

REGISTERED NURSING (RN) ISSUES PRACTICE TEST (SAMPLE)

STUDY GUIDE



SAMPLE STUDY GUIDE WITH LIMITED QUESTIONS

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THE FULL VERSION STUDY GUIDE

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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. Data collected in a healthcare setting shows too many nurses attending to a single patient. What does this indicate about the nursing team's performance?**
 - A. The nursing team cannot provide patient-centered care
 - B. The nursing team cannot address all the problems of the patient while providing care
 - C. The nursing team cannot ensure safe care
 - D. The nursing team is not providing efficient care

- 2. Which combination is an example of preventive care?**
 - A. Blood pressure screenings
 - B. Immunizations
 - C. Mental health counseling
 - D. Blood pressure screenings, immunizations, mental health counseling

- 3. What is a durable power of attorney in healthcare?**
 - A. A physician designated to make medical decisions.
 - B. A nurse designated to provide care.
 - C. A person designated to make healthcare decisions when the patient cannot.
 - D. A legal document detailing the patient's will.

- 4. In preparing to insert an intravenous catheter for a thin, emaciated patient, which intervention supports high-quality IV care?**
 - A. Flush the IV line with normal saline to maintain patency.
 - B. Stop the insertion procedure when there is a break in technique.
 - C. Change the intravenous line every 72 to 96 hours to prevent infection.
 - D. Use an 18-gauge needle for this patient.

- 5. The nurse caring for a client with pain after surgery takes blood pressure and pulse and asks the client to rate the level of pain on the pain scale. Which standard of practice does the nurse perform?**
 - A. Planning
 - B. Assessment
 - C. Diagnosis
 - D. Implementation

- 6. Which principle best supports allowing clients to make their own decisions?**
- A. Justice
 - B. Paternalism
 - C. Autonomy
 - D. Beneficence
- 7. Which law prohibits discrimination against people with disabilities in social and professional life?**
- A. The Americans with Disabilities Act
 - B. The Mental Health Parity Act
 - C. The Uniform Anatomical Gift Act
 - D. The National Organ Transplant Act
- 8. Which tasks fall under the role of a nurse administrator?**
- A. Preparing the budget, staffing, strategic planning of programs and services, employee evaluations, and employee development.
 - B. Providing direct patient bedside care and administering medications.
 - C. Performing surgical procedures.
 - D. Conducting clinical research on new therapies.
- 9. The nurse is presenting information about hyperthermia to nursing students. Which activities put a client at risk for this condition?**
- A. Snowmobiling
 - B. Performing strenuous activity in high humidity
 - C. Skiing
 - D. Hiking in cold weather
- 10. Which action aligns with Joint Commission recommendations to create a safe environment for LGBTQ patients?**
- A. Use only gendered terminology
 - B. Designate unisex restrooms
 - C. Disclose patient information without consent
 - D. Avoid asking about preferred names

Answers

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

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Explanations

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1. Data collected in a healthcare setting shows too many nurses attending to a single patient. What does this indicate about the nursing team's performance?

- A. The nursing team cannot provide patient-centered care
- B. The nursing team cannot address all the problems of the patient while providing care
- C. The nursing team cannot ensure safe care
- D. The nursing team is not providing efficient care**

When care is delivered efficiently, you have the right number of staff with the appropriate skills working with each patient, avoiding unnecessary overlap. If data show too many nurses attending to one patient, it signals inefficiency in how the team is using resources. Tasks may be duplicated, waiting or handoffs may occur more than necessary, and time could be wasted that could have been spent benefiting other patients. This pattern points to a staffing or assignment issue rather than a direct statement about safety or patient-centered care. In short, the situation reflects poor efficiency in care delivery.

