

# Rutgers Medical Terminology Practice Exam (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. Which suffix indicates "pertaining to the heart"?**
  - A. -cardiac
  - B. -angio
  - C. -thoracic
  - D. -vascular
  
- 2. What does "ov/i" indicate in medical terminology?**
  - A. Ear
  - B. Ovum
  - C. Parathyroid
  - D. Ovary
  
- 3. What does "odont/o" pertain to in terms of anatomy?**
  - A. Skin
  - B. Teeth
  - C. Nerves
  - D. Eyes
  
- 4. What does "super/o" refer to in anatomical terms?**
  - A. Below
  - B. Above
  - C. Near
  - D. Inside
  
- 5. What does "pineal/o" refer to in medical terminology?**
  - A. Pituitary gland
  - B. Pineal gland
  - C. Gray matter
  - D. Foot
  
- 6. What does the suffix '-pathy' denote in medical terminology?**
  - A. Disease
  - B. Abnormal increase
  - C. Digestive issue
  - D. Severe condition

- 7. Which root word is associated with 'fear' or 'worry'?**
- A. anxi/o**
  - B. phobi/o**
  - C. depress/o**
  - D. stress/o**
- 8. What does the suffix "-emia" denote?**
- A. surgical removal**
  - B. condition of the blood**
  - C. pertaining to a blood condition**
  - D. produces**
- 9. What is the primary meaning of "pneumon/o"?**
- A. Lung, air**
  - B. Mental condition**
  - C. Pleural cavity**
  - D. Body**
- 10. Which term is linked to the analysis of stones in the body?**
- A. lip/o**
  - B. lob/o**
  - C. lith/o**
  - D. lymph/o**

## Answers

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

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## **Explanations**

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### 1. Which suffix indicates "pertaining to the heart"?

- A. -cardiac**
- B. -angio
- C. -thoracic
- D. -vascular

The suffix that indicates "pertaining to the heart" is -cardiac. This suffix is derived from the Greek word "kardia," which means heart. It is commonly used in medical terminology to describe conditions, procedures, or characteristics related specifically to the heart. For instance, "myocardial" refers to anything related to the heart muscle, and "pericardial" pertains to the membrane surrounding the heart. In contrast, the other suffixes do not specifically relate to the heart. -Angio refers to blood vessels or lymphatic vessels, -thoracic pertains to the chest cavity or thorax, and -vascular relates to blood vessels generally. Therefore, -cardiac is the appropriate choice when discussing aspects directly associated with the heart.

### 2. What does "ov/i" indicate in medical terminology?

- A. Ear
- B. Ovum**
- C. Parathyroid
- D. Ovary

In medical terminology, the prefix "ov/i" specifically refers to "ovum," which is the singular form of an egg cell involved in reproduction. This term is commonly used in various medical contexts, particularly when discussing female reproductive health. For instance, when terms such as "ovulation" or "ovarian" are used, they relate to the process of releasing an ovum or to the ovaries where ova are produced. Understanding this root helps in deciphering more complex medical terms associated with female anatomy and reproductive processes. The other choices are related to different anatomical parts or processes. "Ear" refers to auditory structures, "parathyroid" pertains to glands involved in calcium regulation, and "ovary" denotes the specific organs that produce ova and hormones. While the ovary is closely related, "ov/i" itself is specifically tied to the ovum.

### 3. What does "odont/o" pertain to in terms of anatomy?

- A. Skin
- B. Teeth**
- C. Nerves
- D. Eyes

The prefix "odont/o" specifically refers to teeth in anatomical terminology. This root is derived from the Greek word "odous," meaning tooth. In medical language, it is commonly used in terms related to dentistry and oral health, such as "odontogenesis," which refers to the development of teeth, and "periodontitis," which is an inflammation of the tissues surrounding the teeth. Understanding this root is crucial in fields related to oral health and dentistry, as it helps in recognizing various dental-related terms and conditions.

#### 4. What does "super/o" refer to in anatomical terms?

- A. Below
- B. Above**
- C. Near
- D. Inside

The term "super/o" is derived from the Latin prefix "super," which means "above" or "upper." In anatomical terminology, it is used to describe structures that are located higher than other structures in the body. For instance, if one organ is described as being "superior" to another, it indicates that it is positioned above that organ in relation to standard anatomical positions. This terminology is crucial for accurately describing the locations of various body parts in English and other languages, particularly in clinical settings where precise communication is essential for effective diagnosis and treatment. Understanding the directional terms like "superior" helps healthcare professionals communicate clearly about patient anatomy and any relevant medical conditions. The importance of these terms cannot be understated as they provide a foundational understanding that enhances professional dialogue in medicine.

