

SWIFT RIVER VIRTUAL CLINICALS 2.0 – EMERGENCY DEPARTMENT (ED) PRACTICE EXAM (SAMPLE)

STUDY GUIDE



SAMPLE STUDY GUIDE WITH LIMITED QUESTIONS

VISIT US ONLINE FOR
THE FULL VERSION STUDY GUIDE

<https://swiftriver2ed.examzify.com>



Copyright © 2026 by Examzify - A Kaluba Technologies Inc. product.

ALL RIGHTS RESERVED.

No part of this book may be reproduced or transferred in any form or by any means, graphic, electronic, or mechanical, including photocopying, recording, web distribution, taping, or by any information storage retrieval system, without the written permission of the author.

Notice: Examzify makes every reasonable effort to obtain accurate, complete, and timely information about this product from reliable sources.

SAMPLE

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	16

SAMPLE

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

SAMPLE

- 1. Which vital sign abnormality is noted in the client who collapsed from a heat-related issue?**
 - A. High heart rate
 - B. Hypothermia
 - C. Elevated respiratory rate
 - D. Low blood pressure

- 2. What does the GCS score of 14 for Margaret Jones indicate about her condition?**
 - A. Fully alert
 - B. Minor issues
 - C. Possible confusion
 - D. No concerns

- 3. What acuity level is assigned to both Virginia Washington and Donna Hutcheson?**
 - A. Acuity 3
 - B. Acuity 4
 - C. Acuity 5
 - D. Acuity 2

- 4. What is the significance of vital signs including a heart rate of 160/min observed in Jonathon Warren?**
 - A. Indicates heart failure
 - B. Suggests an allergic reaction
 - C. Shows signs of severe distress
 - D. Indicates normal physiological response

- 5. How many patients are listed with an acuity level of 5 and non-trauma classification?**
 - A. 1
 - B. 2
 - C. 3
 - D. 4

- 6. What is the primary focus of care for the 16-year-old client Laurie Cooper?**
- A. Prescriptive treatment for dermatitis
 - B. Immediate surgical intervention
 - C. Cardiac monitoring
 - D. Intravenous therapy
- 7. What lab work is likely required for Sammy Flowers due to high blood glucose levels?**
- A. Complete blood count
 - B. Renal function tests
 - C. Urinalysis
 - D. Blood cultures
- 8. What is the acuity level of Mathew Watson?**
- A. Acuity 1
 - B. Acuity 2
 - C. Acuity 3
 - D. Acuity 4
- 9. Which vital sign reading indicates hypoperfusion in a 65-year-old client with severe burns?**
- A. High blood pressure
 - B. Low heart rate
 - C. Normal respiratory rate
 - D. Very low blood pressure
- 10. For a client with burns to the face, what is the first step in their emergency management?**
- A. Administer pain relief medication
 - B. Apply ointment to the burns
 - C. Determine the extent of the burns
 - D. Perform an eye examination

Answers

SAMPLE

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

SAMPLE

Explanations

SAMPLE

1. Which vital sign abnormality is noted in the client who collapsed from a heat-related issue?

- A. High heart rate
- B. Hypothermia
- C. Elevated respiratory rate
- D. Low blood pressure**

In cases of heat-related illnesses, such as heat exhaustion or heat stroke, one of the common physiological responses to hyperthermia is a drop in blood pressure. As the body becomes overheated, it can lead to vasodilation—where blood vessels widen—resulting in pooling of blood and a decrease in venous return to the heart. This can culminate in low blood pressure, a critical indicator when assessing a patient who has collapsed due to heat exposure. Additionally, the body attempts to compensate for the heat by increasing heart rate and respiratory rate, which often leads to a high heart rate and elevated respiratory rate. Hypothermia, on the other hand, would not be relevant in this context, as it refers to a dangerously low body temperature rather than a response to heat exposure. Understanding the interplay of these vital sign changes is crucial in managing heat-related illnesses effectively.

2. What does the GCS score of 14 for Margaret Jones indicate about her condition?

- A. Fully alert
- B. Minor issues
- C. Possible confusion**
- D. No concerns

A Glasgow Coma Scale (GCS) score of 14 indicates that the individual is generally alert but may exhibit some minor issues. The GCS is used to assess a person's level of consciousness and is divided into three components: eye opening, verbal response, and motor response. Each component is scored, and the total score can range from 3 (deep coma or death) to 15 (fully alert). In the case of a score of 14, this suggests that Margaret Jones is likely oriented and able to respond appropriately to questions, but there may be subtle signs of potential confusion or disorientation that warrant further observation. This score reflects a slight impairment in cognitive functioning, which could indicate that she is not completely without concerns regarding her neurological status. Therefore, the correct interpretation of a GCS score of 14 aligns with the notion of possible confusion rather than a full state of alertness or complete absence of issues.

