

# Psychiatric Technician Interview 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. A patient says, 'By tomorrow I will not be here.' What is the appropriate course of action?**
  - A. Immediately call family and arrange a discharge**
  - B. Ignore the statement**
  - C. Confine the patient to prevent leaving**
  - D. Explore possibilities with the patient; ask if they have a plan and take measures to prevent that plan from being put into action**
  
- 2. Which of the following is a side effect listed for Geodon?**
  - A. A Skin Rash**
  - B. Dizziness**
  - C. Headache**
  - D. Nausea**
  
- 3. When a resident reports that they fell in their room, what is an appropriate first action?**
  - A. Assess injuries and vitals, assess location of fall, ask what happened, check for safety hazards, document injury, notify physician, RN and shift lead, and complete SIR in the daily communication log.**
  - B. Call family immediately and move the resident to another room.**
  - C. Ignore the incident until the next scheduled check.**
  - D. Wait for a nurse to arrive and document later.**
  
- 4. In responding to a patient with potential cardiac arrest, which equipment is essential to have ready?**
  - A. Nebulizer**
  - B. Infusion pump**
  - C. Defibrillator**
  - D. Pulse oximeter**
  
- 5. What gauge needle for insulin syringe?**
  - A. 27-29**
  - B. 18-20**
  - C. 14-16**
  - D. 10-12**

- 6. You notice a mistake on a physician's order. What should you do first?**
- A. Hold the medication and do not administer dose until corrected and clarified by the MD**
  - B. Immediately contact the MD for clarification**
  - C. Notify the pharmacy that correction is pending**
  - D. Notify the shift supervisor**
- 7. A newly diagnosed TB patient: which statement describes infection control measures?**
- A. Isolate patient in a room with negative air pressure or airflow where the air is vented out from the room**
  - B. PPE should be put on before entering room and should always include an N95 mask**
  - C. Use gloves when providing care**
  - D. All disposable equipment should be placed in red plastic bags such as biohazard waste**
- 8. To perform the new CPR, which sequence is correct for a responder without advanced airway?**
- A. Call 911, check responsiveness, open airway with head tilt, give two breaths**
  - B. Roll the person on their back and begin with breaths first**
  - C. Place heel of one hand on center of chest, interlace fingers, compress at least 2 inches for adults, 1.5 inches for infants, deliver 30 compressions followed by 2 breaths**
  - D. Open the airway with chin lift and give continuous breaths with no compression**
- 9. After an eye injury from a sports incident, what is an essential first aid step?**
- A. Assess eye for bleeding, corneal tears, and debris**
  - B. If debris present and no bleeding or corneal tears flush out debris with sterile normal saline**
  - C. If bleeding or corneal tears present cover both eyes with sterile gauze and bandage**
  - D. RN HSS & MOD should be notified immediately**

**10. Which attribute is best demonstrated by a candidate who has two years of psychiatric technician experience and highlights medication administration and teamwork?**

- A. Disinterest in learning**
- B. Preference for solitary work**
- C. Strong work ethic and commitment to growth**
- D. Lack of reliability**

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## Answers

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

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## **Explanations**

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1. A patient says, 'By tomorrow I will not be here.' What is the appropriate course of action?

- A. Immediately call family and arrange a discharge
- B. Ignore the statement
- C. Confine the patient to prevent leaving
- D. Explore possibilities with the patient; ask if they have a plan and take measures to prevent that plan from being put into action**

The main idea here is assessing imminent safety and using safety planning when a patient hints at leaving or harming themselves. When a patient says, "By tomorrow I will not be here," you don't ignore it or automatically restrict them. You engage with empathy, explore what the patient means, and determine if there is a concrete plan, a timeline, access to means, and available supports. This information guides how to reduce risk: you take steps to prevent the plan from being carried out, which can include safety measures, increased supervision, mobilizing the treatment team, and removing immediate means if feasible. This collaborative approach respects the patient while actively addressing potential danger, rather than rushing to discharge or confinement without assessment. Why the other approaches aren't appropriate: simply calling family and arranging discharge misses the urgent need to assess risk and plan appropriately; ignoring the statement leaves the patient unsafe; confining the patient without a thorough risk assessment and clear justification can be overly restrictive and may not effectively address the risk.

