

PTCB PHARMACY TECHNICIAN CERTIFICATION EXAM (PTCE) PRACTICE TEST (SAMPLE) STUDY GUIDE



SAMPLE STUDY GUIDE WITH LIMITED QUESTIONS

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THE FULL VERSION STUDY GUIDE**

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Table of Contents

Copyright	1
Table of Contents	2
Introduction	3
How to Use This Guide	4
Questions	5
Answers	8
Explanations	10
Next Steps	15

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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. Why do pharmacies prefer purchasing stock from wholesalers?

- A. Wholesalers stock most medications at competitive prices
- B. It is difficult to deal with all the different manufacturers.
- C. Wholesalers make daily deliveries and provide systems for ordering medications.
- D. Wholesalers require exclusive agreements.

2. Red biohazard bags are used for disposal of which items?

- A. Blood contaminated material or other potentially infectious material such as needles, vials, syringes
- B. Yellow chemo waste bag
- C. Confidential data shredding bucket
- D. Regular trash

3. Which statement is NOT an example of drug diversion?

- A. The use of addictive drugs for non-therapeutic purposes
- B. The illegal distribution of drugs
- C. Prescription forgery such as faking prescription to obtain medications illegally
- D. Following prescriptions exactly as directed

4. Which statements are true regarding chemotherapy preparation?

- A. Double gloving is the most important PPE, and it is prepared under a vertical flow hood
- B. No PPE required for chemotherapy in a clean room
- C. A horizontal flow hood is standard for chemotherapy
- D. PPE is not necessary for chemotherapy

5. How much codeine is found in Tylenol #3?

- A. 8 mg
- B. 15 mg
- C. 30 mg
- D. 60 mg

6. Tylenol #1 contains how much codeine?

- A. 8 mg
- B. 30 mg
- C. 60 mg
- D. 15 mg

7. Which healthcare professional cannot prescribe medications?

- A. Psychologist
- B. Pharmacist
- C. Physician
- D. Nurse practitioner

8. In the context of quality control, the abbreviation PT most likely stands for which role?

- A. Pharmacy Technician
- B. Physiotherapist
- C. Public Trustee
- D. Pharmacist Technician

9. Regarding antibiotic therapy, which practice helps prevent resistance?

- A. True
- B. False
- C. Only for certain antibiotics
- D. Only if symptoms persist

10. The Combat Meth Epidemic Act of 2005 regulates which substances?

- A. Ephedrine, pseudoephedrine, and phenylpropanolamine
- B. Ephedrine
- C. Pseudoephedrine
- D. Phenylpropanolamine

Answers

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

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Explanations

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1. Why do pharmacies prefer purchasing stock from wholesalers?

- A. Wholesalers stock most medications at competitive prices**
- B. It is difficult to deal with all the different manufacturers.
- C. Wholesalers make daily deliveries and provide systems for ordering medications.
- D. Wholesalers require exclusive agreements.

Buying through wholesalers is preferred primarily because they offer most medications at competitive prices, thanks to high-volume purchasing and negotiated discounts from manufacturers. This volume leverage lowers the cost of acquisition for the pharmacy, helping to keep shelves stocked affordably and support healthy margins. While daily deliveries and streamlined ordering systems are helpful benefits, the price advantage is the main reason wholesalers are favored. Other choices don't fit because dealing with many manufacturers separately would be more complex and costly, and exclusive agreements are not the typical basis for why pharmacies rely on wholesalers.

2. Red biohazard bags are used for disposal of which items?

- A. Blood contaminated material or other potentially infectious material such as needles, vials, syringes
- B. Yellow chemo waste bag
- C. Confidential data shredding bucket
- D. Regular trash**

Red bags are used for waste contaminated with blood or other potentially infectious materials. This is regulated medical waste and is handled separately from regular trash to prevent infection spread. Items like disposable gloves, gowns, dressings, and other materials soaked with blood or body fluids belong in red bags. Sharps such as needles and syringes, however, go into a puncture-resistant sharps container, not a red bag. Regular trash should be kept separate from biohazard waste. Red bags should be properly labeled with the biohazard symbol and sealed before disposal.

3. Which statement is NOT an example of drug diversion?

- A. The use of addictive drugs for non-therapeutic purposes
- B. The illegal distribution of drugs
- C. Prescription forgery such as faking prescription to obtain medications illegally
- D. Following prescriptions exactly as directed**

Drug diversion means taking prescription medications away from their intended medical use or legal distribution, often for nonmedical or illegal purposes. Using addictive drugs for non-therapeutic purposes, illegal distribution, or forging prescriptions all involve moving drugs outside proper channels or using them in unauthorized ways, which fits diversion. Following prescriptions exactly as directed stays within the approved medical plan and legal channels, so it does not involve diverting meds or misusing them. That's why this statement is not an example of drug diversion.

