

TOTAL HIP ARTHROPLASTY (THA) COMPETENCY PRACTICE EXAM (SAMPLE) STUDY GUIDE



SAMPLE STUDY GUIDE WITH LIMITED QUESTIONS

VISIT US ONLINE FOR
THE FULL VERSION STUDY GUIDE

<https://thacompetency.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. What is the overall success rate of Total Hip Arthroplasty in improving patient quality of life?**
 - A. The success rate is low, with minimal improvements reported
 - B. The success rate is moderate, with some pain relief
 - C. The success rate is high, with many patients reporting significant pain relief and improved function
 - D. The success rate varies significantly with no clear pattern
- 2. How does age affect surgical outcomes in THA?**
 - A. Older age only increases recovery time
 - B. Older age may increase the risk of complications but does not necessarily affect long-term outcomes
 - C. Age has no correlation with surgery outcomes
 - D. Only younger patients have successful outcomes
- 3. Why might a surgeon opt for a posterior approach in THA?**
 - A. It minimizes surgical risks
 - B. It provides excellent access to the hip joint
 - C. It avoids the need for anesthesia
 - D. It requires less rehabilitation
- 4. What common activity should patients limit for several weeks following THA?**
 - A. High-impact activities like running or jumping
 - B. Walking slowly
 - C. Swimming in shallow water
 - D. Gentle stretching exercises
- 5. What is the primary purpose of follow-up appointments after THA?**
 - A. To schedule future procedures
 - B. To monitor healing, assess implant function, and adjust rehabilitation as needed
 - C. To initiate new medications
 - D. To discuss nutritional changes

6. In order for the impactor checkpoint to pass the accuracy check, it must be less than ____ mm.
- A. 10
 - B. 5
 - C. 2
 - D. 1
7. What is the rationale for using cement in some hip prostheses?
- A. For long-term stability
 - B. For immediate stability and fixation of the implant to the bone
 - C. To allow for ease of removal
 - D. Cement is only used in younger patients
8. What postoperative sign requires immediate medical attention?
- A. Decreased appetite
 - B. Signs of infection, such as increased redness, swelling, or fever
 - C. Mild pain at the incision site
 - D. Loss of sleep
9. Which of the following is true about acetabular registration?
- A. If the centers of rotation match, it guarantees an accurate registration
 - B. The first 14 fine registration points are used to determine the acetabular COR landmark
 - C. Registering the articular surface helps ensure that the inclination of the pelvis is accurate
 - D. Passing 6 verification spheres verifies an accurate registration
10. A failure to accurately recapture hip center following certain adjustments could lead to which of the following?
- A. Optimal implant stability
 - B. Increased dislocation risk
 - C. Shorter surgical time
 - D. Enhanced post-operative recovery

Answers

SAMPLE

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

SAMPLE

Explanations

SAMPLE

1. What is the overall success rate of Total Hip Arthroplasty in improving patient quality of life?

- A. The success rate is low, with minimal improvements reported
- B. The success rate is moderate, with some pain relief
- C. The success rate is high, with many patients reporting significant pain relief and improved function**
- D. The success rate varies significantly with no clear pattern

The overall success rate of Total Hip Arthroplasty (THA) in improving patient quality of life is considered high, with a substantial number of patients reporting significant pain relief and improved function. Numerous studies show that after undergoing THA, many patients experience substantial reductions in hip pain, increased mobility, and improved overall physical function. The procedure addresses degenerative joint diseases, such as osteoarthritis, restoring the damaged hip joint, which leads to a better quality of life. Following THA, patients often report enhanced ability to engage in daily activities, return to recreational pursuits, and experience a greater sense of well-being. This high success rate can be attributed to advancements in surgical techniques, implant designs, and rehabilitation protocols, which have collectively contributed to better outcomes and satisfaction rates post-surgery. Thus, the correct answer highlights the effectiveness of THA in significantly elevating the quality of life for most patients.

2. How does age affect surgical outcomes in THA?

- A. Older age only increases recovery time
- B. Older age may increase the risk of complications but does not necessarily affect long-term outcomes**
- C. Age has no correlation with surgery outcomes
- D. Only younger patients have successful outcomes

The understanding that older age may increase the risk of complications but does not necessarily affect long-term outcomes is rooted in extensive research regarding surgical procedures, including Total Hip Arthroplasty (THA). Older patients often present with comorbidities such as cardiovascular issues, diabetes, or other conditions that can raise the likelihood of intraoperative or postoperative complications, including infections or delayed healing. However, despite these potential risks, many studies have shown that older adults can achieve successful long-term outcomes from THA, often experiencing significant pain relief and improved function. This suggests that while age may introduce certain challenges and complexities to the surgical experience, it does not inherently limit the success of the THA itself in terms of longevity and quality of life post-surgery. Therefore, while the surgical team must closely monitor older patients for specific complications, age alone should not be viewed as a barrier to achieving favorable long-term outcomes in THA.

3. Why might a surgeon opt for a posterior approach in THA?

- A. It minimizes surgical risks
- B. It provides excellent access to the hip joint**
- C. It avoids the need for anesthesia
- D. It requires less rehabilitation

A surgeon may choose the posterior approach for total hip arthroplasty because it provides excellent access to the hip joint. This method allows the surgeon to directly visualize and access the acetabulum (hip socket) and the femoral head, which is crucial for properly preparing the bone surfaces, positioning implants accurately, and ensuring that components are placed in optimal alignment. The posterior approach is particularly advantageous because it facilitates a clear operative field, allowing for easier manipulation of surrounding tissues and enhanced visibility of the joint structures. This can lead to improved outcomes regarding the precise positioning of prosthetic components, ultimately impacting the longevity and function of the hip implant. While the posterior approach does have certain risks and rehabilitation considerations, the primary reason it is preferred by many surgeons is the superior access it offers to the joint. This balance between visibility and accessibility during surgery is vital for ensuring that the procedure can be performed effectively and safely.