3. What acuity level is assigned to both Virginia Washington and Donna Hutcheson?

- A. Acuity 3
- B. Acuity 4
- C. Acuity 5**
- D. Acuity 2

Acuity levels in emergency departments are used to prioritize patient care based on the severity of their condition. Acuity 5 represents the lowest level of urgency, usually assigned to patients with minor complaints that do not require immediate intervention. In the context of the scenario concerning Virginia Washington and Donna Hutcheson, assigning them both an acuity level of 5 indicates that their conditions are stable, non-life-threatening, and appropriate for the least urgent care. This level allows the medical staff to focus resources and attention on more critical patients while providing necessary care to those with less severe issues. For instance, patients at this acuity level might present with simple ailments like a cold or minor injuries that can wait for a longer period without significant risk to their health. Thus, understanding that both patients are at Acuity 5 allows healthcare providers to efficiently manage the flow of the ER and ensure that all patients receive timely and appropriate care based on their needs.

4. What is the significance of vital signs including a heart rate of 160/min observed in Jonathon Warren?

- A. Indicates heart failure
- B. Suggests an allergic reaction
- C. Shows signs of severe distress**
- D. Indicates normal physiological response

A heart rate of 160 beats per minute is significantly elevated and indicates that Jonathon Warren is experiencing tachycardia. This elevated heart rate often suggests that the body is under some form of stress or distress. In the context of an emergency department, this could be due to a variety of factors such as anxiety, pain, hypoxia, or even an ongoing medical crisis. When a patient presents with such a high heart rate, it is crucial to evaluate the underlying cause, as it often reflects the body's response to a serious condition. The clinical significance lies in the need for immediate assessment and intervention, as sustaining such a high heart rate can lead to decreased cardiac output and further complications. While other possibilities such as heart failure or an allergic reaction could potentially present with tachycardia, the immediate interpretation of a heart rate at this level suggests that the patient is indeed in severe distress and requires urgent evaluation. This makes the identification of severe distress as the most appropriate interpretation in this context.

5. How many patients are listed with an acuity level of 5 and non-trauma classification?

- A. 1
- B. 2
- C. 3**
- D. 4

In an emergency department context, acuity levels help to prioritize patient care based on the severity of their conditions, with a scale that typically ranges from 1 (most critical) to 5 (least critical). An acuity level of 5 indicates a non-urgent situation where patients do not require immediate medical attention. In this particular scenario, identifying the number of patients listed with an acuity level of 5 and classified as non-trauma is crucial for understanding patient flow and resource allocation within the emergency department. Having three patients classified with an acuity level of 5 and non-trauma suggests that there are multiple cases that, while not urgent, still require attention and management. This can influence how the healthcare team prioritizes tasks and ensures that any non-urgent patients are appropriately cared for without delaying treatment for those with more critical needs. The figures relating to acuity levels and classifications are often utilized in evaluating the efficiency of care and identifying trends in patient presentations, making the understanding of this specific classification valuable. Thus, confirming that there are three patients with these criteria is consistent with what might be expected in a routine evaluation of emergency department cases.

6. What is the primary focus of care for the 16-year-old client Laurie Cooper?

- A. Prescriptive treatment for dermatitis**
- B. Immediate surgical intervention
- C. Cardiac monitoring
- D. Intravenous therapy

The primary focus of care for the 16-year-old client Laurie Cooper, as indicated by the correct answer, is prescriptive treatment for dermatitis. This suggests that Laurie is likely experiencing a dermatological issue that requires targeted medication or therapy to manage her condition. Prescriptive treatment typically involves assessing the severity of the dermatitis and prescribing appropriate topical or systemic treatments, which may include corticosteroids or other medications designed to alleviate discomfort and reduce inflammation. In a case where dermatitis is the main concern, immediate surgical interventions, cardiac monitoring, or intravenous therapy would not be the most relevant focus of care. Surgical interventions are reserved for conditions that require invasive procedures or when there's a surgical emergency, while cardiac monitoring is typically relevant in cases involving potential cardiac issues or instability. Intravenous therapy, on the other hand, is often utilized for hydration, medication administration, or replenishing electrolytes in patients with specific medical needs that do not directly relate to skin conditions. By focusing on dermatitis, the care plan can be specifically tailored to address Laurie's symptoms and improve her overall skin health.

