Surveillance and Disease Reporting Practice Test (Sample)

Study Guide

Everything you need from our exam experts!

Table of Contents

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

1. For USDA-approved products, such as animal vaccines, to whom should you report the adverse event first?

A. FDA

B. NPIC

C. Manufacturer

D. EPA

2. Which of the following is NOT a foreign animal disease (FAD) but is reportable?

A. Brucellosis

B. Bovine Spongiform Encephalopathy

C. Foot-and-Mouth Disease

D. Chronic Wasting Disease

3. Which entity has authority grounded in the US Constitution?

A. Counties

B. Municipalities

C. States

D. Federal government

4. Which agencies have passive surveillance systems?

A. FDA's Adverse Events Reporting System (AERS)

B. CDC's National Wastewater Surveillance System (NWSS)

C. Vaccine Adverse Events Reporting System (VAERS)

D. Both AERS and VAERS

5. Which disease is included in the National Poultry Improvement Plan?

A. Newcastle disease

B. Infectious Bursal Disease

C. Chlamydophila psittaci

D. Mycoplasma synoviae

6. For EPA-approved products, such as some flea and tick products, report the adverse event to which organization?

A. EPA

B. NPIC

C. FDA

D. USDA

7. Which entity makes a field diagnosis, initiates appropriate control measures, ships diagnostic samples to NVSL, and informs the AD or SAHO?

A. NVSL

B. FDA

C. FADD

D. SAHO

8. Which national organization do you report animal disease to?

A. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention

B. National Institutes of Health

C. Food and Drug Administration

D. US Department of Agriculture

9. What is the term for testing cattle and domestic bison for infection via serology under a national eradication program?

A. Active Surveillance

B. Serosurveillance

C. Passive Surveillance

D. Wastewater Surveillance

10. If there are adverse event reporting, where do you go to report these?

A. CDC

B. FDA

C. NIH

D. USDA

Answers

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

Explanations

1. For USDA-approved products, such as animal vaccines, to whom should you report the adverse event first?

A. FDA

B. NPIC

C. Manufacturer

D. EPA

Adverse event reporting for USDA-approved veterinary vaccines starts with the manufacturer. They're the first point of contact because they oversee post-market safety surveillance, collect the details of what happened, and then relay the information to the appropriate regulatory body with all the necessary data (product name, lot number, date of administration, species and condition of the animal, and contact information). The regulatory bodies you might hear about in humans or pesticides (FDA, NPIC, EPA) aren't the first recipients for animal vaccines. The manufacturer has the immediate responsibility to document and pass along adverse event information so proper investigations and tracking can occur.

2. Which of the following is NOT a foreign animal disease (FAD) but is reportable?

A. Brucellosis

B. Bovine Spongiform Encephalopathy

C. Foot-and-Mouth Disease

D. Chronic Wasting Disease

Foreign animal diseases are those not normally present in the country and would trigger rapid, wide-scale controls. Brucellosis is already present domestically in some regions and is managed under ongoing domestic surveillance, so it is not a foreign animal disease. It remains reportable to state and federal authorities to protect both animal and public health. In contrast, foot-and-mouth disease and bovine spongiform encephalopathy are classic FADs—detecting them would prompt immediate international notification and strict containment. Chronic wasting disease is a wildlife disease established in North America and is reportable for surveillance, but it isn't considered a foreign animal disease. So, brucellosis is not a foreign animal disease but is reportable.

3. Which entity has authority grounded in the US Constitution?

A. Counties

B. Municipalities

C. States

D. Federal government

In a federal system, the Constitution defines who holds sovereign authority within the country. The states are recognized as sovereign entities within the union, with powers reserved to them under the Constitution and the Tenth Amendment. Counties and municipalities, by contrast, are created by states through state law and charters, so their authority comes from the states rather than directly from the Constitution. The federal government's powers are also defined by the Constitution, but the question highlights which level is grounded in constitutional sovereignty, which is the state.

4. Which agencies have passive surveillance systems?

A. FDA's Adverse Events Reporting System (AERS)

B. CDC's National Wastewater Surveillance System (NWSS)

C. Vaccine Adverse Events Reporting System (VAERS)

D. Both AERS and VAERS

The idea being tested is what makes a surveillance system passive: it depends on voluntary reporting of events rather than investigators actively seeking information. Both FDA's Adverse Events Reporting System and the Vaccine Adverse Event Reporting System operate this way. They collect reports about adverse events from drugs, biologics, or vaccines after they reach the public, and these reports come from clinicians, patients, manufacturers, and the public as they notice something occurring. No one is routinely and proactively contacted to confirm every case; instead, reports accumulate over time to highlight potential safety signals. National Wastewater Surveillance System, on the other hand, gathers data by actively sampling and testing wastewater across communities to monitor for pathogens. This is a form of environmental surveillance that relies on systematic, ongoing data collection rather than spontaneous reporting of illness. Therefore, the systems that are passive are AERS and VAERS.

