

SHERPATH MEDICATION ADMINISTRATION: IMPLEMENT AND TAKE ACTION; EVALUATE PRACTICE TEST (SAMPLE)

STUDY GUIDE



SAMPLE STUDY GUIDE WITH LIMITED QUESTIONS

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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. What is a disadvantage of intravenous medication administration?**
 - A. Lower cost compared to oral medications
 - B. Requires less supervision from healthcare staff
 - C. Need to maintain venous access
 - D. Rapid absorption into the bloodstream
- 2. Which is NOT a form of topical medication?**
 - A. Creams.
 - B. Liquid injections.
 - C. Aerosol sprays.
 - D. Patches.
- 3. For accurate dosage, which device is preferred when giving a precise amount of liquid medication?**
 - A. Measuring cup.
 - B. Oral syringe calibrated in metric only.
 - C. Household teaspoon.
 - D. Plastic cup.
- 4. Which of the following methods of delivery is NOT used for inhaled medications?**
 - A. Metered-dose inhalers (MDIs)
 - B. Dry powder inhalers (DPIs)
 - C. Oral tablets
 - D. Nebulizers
- 5. What direction should be given to a patient with a prescription for a swish-and-swallow medication?**
 - A. "Do not rinse your mouth after taking the swish-and-swallow medication."
 - B. "Tilt your head front to back while the medicine is in your mouth."
 - C. "Keep the medication away from your cheeks; bubble it in the back of your throat, almost like gargling."
 - D. "Take the swish-and-swallow medication before you swallow any other medications."

- 6. When administering medication via a GI tube, what is the first step to take?**
- A. Flush the tube with water
 - B. Check the placement of the tube
 - C. Prepare medications for administration
 - D. Put the patient in a supine position
- 7. What should a nurse do when administering a controlled substance?**
- A. Administer it without any documentation
 - B. Follow strict protocols for storage, documentation, and witnessing administration
 - C. Consult the patient for their preferred method of administration
 - D. Skip protocols for efficiency's sake
- 8. What is the typical syringe and needle gauge used for intramuscular injections?**
- A. 1- to 3-mL syringe with an 18- to 25-gauge, 1- to 1.5-inch needle
 - B. 0.5- to 1-mL syringe with a 25- to 30-gauge, ½-inch needle
 - C. 2- to 5-mL syringe with a 16- to 18-gauge, 2-inch needle
 - D. 1- to 10-mL syringe with a 21- to 23-gauge, 1-inch needle
- 9. Which patient position is preferred for insertion of a vaginal suppository?**
- A. Left side-lying position with upper knee flexed (Sims position)
 - B. Right side-lying position
 - C. Dorsal recumbent position
 - D. Prone with legs apart
- 10. The term 'five rights' in medication administration refers to:**
- A. The key elements to ensure safety in drug delivery
 - B. The legal rights of patients
 - C. The rights of nurses when administering medication
 - D. The rights of the pharmaceutical companies

Answers

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

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Explanations

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1. What is a disadvantage of intravenous medication administration?

- A. Lower cost compared to oral medications
- B. Requires less supervision from healthcare staff
- C. Need to maintain venous access**
- D. Rapid absorption into the bloodstream

The need to maintain venous access is a significant disadvantage of intravenous medication administration. This method requires a secure and ongoing insertion of a catheter into a vein, which can be uncomfortable for the patient and poses risks such as infection or clot formation. Additionally, maintaining venous access demands continuous monitoring and management by healthcare professionals to ensure the catheter remains functional and free of complications. In comparison, other methods of administration, such as oral medications, may not require such intricate management, making them generally easier and safer for patients. Intravenous administration, while providing rapid medication effects, necessitates careful oversight, particularly if the infusion lasts for an extended period or if multiple medications are being administered simultaneously. This makes the maintenance of venous access a critical consideration in the overall management of intravenous therapy.

2. Which is NOT a form of topical medication?

- A. Creams.
- B. Liquid injections.**
- C. Aerosol sprays.
- D. Patches.

Topical medications are designed to be applied directly to the skin or mucous membranes for localized effects, which distinguishes them from other forms of medication. In the context of the options provided, creams, aerosol sprays, and patches are all forms of topical medications because they are applied externally and work on the surface of the skin or just beneath it. Liquid injections, however, are typically administered through a syringe or needle into the body, usually into muscle, fat tissue, or blood vessels, rather than being applied externally. This mode of administration involves systemic effects rather than localized treatment, which is the primary characteristic of topical medications. Therefore, identifying liquid injections as not a form of topical medication is accurate, as they do not align with the intended use and application method of topical therapies.