#### 5. What does "pineal/o" refer to in medical terminology?

- A. Pituitary gland
- B. Pineal gland**
- C. Gray matter
- D. Foot

The term "pineal/o" specifically refers to the pineal gland, which is a small, pea-shaped gland located in the brain. It is part of the endocrine system and plays a crucial role in regulating sleep-wake cycles by producing the hormone melatonin. The prefix "pineal" is derived from the Latin word "pineae," meaning pine cone, which reflects the gland's shape. Understanding the significance of the pineal gland in the context of its functions and related terminology is essential in medical contexts, especially when discussing sleep disorders, hormonal regulation, and certain neurological assessments. This makes the association of "pineal/o" with the pineal gland clear and precise, distinguishing it from other glands or anatomical structures.

**6. What does the suffix '-pathy' denote in medical terminology?**

- A. Disease**
- B. Abnormal increase**
- C. Digestive issue**
- D. Severe condition**

The suffix '-pathy' is derived from the Greek word 'pathos,' meaning 'suffering' or 'disease.' In medical terminology, it is used to indicate a disease or disorder of a particular part of the body. For example, in terms like 'neuropathy,' it refers specifically to a disease affecting the nerves. This suffix is instrumental in forming words that describe various medical conditions, and it provides a clear indication of the presence of disease or suffering in the context of the term. In contrast, the other options reflect different medical concepts. An abnormal increase would typically be represented by suffixes like '-emia' or '-hyper,' indicating issues such as excessive levels of certain substances. A digestive issue might be described with terms including 'gastro-' or 'enteropathy,' which specify the gastrointestinal system rather than just denoting a disease broadly. Finally, a severe condition is often referred to with terms that imply severity, such as 'severe' or '-itis,' which is used for inflammatory conditions. Hence, '-pathy' is distinct in its specific reference to disease.

**7. Which root word is associated with 'fear' or 'worry'?**

- A. anxi/o**
- B. phobi/o**
- C. depress/o**
- D. stress/o**

The root word that is most closely associated with 'fear' or 'worry' is "anxi/o." This root comes from the Latin word "anxius," which translates to anxious or uneasy. In medical terminology, it pertains to conditions characterized by feelings of anxiety and apprehension. This root is commonly used in terms such as "anxiety disorder," which involves excessive fear or worry that affects daily functioning. On the other hand, "phobi/o" is also related to fear but is specific to irrational or extreme fears of particular objects or situations, such as in "arachnophobia" (fear of spiders). The term "depress/o" relates to mood disorders and does not specifically encompass the broader feelings of fear or worry. Similarly, "stress/o" pertains to the physiological and psychological response to perceived challenges or threats but is not specifically tied to the emotional state of fear or worry. Therefore, "anxi/o" is the most fitting root word relating to feelings of fear or worry.

## 8. What does the suffix "-emia" denote?

- A. surgical removal
- B. condition of the blood**
- C. pertaining to a blood condition
- D. produces

The suffix "-emia" is derived from the Greek word "haima," meaning blood. It is commonly used in medical terminology to describe a condition related to the blood. For instance, terms like "anemia" refer to a deficiency of red cells or hemoglobin in the blood, while "leukemia" indicates a condition of abnormal white blood cells. The suffix focuses on an aspect of health or disease that impacts the blood itself, indicating various medical conditions that can affect the blood's composition or state. This clear association with blood-related conditions distinguishes "-emia" from other suffixes that might describe different aspects of health or surgical procedures.

## 9. What is the primary meaning of "pneumon/o"?

- A. Lung, air**
- B. Mental condition
- C. Pleural cavity
- D. Body

The term "pneumon/o" primarily refers to the lungs or air. This root word is derived from the Greek word "pneuma," which means air or breath. In medical terminology, "pneumon/o" is often used as a prefix or combining form in various terms related to the respiratory system, such as "pneumonia," which is an infection that inflames the air sacs in the lungs. Understanding this root is essential for interpreting medical terms associated with lung conditions, as it helps in identifying the focus on pulmonary issues clearly. The other options do not accurately represent the root's meaning in a medical context. For instance, terms related to mental health, body structure, or cavities in the body utilize different root words or combining forms that convey meanings distinct from those associated with the respiratory system. Recognizing "pneumon/o" as related to the lungs ensures a clearer understanding of medical vocabulary within that specialty.

## 10. Which term is linked to the analysis of stones in the body?

- A. lip/o
- B. lob/o
- C. lith/o**
- D. lymph/o

The term linked to the analysis of stones in the body is "lith/o." This prefix comes from the Greek word "lithos," which means stone. In medical terminology, "lith/o" is used to refer specifically to stones or calculi that form in organs such as the kidneys or gallbladder. It is commonly found in terms related to conditions involving stones, such as "lithiasis," which refers to the formation of stones in the body. This makes "lith/o" the correct choice for understanding processes that involve the examination or treatment of stones within the body. The other terms mentioned have different meanings; for example, "lip/o" relates to fat, "lob/o" pertains to lobes (often used in discussing organs), and "lymph/o" is associated with lymphatic tissue or fluid. Understanding these distinctions further clarifies why "lith/o" specifically pertains to stones.

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

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

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