

TACTICAL COMBAT CASUALTY CARE – COMBAT LIFESAVER (TCCC-CLS) TIER 2 PRACTICE EXAM (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. When does a casualty need immediate evacuation?

- A. When they have life-threatening injuries that require advanced medical care
- B. When they complain of minor injuries
- C. Once they are stabilized by a combat lifesaver
- D. Only if they have been unconscious for more than five minutes

2. Which of the following is a sign of shock in a casualty?

- A. Increased blood pressure
- B. Weak or rapid pulse
- C. Normal skin color
- D. Steady respiratory rate

3. What does a splint primarily do?

- A. Support the entire body
- B. Prevent bleeding
- C. Prevent movement of an injured extremity
- D. Reduce pain

4. What is the primary goal of TCCC?

- A. To provide comprehensive patient care
- B. To prevent further injury and control bleeding
- C. To evacuate casualties as quickly as possible
- D. To stabilize injuries for transport

5. What does the 'P' in the AVPU scale represent?

- A. Pain
- B. Pulse
- C. Panic
- D. Position

6. What is Care Under Fire?

- A. Providing care after evacuation
- B. Care rendered while under effective hostile fire
- C. Assessment in a safe zone
- D. Basic first aid outside of combat

7. What types of incidents can lead to burn injuries?

- A. Illnesses and infections
- B. Firefighting and explosions
- C. Climate changes and natural disasters
- D. Rare diseases

8. How could tension pneumothorax be identified on a casualty?

- A. Signs include diminished breath sounds and distended neck veins
- B. It can be identified by a strong pulse
- C. There will be noticeable bruising around the abdomen
- D. Casualty will demonstrate a rapid heart rate only

9. Severe or worsening headaches can indicate which condition?

- A. Migraine
- B. TBI
- C. Fatigue
- D. Anxiety

10. What are signs of shock that combat lifesavers should recognize?

- A. Rapid heart rate, low blood pressure, and altered mental status
- B. High blood pressure, fever, and normal heart rate
- C. Shortness of breath, cold skin, and complaint of pain
- D. Confusion, high heart rate, and excessive sweating

Answers

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

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Explanations

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1. When does a casualty need immediate evacuation?

- A. When they have life-threatening injuries that require advanced medical care**
- B. When they complain of minor injuries
- C. Once they are stabilized by a combat lifesaver
- D. Only if they have been unconscious for more than five minutes

A casualty requires immediate evacuation when they have life-threatening injuries that necessitate advanced medical care. This is crucial as such injuries, which may involve severe bleeding, airway compromise, or major trauma to vital organs, can deteriorate rapidly without prompt, higher-level medical intervention. The urgency of the situation demands that these casualties be transported to a medical facility where they can receive the specialized treatment that is beyond the capabilities of a combat lifesaver. In contrast, complaints of minor injuries do not warrant immediate evacuation because they can typically be managed with basic first aid and do not pose an immediate threat to the casualty's life. Stabilization by a combat lifesaver is important, but it does not replace the need for evacuation in cases where the injuries are life-threatening; instead, it may be a preliminary step before evacuation. Additionally, the length of unconsciousness, like the five-minute threshold mentioned, is only one aspect and not a standard rule for evacuation; many other factors dictate the urgency based on the specifics of the injury rather than solely on consciousness duration.

2. Which of the following is a sign of shock in a casualty?

- A. Increased blood pressure
- B. Weak or rapid pulse**
- C. Normal skin color
- D. Steady respiratory rate

The presence of a weak or rapid pulse is a sign of shock in a casualty. During shock, the body goes into a state of compensation to maintain vital functions. When blood volume decreases due to trauma or other causes, the heart works harder to circulate whatever blood is available, leading to an increased heart rate. Additionally, because the blood flow to the extremities may decrease as the body prioritizes blood supply to vital organs, the pulse may feel weak or thready. In contrast, options that indicate increased blood pressure, normal skin color, or a steady respiratory rate do not align with the physiological responses typical of shock. In fact, blood pressure typically decreases in shock as the body's compensatory mechanisms fail, skin may appear pale or gray due to poor perfusion, and the respiratory rate often increases as the body attempts to compensate for decreased oxygen delivery. Understanding these vital signs is crucial for assessing a casualty's condition and providing appropriate care in emergency situations.