2. Which of the following is a side effect listed for Geodon?

- A. A Skin Rash**
- B. Dizziness
- C. Headache
- D. Nausea

Geodon can cause a range of adverse effects, and clinicians look for both common and less common reactions listed in the labeling. A skin rash is documented as a potential side effect of ziprasidone, so it's included as an adverse reaction to monitor. This matters because a rash can signal an allergic or hypersensitivity reaction, which in some cases can progress to more serious conditions. If a rash appears, assess its severity and accompanying symptoms. If it's mild, you'd still report it and monitor, but if there are signs like fever, fever with a widespread or mucous-m membrane involvement, or blistering, discontinue and seek prompt medical evaluation. While dizziness, headaches, and nausea are also seen with this medication, the ability for a rash to appear and be reported makes it a listed adverse effect to be aware of.

**3. When a resident reports that they fell in their room, what is an appropriate first action?**

**A. Assess injuries and vitals, assess location of fall, ask what happened, check for safety hazards, document injury, notify physician, RN and shift lead, and complete SIR in the daily communication log.**

**B. Call family immediately and move the resident to another room.**

**C. Ignore the incident until the next scheduled check.**

**D. Wait for a nurse to arrive and document later.**

When a resident reports a fall, the priority is immediate safety and medical assessment. Start with a quick, thorough check of the resident: assess injuries and vital signs to identify any urgent medical needs, determine if the fall affected their function or stability, and ask what happened to understand the mechanism and any preceding symptoms. Then look around for safety hazards in the room—things like clutter, slippery floors, or equipment that could cause another fall—and address those right away. After assessing, document what you found, including injuries, vitals, location, and time, and then notify the physician, the RN, and the shift lead. Completing a Safety Incident Report in the daily communication log ensures proper follow-up and prevention. Delaying assessment, moving the resident before checking for injuries, or waiting to document until later can miss injuries and delay care.

**4. In responding to a patient with potential cardiac arrest, which equipment is essential to have ready?**

**A. Nebulizer**

**B. Infusion pump**

**C. Defibrillator**

**D. Pulse oximeter**

The key idea is that defibrillation can be life-saving in a cardiac arrest. When the heart is in a shockable rhythm, such as ventricular fibrillation or pulseless ventricular tachycardia, delivering an electric shock can reset the heart's electrical activity and allow a normal rhythm to resume. Time matters—each minute without defibrillation greatly lowers chances of survival, so having a defibrillator ready is essential for immediate treatment. Other items don't provide that immediate corrective effect. A nebulizer treats respiratory issues, not the electrical problem of arrest. An infusion pump controls IV medications, but in the moment of arrest the priority is high-quality CPR and rapid defibrillation if indicated. A pulse oximeter monitors oxygenation, which is important, but it doesn't reverse the arrest. In short, the defibrillator is the tool that directly addresses the life-threatening rhythm seen in many cardiac arrests.

**5. What gauge needle for insulin syringe?**

- A. 27-29**
- B. 18-20**
- C. 14-16**
- D. 10-12**

Insulin injections use a very fine needle to minimize pain and tissue trauma during subcutaneous injections. In needle gauge, higher numbers mean thinner needles. Among the options, the 27-29 gauge range is the appropriate thin needle for insulin syringes. The other gauges are much thicker and are used for intramuscular or other types of injections, not for insulin. So the best pick is the fine 27-29 gauge.

**6. You notice a mistake on a physician's order. What should you do first?**

- A. Hold the medication and do not administer dose until corrected and clarified by the MD**
- B. Immediately contact the MD for clarification**
- C. Notify the pharmacy that correction is pending**
- D. Notify the shift supervisor**

The key idea is to prioritize patient safety by withholding any medication whenever an order looks incorrect. The first action is to hold the drug and not administer the dose until the physician reviews and clarifies the order. This prevents potential harm from wrong dose, wrong medication, or incorrect route. After stopping the administration, seek clarification from the physician to confirm the correct drug, dose, route, and schedule, and document the hold and the communication. If you can't reach the physician right away, follow your facility's protocol to escalate or involve the supervisor or on-call staff while keeping the patient safe.