3. For accurate dosage, which device is preferred when giving a precise amount of liquid medication?

- A. Measuring cup.
- B. Oral syringe calibrated in metric only.**
- C. Household teaspoon.
- D. Plastic cup.

When it comes to administering a precise amount of liquid medication, an oral syringe calibrated in metric only is the preferred device. This is because oral syringes provide the most accurate measurement for liquid medications, allowing for precise dosing in milliliters (mL) rather than relying on more ambiguous measurements that can occur with other devices. Oral syringes are designed specifically for medication administration and often have clear markings that help to ensure the correct dosage is administered. Their design enables a tighter fit and less likelihood of spillage, which can occur with other tools like measuring cups or plastic cups. In contrast, household measuring devices, like teaspoons or cups, can vary significantly in terms of their actual volume capacity and are not standardized, leading to potential inaccuracies in dosing. By using an oral syringe calibrated in metric, healthcare professionals can provide the exact amount of medication needed, which is essential for ensuring efficacy and minimizing the risk of underdosing or overdosing.

4. Which of the following methods of delivery is NOT used for inhaled medications?

- A. Metered-dose inhalers (MDIs)
- B. Dry powder inhalers (DPIs)
- C. Oral tablets**
- D. Nebulizers

Inhaled medications are typically delivered through devices specifically designed for that purpose, enabling direct administration to the respiratory system. Metered-dose inhalers (MDIs), dry powder inhalers (DPIs), and nebulizers are all effective methods for inhalation therapy. MDIs deliver a measured dose of medication directly to the lungs in aerosol form, while DPIs allow patients to inhale medication in a dry powder form. Nebulizers convert liquid medication into a mist, making it easier for patients to inhale. All of these methods focus on developing an inhalation route that maximizes drug delivery directly to the airways. However, oral tablets are not designed for inhalation and instead are meant for systemic absorption through the gastrointestinal tract. This route is not suitable for conditions requiring targeted lung delivery, such as asthma or COPD, which are where inhaled forms are specifically beneficial. Thus, the correct answer indicates that oral tablets are not used for inhaled medications.

5. What direction should be given to a patient with a prescription for a swish-and-swallow medication?

- A. "Do not rinse your mouth after taking the swish-and-swallow medication."**
- B. "Tilt your head front to back while the medicine is in your mouth."
- C. "Keep the medication away from your cheeks; bubble it in the back of your throat, almost like gargling."
- D. "Take the swish-and-swallow medication before you swallow any other medications."

For swish-and-swallow medications, the correct guidance involves not rinsing the mouth after taking the medication because rinsing could dilute the effectiveness of the medicine. These types of medications are typically designed to work topically in the mouth or throat, and rinsing could wash away the medication before it has had a chance to exert its therapeutic effects. The other options imply techniques that either do not align with the proper administration of swish-and-swallow medications, such as tilting the head or keeping the medication away from the cheeks, which can interfere with proper coating or applicable areas for the medication, or scheduling with other medications, which can affect absorption and effectiveness. By adhering to the guidance of not rinsing the mouth, patients can ensure that the medication remains effective for its intended duration, maximizing its therapeutic benefits.

6. When administering medication via a GI tube, what is the first step to take?

- A. Flush the tube with water
- B. Check the placement of the tube**
- C. Prepare medications for administration
- D. Put the patient in a supine position

Checking the placement of the tube is a critical first step when administering medication via a gastrointestinal (GI) tube. It ensures that the tube is correctly positioned in the stomach or intestine, which is vital for safe and effective medication delivery. If the tube is mispositioned, medications could enter the lungs instead of the gastrointestinal tract, leading to serious complications, including aspiration pneumonia. Verifying tube placement may involve checking residuals, using an aspirate method, or listening for bowel sounds, depending on the facility's policy and the specific type of tube being used. Ensuring correct placement establishes a solid foundation for the subsequent steps in medication administration, such as preparing the medications and flushing the tube. This step enhances patient safety by minimizing the risk of adverse events associated with incorrect tube placement.