3. What does a splint primarily do?

- A. Support the entire body
- B. Prevent bleeding
- C. Prevent movement of an injured extremity**
- D. Reduce pain

A splint primarily serves to immobilize an injured extremity, which is critical for preventing further injury and aiding in the healing process. By restricting movement, a splint helps to stabilize fractures or dislocations, reducing the risk of additional damage to surrounding tissues, muscles, and nerves. This immobilization is essential not only for the safety of the patient, but also for facilitating subsequent medical assessment and treatment. While a splint may incidentally provide some level of support and comfort, its main function is to ensure that the injured area remains as still as possible until appropriate medical care can be administered.

4. What is the primary goal of TCCC?

- A. To provide comprehensive patient care
- B. To prevent further injury and control bleeding**
- C. To evacuate casualties as quickly as possible
- D. To stabilize injuries for transport

The primary goal of Tactical Combat Casualty Care (TCCC) is to prevent further injury and control bleeding. This focus is crucial in combat situations where rapid interventions can save lives. The concept of TCCC emphasizes triage and addressing immediate threats to life, primarily through techniques for hemorrhage control, which is a leading cause of preventable deaths in the tactical environment. By prioritizing bleeding control and minimizing the risk of further injury, TCCC aims to stabilize the casualty in the chaotic and often dangerous setting of combat. This approach ensures that the most life-threatening conditions are addressed first, allowing for better outcomes during the subsequent evacuation and medical care processes. While comprehensive patient care, evacuation speed, and stabilization for transport are important aspects of casualty care, they are secondary to the immediate need to control bleeding and prevent additional harm in a tactical environment.

5. What does the 'P' in the AVPU scale represent?

- A. Pain**
- B. Pulse
- C. Panic
- D. Position

The 'P' in the AVPU scale stands for Pain. The AVPU scale is a simple and effective tool used to assess a patient's level of consciousness and responsiveness. It categorizes responses into four levels: Alert, Verbal, Pain, and Unresponsive. In this context, 'Pain' refers to the response elicited from a patient when they are exposed to a painful stimulus. This could involve applying pressure to a specific area of the body or using another form of noxious stimulus to determine if the patient reacts. If the patient responds to pain, it indicates that they are not fully alert but may still have some level of consciousness and neurological function. This assessment is crucial in emergency care to help determine the severity of a patient's condition and guide further medical intervention. Other options, while they address different concepts, do not align with the specific meaning of the 'P' in the AVPU scale. Understanding the AVPU scale, including the role of 'Pain,' is essential for effective patient evaluation in urgent care situations.

6. What is Care Under Fire?

- A. Providing care after evacuation
- B. Care rendered while under effective hostile fire**
- C. Assessment in a safe zone
- D. Basic first aid outside of combat

Care Under Fire refers to providing medical assistance while actively under hostile fire. This concept is crucial in combat scenarios where the threat to both the casualty and the caregiver is significant. During Care Under Fire, the priority is to maintain personal safety while attempting to provide the necessary life-saving interventions, predominantly focusing on controlling severe bleeding and ensuring that the casualty can be evacuated to a safer location. This type of care emphasizes the need for rapid decision-making because the environment is dangerous, and any delay might result in further injury or death. The caregiver's primary goal is often to ensure that the casualty can be moved to a more secure area, while also using whatever means available to stem life-threatening bleeding. In contrast, other choices reflect scenarios that lack the urgency and danger associated with active combat. After evacuation, care is provided in a controlled environment, which is distinctly different from the immediate threats present during Care Under Fire. Assessment in a safe zone or basic first aid outside of combat do not encapsulate the critical and immediate context of delivering medical care under fire, where the risk to life is heightened and the approaches to care must be adapted to that reality.