2. Which combination is an example of preventive care?

- A. Blood pressure screenings
- B. Immunizations
- C. Mental health counseling
- D. Blood pressure screenings, immunizations, mental health counseling**

Preventive care focuses on stopping disease before it starts or catching problems early so they are easier to manage. Blood pressure screenings help find hypertension before it causes heart or stroke problems, allowing early steps to prevent complications. Immunizations prevent infectious diseases by building immunity ahead of exposure. Mental health counseling supports resilience, coping skills, and early intervention to avert worsening mood or anxiety issues, contributing to overall prevention of mental health crises. Taken together, these three illustrate a broad, proactive approach to health that spans physical and mental well-being, making the combination the best example of preventive care.

3. What is a durable power of attorney in healthcare?

- A. A physician designated to make medical decisions.
- B. A nurse designated to provide care.
- C. A person designated to make healthcare decisions when the patient cannot.**
- D. A legal document detailing the patient's will.

A durable power of attorney in healthcare is a legal document that lets you name someone you trust to make medical decisions for you if you become unable to speak for yourself. The key idea is that the document remains in effect even if you are incapacitated, so the person you designate (your healthcare agent or proxy) can decide about treatments, procedures, and overall care within the scope you set, aiming to honor your values and wishes. It's not a physician or nurse, and it's not a will or other property document. The agent's authority kicks in only when you lack decision-making capacity, and you can revoke or change it whenever you have capacity. Nurses and the treatment team use this document to guide decisions and ensure your preferences are respected.

4. In preparing to insert an intravenous catheter for a thin, emaciated patient, which intervention supports high-quality IV care?

A. Flush the IV line with normal saline to maintain patency.

B. Stop the insertion procedure when there is a break in technique.

C. Change the intravenous line every 72 to 96 hours to prevent infection.

D. Use an 18-gauge needle for this patient.

Maintaining IV line patency is essential for reliable delivery of fluids and medications. Flushing the line with normal saline helps keep the catheter open by pushing out any clotting material or debris, confirming patency, and allowing immediate administration without delays. This is especially important in a thin, emaciated patient where veins are small and more prone to occlusion or infiltration. By verifying that the line flows smoothly, you prevent interruptions in therapy and reduce the need to reinsert or reposition the catheter. Other options don't directly keep the line functioning: stopping the procedure for a break in technique is a safety measure, but it doesn't ensure the line stays patent; changing the line on a routine schedule isn't universally required and doesn't guarantee patency; using a larger-gauge needle in fragile veins increases trauma and risk.

5. The nurse caring for a client with pain after surgery takes blood pressure and pulse and asks the client to rate the level of pain on the pain scale. Which standard of practice does the nurse perform?

A. Planning

B. Assessment

C. Diagnosis

D. Implementation

Gathering data about how the patient is doing is the main idea here. Asking the patient to rate their pain on a scale, along with taking vital signs like blood pressure and pulse, is collecting information about the current state. This step establishes a baseline and helps the nurse understand the level of pain and how it may be affecting hemodynamics, comfort, and recovery after surgery. In the nursing process, this is the assessment phase, where subjective reports (the patient's pain rating) and objective data (vital signs) are gathered to guide next steps. From this assessment, the nurse can plan appropriate interventions, monitor effectiveness, and adjust care as needed. The planning phase would involve setting goals and selecting pain-relief strategies; the diagnosis phase would involve interpreting the data to identify a nursing problem (like acute pain); and the implementation phase would involve administering analgesics or other comfort measures. But the act of asking the patient to rate pain and taking vitals is the assessment component.

6. Which principle best supports allowing clients to make their own decisions?

- A. Justice
- B. Paternalism
- C. Autonomy**
- D. Beneficence

Autonomy is the principle that best supports allowing clients to make their own decisions. It centers on respecting a patient's right to determine their own values and the care they receive. In practice, this means providing clear, complete information about options, risks, and benefits, confirming the patient understands, and supporting a voluntary, well-considered choice. When a patient consents freely and understands what's involved, their preferences guide the plan of care, even if others might choose differently. Justice is about fairness and equal treatment, ensuring resources and care are allocated fairly. Paternalism involves guiding or overriding a patient's choices for their presumed best interest. Beneficence is about doing what benefits the patient, which can conflict with autonomy if it overrides the patient's own wishes.

