a device that records. For example, radiograph is an image produced by capturing X-rays, and a cardiograph or electrocardiograph is a device that records heart activity. The other possibilities don't fit because they come from roots that mean knowledge (gnosis), tongue (glossa), or sugar (glucose), not writing or recording.

10. The combining form myco- is used to indicate which biological group?

- A. Bacteria**
- B. Virus**
- C. Fungus**
- D. Algae**

Understanding combining forms helps you map terms to what they describe. myco- signals fungus. You see this in words like mycology (the study of fungi), mycotic infections (fungal infections), and mycotic or antifungal terms. So the term properly points to the fungal group. The other options use different roots: bacteria would be indicated by bacteri- or bacterio-, viruses by vir- (or viro-), and algae by phyco- or alg-.

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://paramedicmedterms.examzify.com>

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