**7. A newly diagnosed TB patient: which statement describes infection control measures?**

- A. Isolate patient in a room with negative air pressure or airflow where the air is vented out from the room**
- B. PPE should be put on before entering room and should always include an N95 mask**
- C. Use gloves when providing care**
- D. All disposable equipment should be placed in red plastic bags such as biohazard waste**

TB spreads through airborne particles, so protecting staff from inhalation is the essential focus of infection control. The best practice is to put on the appropriate PPE before entering and to wear an N95 respirator (or higher) during care of the patient. This directly prevents inhaling infectious droplets and is the most reliable single measure in daily care. Environmental controls like a negative-pressure room are important and help contain airborne pathogens, but not every setting has such a room, and staff protection hinges on using an appropriate respirator before contact. Gloves address contact precautions but do not prevent inhalation risks, and disposing of waste in red biohazard bags is part of general infection control, not the core protective step for TB transmission.

- 8. To perform the new CPR, which sequence is correct for a responder without advanced airway?**
- A. Call 911, check responsiveness, open airway with head tilt, give two breaths**
  - B. Roll the person on their back and begin with breaths first**
  - C. Place heel of one hand on center of chest, interlace fingers, compress at least 2 inches for adults, 1.5 inches for infants, deliver 30 compressions followed by 2 breaths**
  - D. Open the airway with chin lift and give continuous breaths with no compression**

This item tests the sequence and specifics of CPR for a single rescuer without an advanced airway. The essential idea is to maximize blood flow with chest compressions first, then provide breaths in a precise cycle. Start by placing the heel of one hand on the center of the chest with the other hand on top, keep your arms straight, and push hard and fast to a depth of about 2 inches (5 cm) for adults, allowing full chest recoil. Aim for a rate around 100-120 compressions per minute. After delivering 30 compressions, give 2 rescue breaths, each for about a second, and watch for the chest to rise. Then repeat the cycle of 30 compressions followed by 2 breaths until help arrives or an AED is available or the person shows signs of life. This approach emphasizes immediate circulation of blood, with breaths inserted in a 30:2 rhythm. The other options delay compressions, start with breaths, or omit compression entirely, which reduces the effectiveness of CPR in restoring circulation.

- 9. After an eye injury from a sports incident, what is an essential first aid step?**
- A. Assess eye for bleeding, corneal tears, and debris**
  - B. If debris present and no bleeding or corneal tears flush out debris with sterile normal saline**
  - C. If bleeding or corneal tears present cover both eyes with sterile gauze and bandage**
  - D. RN HSS & MOD should be notified immediately**

The essential first aid step is to quickly assess the eye for signs of bleeding, a possible corneal tear, and any debris. This quick check helps you judge how serious the injury is and what to do next without causing further harm. If you find bleeding or signs of a corneal tear, avoid manipulating the eye and seek urgent medical care. If debris is present but there's no bleeding or corneal tear, you can plan the next step (such as irrigation) after confirming the eye isn't at risk for a globe injury. Other actions—like flushing without first confirming the injury type, covering both eyes, or immediately notifying others—jump into management steps without confirming safety, which isn't the best starting point.

**10. Which attribute is best demonstrated by a candidate who has two years of psychiatric technician experience and highlights medication administration and teamwork?**

**A. Disinterest in learning**

**B. Preference for solitary work**

**C. Strong work ethic and commitment to growth**

**D. Lack of reliability**

The main idea here is that practical experience paired with collaborative skills signals a strong work ethic and a commitment to growth. Two years in a psychiatric setting means the candidate has regularly handled responsibilities like medication administration, which requires careful attention to safety, accuracy, and following exact protocols. That kind of competency doesn't come from trying once in a while—it reflects reliability and consistent performance over time. Highlighting teamwork shows the ability to communicate clearly, coordinate with other care providers, and function as part of a clinical team, all of which are essential in mental health care. Together, these elements portray someone who not only performs essential duties but also seeks to improve and contribute to the team, rather than avoiding new tasks or proving unreliable.

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

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

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