7. Which law prohibits discrimination against people with disabilities in social and professional life?

- A. The Americans with Disabilities Act**
- B. The Mental Health Parity Act
- C. The Uniform Anatomical Gift Act
- D. The National Organ Transplant Act

Discrimination against people with disabilities in social and professional life is addressed by the Americans with Disabilities Act. The ADA bans unequal treatment in employment, requiring reasonable accommodations so individuals with disabilities can perform job duties and advance, and it also ensures access to public facilities, transportation, and services. The aim is to provide equal opportunity and participation in work and everyday activities, rather than denying opportunities because of a disability. The other laws cover different areas: one focuses on parity of mental health benefits in insurance, not anti-discrimination in daily life; the remaining laws govern organ donation and transplantation.

8. Which tasks fall under the role of a nurse administrator?

- A. Preparing the budget, staffing, strategic planning of programs and services, employee evaluations, and employee development.**
- B. Providing direct patient bedside care and administering medications.
- C. Performing surgical procedures.
- D. Conducting clinical research on new therapies.

Nurse administrators focus on leadership, resource management, and program oversight within a healthcare system. Their responsibilities center on creating and guiding the structures that support care delivery, which includes budgeting to align financial resources with needs, staffing to ensure appropriate coverage, strategic planning of programs and services to meet organizational goals, and evaluating and developing employees to maintain high performance and growth. These tasks embody administrative and managerial duties rather than direct clinical care. Direct patient bedside care and administering medications are performed by bedside nurses. Performing surgical procedures is outside nursing scope and typically done by surgeons. Conducting clinical research involves study design and data collection led by researchers or nurse scientists, though administrators may oversee research programs. Thus, budgeting, staffing, strategic planning, evaluations, and staff development best represent the nurse administrator role.

9. The nurse is presenting information about hyperthermia to nursing students. Which activities put a client at risk for this condition?

- A. Snowmobiling
- B. Performing strenuous activity in high humidity**
- C. Skiing
- D. Hiking in cold weather

Hyperthermia happens when the body's heat production outpaces its ability to dissipate heat. The main cooling method is sweating and its evaporation. When humidity is high, sweat doesn't evaporate efficiently, so cooling is reduced. Strenuous activity in a hot, humid environment cranks up internal heat production while cooling is impaired, making it easy for body temperature to rise to dangerous levels and increasing the risk of heat-related illnesses like heat exhaustion or heat stroke. In contrast, being out in cold weather—even with vigorous activity like snowmobiling, skiing, or hiking—tends to promote heat loss rather than heat gain. The risk there is usually hypothermia, not hyperthermia, because the environment facilitates cooling rather than trapping heat.

10. Which action aligns with Joint Commission recommendations to create a safe environment for LGBTQ patients?

- A. Use only gendered terminology
- B. Designate unisex restrooms**
- C. Disclose patient information without consent
- D. Avoid asking about preferred names

Designating unisex restrooms supports a safe, inclusive environment for LGBTQ patients by acknowledging that some individuals do not identify strictly with traditional binary gender roles. Having gender-neutral facilities reduces discomfort and the risk of harassment, signaling respect for diverse identities and aligning with Joint Commission expectations for nondiscriminatory, patient-centered care. Other approaches miss the mark because they reinforce gender binaries, which can alienate transgender or nonbinary patients; sharing patient information without consent breaches privacy and trust; and avoiding questions about a patient's preferred name undermines clear, respectful communication and identity acknowledgment. The Joint Commission emphasizes creating a safe, respectful environment, which includes inclusive facilities and honoring patient identity and privacy.

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://rnissues.examzify.com>

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

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