7. What should a nurse do when administering a controlled substance?

- A. Administer it without any documentation
- B. Follow strict protocols for storage, documentation, and witnessing administration**
- C. Consult the patient for their preferred method of administration
- D. Skip protocols for efficiency's sake

When administering a controlled substance, it is vital to follow strict protocols for storage, documentation, and witnessing administration. Controlled substances are regulated due to their potential for misuse and dependence. Therefore, healthcare facilities implement rigorous procedures to ensure their safe and appropriate handling. Following these protocols involves several critical steps. First, the nurse must ensure that the medication is stored securely, typically in a locked cabinet or drawer, to prevent unauthorized access. Accurate documentation, including the drug's administration time, dosage, and the patient's response, is also necessary to maintain a clear record of the medication's use and to comply with legal and regulatory standards. Additionally, having a witness present during the preparation and administration of the medication adds another layer of accountability. This practice helps to verify that the correct medication is given to the correct patient at the correct dose and time, minimizing the risk of errors. Overall, adherence to these protocols is essential for patient safety, legal compliance, and professional integrity in nursing practice.

8. What is the typical syringe and needle gauge used for intramuscular injections?

- A. 1- to 3-mL syringe with an 18- to 25-gauge, 1- to 1.5-inch needle**
- B. 0.5- to 1-mL syringe with a 25- to 30-gauge, ½-inch needle
- C. 2- to 5-mL syringe with a 16- to 18-gauge, 2-inch needle
- D. 1- to 10-mL syringe with a 21- to 23-gauge, 1-inch needle

The typical syringe and needle gauge used for intramuscular injections is best represented by a 1- to 3-mL syringe paired with an 18- to 25-gauge, 1- to 1.5-inch needle. This selection aligns well with the requirements of intramuscular injections, which involve delivering medication deep into muscle tissue. The size of the syringe is appropriate for the volume of medication typically administered intramuscularly, which can range from 1 mL to 3 mL, allowing for both flexibility and the capacity to inject an adequate dose. The needle gauge range of 18 to 25 is suitable for facilitating comfortable injection while ensuring that the medication can pass through without resistance. The 1- to 1.5-inch length of the needle is generally sufficient to penetrate muscle tissue adequately in various body areas, including larger muscle groups where intramuscular injections are commonly performed, such as the deltoid, vastus lateralis, or gluteus maximus. Choosing this gauge and size also balances the need for effective medication delivery with patient comfort, minimizing pain at the injection site while ensuring a proper therapeutic effect.

9. Which patient position is preferred for insertion of a vaginal suppository?

- A. Left side-lying position with upper knee flexed (Sims position)
- B. Right side-lying position
- C. Dorsal recumbent position**
- D. Prone with legs apart

The preferred patient position for the insertion of a vaginal suppository is the dorsal recumbent position. This position allows for easy access to the vaginal canal, facilitating the insertion of the suppository. In the dorsal recumbent position, the patient lies on their back with their knees flexed and feet flat on the bed. This alignment not only promotes comfort but also provides a stable and anatomical orientation for healthcare providers to perform the procedure effectively. It minimizes the risk of trauma and ensures that the medication can be properly placed within the vaginal vault. Additionally, using this position allows for less strain on the patient, as they do not have to maintain any awkward angle or posture. This ease of access helps improve the overall experience for the patient during the administration of the suppository, enhancing both safety and efficacy of medication delivery. While the left side-lying position with the upper knee flexed can aid in certain scenarios, it is less commonly used for vaginal suppository insertion because it can be more cumbersome and does not afford the same level of direct access as the dorsal recumbent position.

10. The term 'five rights' in medication administration refers to:

- A. The key elements to ensure safety in drug delivery**
- B. The legal rights of patients
- C. The rights of nurses when administering medication
- D. The rights of the pharmaceutical companies

The term 'five rights' in medication administration pertains to a set of core principles designed to promote safety and efficacy in drug delivery. This framework emphasizes the importance of ensuring that the right patient receives the right medication at the right dose via the right route at the right time. These principles are crucial in preventing medication errors, which can lead to adverse effects and jeopardize patient safety. By adhering to the 'five rights,' healthcare professionals are equipped with a standardized method to verify every aspect of medication administration, ultimately leading to improved patient outcomes and enhanced trust in the healthcare system. While other options touch on important areas—such as patient rights or professional responsibilities—they do not specifically address the fundamental safety measures encapsulated in the 'five rights' framework. This focus on safe drug delivery practices is what solidifies option A as the most relevant and accurate choice in the context of medication administration.

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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://sherpathmedaid.examzify.com>

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

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