7. What lab work is likely required for Sammy Flowers due to high blood glucose levels?

- A. Complete blood count
- B. Renal function tests
- C. Urinalysis**
- D. Blood cultures

In the context of high blood glucose levels, a urinalysis is a critical laboratory test that can provide valuable information about the patient's condition. When blood glucose levels are elevated, the kidneys may not be able to reabsorb all of the excess glucose, leading to glucose spilling into the urine—a condition known as glucosuria. In addition to glucose, a urinalysis can also assess for the presence of ketones, which can indicate diabetic ketoacidosis, a serious complication of uncontrolled hyperglycemia. The urinalysis not only helps in confirming the presence of glucose but can also provide insights into the patient's hydration status, potential urinary tract infections, and other metabolic issues. Given the potential implications of high blood glucose levels, such as diabetes or other endocrine disorders, urinalysis becomes a fundamental component of the evaluation process. Other laboratory tests, while important in a comprehensive assessment, do not directly address the immediate concerns associated with high blood glucose. For instance, a complete blood count would be useful to evaluate for signs of infection or anemia, renal function tests are essential for assessing kidney health but are less directly connected to acute high glucose levels, and blood cultures focus on identifying systemic infections rather than the metabolic implications of glucose levels. Thus, the ur

8. What is the acuity level of Mathew Watson?

- A. Acuity 1
- B. Acuity 2
- C. Acuity 3
- D. Acuity 4**

In an emergency department setting, acuity levels are used to determine the urgency with which patients need medical attention. Each level corresponds to the severity of the patient's condition and the required immediacy of care. Acuity level 4 typically signifies a patient with non-life-threatening issues. These patients may have minor problems that require medical attention, but their conditions are stable, and they can often wait longer for treatment without significant risk. For Mathew Watson, being classified as acuity level 4 means he is likely experiencing symptoms that do not pose an immediate danger to life or limb, allowing for a more relaxed pace in his treatment plan. This classification may indicate that the healthcare providers can prioritize more critical patients while still ensuring that Mathew receives appropriate care for his condition in due time.

9. Which vital sign reading indicates hypoperfusion in a 65-year-old client with severe burns?

- A. High blood pressure
- B. Low heart rate
- C. Normal respiratory rate
- D. Very low blood pressure**

A very low blood pressure reading is an indicative sign of hypoperfusion, especially in a patient who has suffered severe burns. When a person experiences significant burns, they frequently encounter fluid loss due to damage to the skin and its barrier function. This fluid loss can lead to decreased blood volume, which diminishes the amount of blood available to maintain adequate circulation and perfusion to vital organs. In the case of a 65-year-old patient with severe burns, the body's ability to compensate may be overwhelmed, resulting in hypotension, or very low blood pressure. This condition reflects reduced perfusion pressure in the arterial system and suggests that vital organs may not be receiving enough blood, oxygen, and nutrients, thus indicating hypoperfusion. Monitoring the blood pressure closely in such patients is critical, as it is a primary vital sign that reflects cardiovascular stability. In contrast, other vital sign scenarios such as high blood pressure or low heart rate typically suggest different physiological states or compensatory mechanisms that do not directly correlate with signs of hypoperfusion in cases of severe burns. A normal respiratory rate does not indicate hypoperfusion either; it only indicates that the respiratory system may still be functioning properly despite other potential underlying issues.

10. For a client with burns to the face, what is the first step in their emergency management?

- A. Administer pain relief medication
- B. Apply ointment to the burns
- C. Determine the extent of the burns**
- D. Perform an eye examination

Determining the extent of the burns is essential in the emergency management of a client with facial burns because it helps healthcare providers assess the severity of the injury and establish an appropriate treatment plan. This assessment includes evaluating the total body surface area affected, the depth of the burns, and any associated injuries. In the case of facial burns, there is also a risk of inhalation injury and complications that may arise due to swelling, which can compromise the airway. Establishing the extent of the burns is crucial for timely intervention and prioritizing care, particularly in a potentially life-threatening situation. Once the extent of the burns is determined, subsequent steps, such as providing pain relief, applying appropriate wound care, or addressing airway considerations, can then be undertaken.

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://swiftriver2ed.examzify.com>

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

SAMPLE