5. Which disease is included in the National Poultry Improvement Plan?

A. Newcastle disease

B. Infectious Bursal Disease

C. Chlamydophila psittaci

D. Mycoplasma synoviae

The question tests understanding of what the National Poultry Improvement Plan covers. NPIP is a program that helps protect poultry health and facilitate the interstate movement of birds and eggs by certifying flocks and hatcheries as free from specific diseases. Newcastle disease is included in NPIP because it is highly contagious, can cause severe outbreaks with high mortality, and has significant implications for trade and movement of poultry. Certification that flocks are free of Newcastle disease helps prevent introduction of this devastating disease into other flocks and regions. The other options aren't the disease focal point of this particular NPIP certification in the context of the question.

6. For EPA-approved products, such as some flea and tick products, report the adverse event to which organization?

A. EPA

B. NPIC

C. FDA

D. USDA

Adverse events from EPA-approved products, such as flea and tick medications, are reported through the National Pesticide Information Center. NPIC acts as a central channel for pesticide incident reports from the public and professionals, collecting the details and forwarding them to the EPA's Office of Pesticide Programs for evaluation. This ensures regulators have the information needed to assess safety, issue guidance, or take action if needed. While EPA is the regulatory authority for pesticides, the direct reporting pathway for these adverse events is through NPIC rather than reaching EPA directly or going to FDA or USDA.

7. Which entity makes a field diagnosis, initiates appropriate control measures, ships diagnostic samples to NVSL, and informs the AD or SAHO?

A. NVSL

B. FDA

C. FADD

D. SAHO

The field-level decision-maker who can diagnose a suspected foreign animal disease on the spot, start immediate control actions, ship samples to the NVSL for confirmation, and notify the appropriate Area Director or State Animal Health Official is the Federal Animal Disease Diagnostician. This role is trained to recognize diseases with significant outbreak potential, implement rapid containment steps (like movement controls or quarantines), and ensure samples are promptly sent to the National Veterinary Services Laboratories for verification. Once the field diagnosis is made, the FADD alerts the responsible AD or SAHO to coordinate the official response. The other options fit different parts of the system—NVSL is the testing lab, FDA handles regulatory oversight at a broader level, and SAHO oversees state operations but does not typically initiate the field diagnosis and immediate control actions.

8. Which national organization do you report animal disease to?

A. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention

B. National Institutes of Health

C. Food and Drug Administration

D. US Department of Agriculture

Reporting animal disease goes to the national organization responsible for animal health, which in the United States is the Department of Agriculture through APHIS (Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service). APHIS coordinates with state veterinarians to monitor, confirm, and respond to outbreaks, ensuring a unified national surveillance and response system. The other agencies have different roles: the CDC focuses on human health and zoonotic impacts, NIH is about research, and the FDA oversees veterinary drugs and safety rather than routine disease reporting. When a suspected animal disease is found, the typical path is to notify the state veterinarian, who then works with APHIS to manage the outbreak.

9. What is the term for testing cattle and domestic bison for infection via serology under a national eradication program?

A. Active Surveillance

B. Serosurveillance

C. Passive Surveillance

D. Wastewater Surveillance

The key idea being tested is using blood-based antibody testing to monitor exposure in animal populations as part of a disease eradication effort. This approach, where serum samples from cattle and domestic bison are tested for pathogen-specific antibodies, is called serosurveillance. It provides a picture of who has been exposed to the infection, even if animals aren't showing illness right now, allowing public health and veterinary programs to map transmission, identify areas still at risk, and measure progress toward eradication. Active surveillance, by contrast, focuses on finding current infections through direct pathogen detection (like PCR or culture), not just antibodies. Passive surveillance relies on reports of illness or suspicion rather than proactive, systematic sampling. Wastewater surveillance uses environmental samples to infer infection levels in a community, which isn't about testing individual animals' serostatus.

10. If there are adverse event reporting, where do you go to report these?

A. CDC

B. FDA

C. NIH

D. USDA

Adverse event reporting for medical products is handled by the FDA because they regulate drugs, biologics, medical devices, and other FDA-regulated products. The FDA runs MedWatch, the system for healthcare professionals and the public to report suspected adverse events, so the agency can monitor safety signals, assess risks, and take actions like labeling changes or recalls when needed. The CDC's role is public health surveillance and outbreak tracking, not the primary channel for reporting adverse events about FDA-regulated products. NIH is focused on research and funding, not routine adverse event reporting, and USDA handles agriculture and food safety, not human medical product safety. (If the concern is vaccines specifically, VAERS exists as a joint effort between FDA and CDC, but the standard reporting pathway for most adverse events remains through FDA's MedWatch.)

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://surveillancediseasereporting.examzify.com

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