4. Which statements are true regarding chemotherapy preparation?

- A. Double gloving is the most important PPE, and it is prepared under a vertical flow hood
- B. No PPE required for chemotherapy in a clean room
- C. A horizontal flow hood is standard for chemotherapy
- D. PPE is not necessary for chemotherapy

Chemotherapy preparation requires protecting the technician from hazardous drugs. Double gloving provides a second barrier if the outer glove becomes contaminated, and the work is done under a vertical flow containment hood, which directs air downward and through filters to keep aerosols away from the operator. A vertical flow hood is preferred for hazardous drugs because it helps protect the person performing the prep; horizontal flow hoods push air across the workspace toward the user, which can increase exposure risk. PPE is mandatory for chemotherapy, and a clean room does not replace the need for gloves, gown, and eye protection.

5. How much codeine is found in Tylenol #3?

- A. 8 mg
- B. 15 mg
- C. 30 mg
- D. 60 mg

Tylenol #3 is a combination medication that pairs acetaminophen with codeine for pain relief. In the common U.S. formulation, each tablet contains acetaminophen and 30 mg of codeine. This 30 mg amount sits between the lower-strength Tylenol with codeine tablets (which have 15 mg) and the higher-strength version (60 mg), making 30 mg the standard codeine content for Tylenol #3.

6. Tylenol #1 contains how much codeine?

- A. 8 mg
- B. 30 mg
- C. 60 mg
- D. 15 mg

In Tylenol with codeine products, the number in the name reflects the amount of codeine per tablet. Tylenol No. 1 is the lowest-strength version and combines acetaminophen with a small amount of codeine. It contains 15 mg of codeine per tablet, with 300 mg of acetaminophen. That's why this is the correct choice—the codeine dose matches the No. 1 formulation. The higher-numbered versions use more codeine per tablet, which is why the other amounts don't apply to Tylenol No. 1. Also keep in mind the acetaminophen limit when dosing and be aware of codeine's side effects.

7. Which healthcare professional cannot prescribe medications?

- A. Psychologist**
- B. Pharmacist
- C. Physician
- D. Nurse practitioner

Prescribing medications is determined by licensure and the authority granted by state law. Psychologists focus on assessment, therapy, and psychological testing, and they generally do not have prescriptive authority. Physicians (MDs/DOs) and many advanced practice providers like nurse practitioners have the ability to prescribe medications, reflecting their medical training and scope of practice. Pharmacists mainly dispense medications and may have limited prescribing rights only in certain jurisdictions or under specific collaborative agreements, but this is not their standard role. In the common healthcare framework, the psychologist is the professional who does not typically prescribe medications, making them the correct choice.

8. In the context of quality control, the abbreviation PT most likely stands for which role?

- A. Pharmacy Technician**
- B. Physiotherapist
- C. Public Trustee
- D. Pharmacist Technician

In quality control within a pharmacy setting, a Pharmacy Technician is the role most closely tied to the hands-on checks and processes that ensure accuracy and safety, such as verifying compounded formulas, labeling, dosage calculations, and inventory. PT is a common abbreviation for Pharmacy Technician in healthcare staffing, making it the best fit for this context. The other roles listed don't align with typical pharmacy QC responsibilities—Physiotherapist is about rehabilitation, Public Trustee is a fiduciary/government role, and Pharmacist Technician isn't a standard, widely used title in this context.

9. Regarding antibiotic therapy, which practice helps prevent resistance?

- A. True
- B. False**
- C. Only for certain antibiotics
- D. Only if symptoms persist

The important idea is that finishing the full course of an antibiotic helps prevent resistance. If you stop early because you feel better, some bacteria may survive. Those survivors can carry or develop resistance traits, and the drug may not have been present long enough to fully eradicate the infection. This creates selective pressure that favors resistant strains, making future infections harder to treat. So the statement suggesting that stopping early helps prevent resistance is not correct. The best practice is to take the antibiotic exactly as prescribed for the full duration, use the right agent for the infection, and avoid saving leftovers or using antibiotics without a prescription. Resistance risk isn't limited to certain antibiotics or to scenarios where symptoms persist; it's driven by how antibiotics are used in any situation.

10. The Combat Meth Epidemic Act of 2005 regulates which substances?

A. Ephedrine, pseudoephedrine, and phenylpropanolamine

B. Ephedrine

C. Pseudoephedrine

D. Phenylpropanolamine

The Act targets precursor chemicals that can be used to produce methamphetamine, and it lists ephedrine, pseudoephedrine, and phenylpropanolamine as regulated substances. Because these chemicals can be diverted to illicit meth production, they must be sold under strict controls: they're kept behind the counter, buyers must show identification and sign a logbook, and there are daily and monthly purchase limits. These three chemicals together are covered by the Act, so options that mention only one or two of them don't reflect the full scope of the regulation.

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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://ptcbptce.examzify.com>

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

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