7. What types of incidents can lead to burn injuries?

- A. Illnesses and infections
- B. Firefights and explosions**
- C. Climate changes and natural disasters
- D. Rare diseases

Incidents that can lead to burn injuries, such as firefights and explosions, are particularly relevant in combat or high-stress environments. These scenarios involve direct exposure to flames, intense heat, or incendiary devices, resulting in various degrees of burn injuries. The nature of these incidents often involves the use of weapons or explosives that create fire and heat, making them significant sources of burns for military personnel and civilians in conflict areas. While other options involve factors that could lead to injuries, they do not specifically address the mechanisms that directly cause burn injuries as effectively as firefights and explosions do. For instance, illnesses and infections may lead to other types of health issues but not burns, while climate changes can cause heat-related illnesses or impact environmental conditions, yet not directly create burn injuries. Rare diseases do not present situations that lead to burn injuries at all. Thus, the most direct and relevant cause for burn injuries in this context is firefights and explosions.

8. How could tension pneumothorax be identified on a casualty?

A. Signs include diminished breath sounds and distended neck veins

B. It can be identified by a strong pulse

C. There will be noticeable bruising around the abdomen

D. Casualty will demonstrate a rapid heart rate only

The identification of tension pneumothorax in a casualty is primarily based on the presence of specific clinical signs, and diminished breath sounds along with distended neck veins are critical indicators. In the case of tension pneumothorax, air becomes trapped in the pleural cavity, causing increased pressure that can subsequently compress the lung on the affected side. This results in diminished or absent breath sounds on that side during auscultation. Distended neck veins occur due to increased intrathoracic pressure, which impedes venous return to the heart, leading to elevated pressure in the jugular veins. When both of these signs are present, they strongly suggest the possibility of tension pneumothorax and warrant immediate intervention. Other options do not adequately or accurately reflect the clinical signs associated with tension pneumothorax. A strong pulse is not a distinctive feature as heart rate can vary; bruising around the abdomen is not typically associated with tension pneumothorax and does not provide diagnostic value; while a rapid heart rate may occur in response to various conditions, it is not definitive for tension pneumothorax. Therefore, the combination of diminished breath sounds and distended neck veins serves as the most reliable indicators for identifying this life-threatening condition.

9. Severe or worsening headaches can indicate which condition?

A. Migraine

B. TBI

C. Fatigue

D. Anxiety

Severe or worsening headaches can indicate a Traumatic Brain Injury (TBI), particularly if accompanied by other symptoms such as confusion, difficulty concentrating, nausea, or loss of consciousness. TBIs can result from various mechanisms, including blunt force trauma or acceleration-deceleration forces, and they may disrupt normal brain function. In cases of TBI, headaches are often more intense or change in nature compared to typical migraine headaches, and they may evolve or worsen over time, indicating a more serious underlying issue that requires immediate medical attention. Understanding the implications of headaches in the context of TBI is crucial in a tactical setting, where rapid assessment and intervention can significantly impact outcomes for injured individuals. Recognizing the signs of a potential TBI can help combat lifesavers make informed decisions about the need for evacuation or advanced care.

10. What are signs of shock that combat lifesavers should recognize?

A. Rapid heart rate, low blood pressure, and altered mental status

B. High blood pressure, fever, and normal heart rate

C. Shortness of breath, cold skin, and complaint of pain

D. Confusion, high heart rate, and excessive sweating

Recognizing the signs of shock is crucial for combat lifesavers in order to provide effective care and potentially save a life. The correct response identifies rapid heart rate, low blood pressure, and altered mental status as key indicators of shock. A rapid heart rate, or tachycardia, often occurs as the body attempts to compensate for decreased blood volume or oxygen delivery to tissues. Low blood pressure may indicate inadequate perfusion to vital organs, a critical aspect of shock. Altered mental status can reflect reduced cerebral perfusion, a serious sign that the brain is not receiving sufficient blood flow, which could lead to further complications. These signs are indicative of shock and should be promptly addressed. Therefore, understanding and identifying these symptoms enables combat lifesavers to take appropriate measures, such as addressing the underlying causes and ensuring the casualty receives further medical attention as necessary. The combination of these three symptoms effectively represents a state of shock, emphasizing the importance of early detection in improving outcomes for injured individuals.

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:

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

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