4. What common activity should patients limit for several weeks following THA?

- A. High-impact activities like running or jumping**
- B. Walking slowly
- C. Swimming in shallow water
- D. Gentle stretching exercises

Following total hip arthroplasty (THA), it is crucial for patients to limit high-impact activities like running or jumping for several weeks. Engaging in these types of activities can place excessive stress on the newly implanted hip joint and the surrounding tissues, increasing the risk of dislocation, implant failure, or complications related to healing. The recovery process after THA involves careful management of the joint's stability and strength. High-impact activities risk destabilizing the joint and may lead to further injuries. Instead, patients are generally encouraged to focus on low-impact activities that promote healing and gradual strengthening, ensuring a safe and effective recovery. Other activities, such as walking slowly, swimming in shallow water, and gentle stretching exercises, are typically safe and beneficial during the recovery period, as they can help improve mobility, flexibility, and overall function without the risks associated with high-impact movements.

5. What is the primary purpose of follow-up appointments after THA?

- A. To schedule future procedures
- B. To monitor healing, assess implant function, and adjust rehabilitation as needed**
- C. To initiate new medications
- D. To discuss nutritional changes

The primary purpose of follow-up appointments after total hip arthroplasty (THA) is to monitor healing, assess implant function, and adjust rehabilitation as needed. These appointments are critical for ensuring that the surgical site is healing properly and that the implant is functioning as intended. By regularly evaluating the patient's progress, healthcare providers can identify any complications, such as infections or implant loosening, early on. Additionally, these visits allow for adjustments to the rehabilitation plan based on the patient's recovery status. For instance, if a patient is recovering well, they might be led to increase their range of motion exercises or weight-bearing activities. Conversely, if there are signs of complications or if the patient is struggling with certain aspects of their recovery, modifications can be made to their rehabilitation approach to better support their healing process. This proactive monitoring and adjustment are vital for achieving optimal outcomes and helping patients return to their daily activities with improved mobility and reduced pain. While scheduling future procedures, initiating new medications, or discussing nutritional changes may be part of overall patient care, they do not address the immediate concerns specific to the recovery and function after THA in the same comprehensive manner.

6. In order for the impactor checkpoint to pass the accuracy check, it must be less than ____ mm.

- A. 10
- B. 5
- C. 2**
- D. 1

The accuracy check for the impactor checkpoint is critical in ensuring the successful alignment and proper positioning of the components during a Total Hip Arthroplasty (THA). An acceptable measurement requires it to be less than 2 mm. This threshold is set to ensure that any deviation in placement is minimal, which is essential for optimal joint function and stability post-surgery. A measurement greater than this could lead to complications such as misalignment of the hip joint, which could affect the range of motion and lead to further issues such as implant loosening or dislocation. Precision in surgical techniques and tools is paramount in orthopedic procedures, and maintaining this level of accuracy helps in achieving favorable long-term outcomes for patients undergoing THA. In summary, the requirement for the impactor checkpoint to pass an accuracy check of less than 2 mm reflects the necessity to minimize errors that could adversely affect the success of the surgical procedure.

7. What is the rationale for using cement in some hip prostheses?

- A. For long-term stability
- B. For immediate stability and fixation of the implant to the bone**
- C. To allow for ease of removal
- D. Cement is only used in younger patients

Using cement in some hip prostheses is primarily aimed at achieving immediate stability and fixation of the implant to the bone. The cement acts as a bonding agent that fills the voids between the bone and the prosthetic implant, ensuring a secure attachment right after the surgical procedure. This immediate stabilization is crucial for allowing patients to initiate rehabilitation and weight-bearing activities sooner, which can enhance recovery outcomes. Cemented implants are particularly beneficial in certain patient populations where immediate load-sharing is essential to promote bone healing and integration with the prosthetic device. It is common practice to utilize cement when dealing with factors such as decreased bone quality or in cases that necessitate rapid fixation for optimal surgical performance. Thus, the rationale behind using cement centers around the need for effective, immediate attachment between the implant and surrounding bone.

8. What postoperative sign requires immediate medical attention?

- A. Decreased appetite
- B. Signs of infection, such as increased redness, swelling, or fever**
- C. Mild pain at the incision site
- D. Loss of sleep

Signs of infection, such as increased redness, swelling, or fever, indicate a serious complication that can arise after surgery. After a total hip arthroplasty, the surgical site is vulnerable to infection due to the presence of foreign materials, like prosthetic components, and the surgical trauma itself. Manifestations of infection can escalate quickly if not addressed; untreated infections can lead to systemic infections (such as sepsis), prolonged recovery time, and even the failure of the orthopedic procedure. Fever, along with localized symptoms like redness or swelling, may signal that the body is responding to an infectious process. This is why immediate medical attention is critical when these signs are observed postoperatively. In contrast, decreased appetite, mild pain at the incision site, and loss of sleep can occur as normal responses to surgery and typically do not necessitate urgent intervention unless they are associated with other troubling symptoms.

9. Which of the following is true about acetabular registration?

- A. If the centers of rotation match, it guarantees an accurate registration
- B. The first 14 fine registration points are used to determine the acetabular COR landmark**
- C. Registering the articular surface helps ensure that the inclination of the pelvis is accurate
- D. Passing 6 verification spheres verifies an accurate registration

The selection highlighting the importance of the first 14 fine registration points in determining the acetabular center of rotation (COR) landmark is correct because these points provide a crucial framework for achieving an accurate registration during the total hip arthroplasty procedure. This process employs these detailed reference points to establish an anatomical landmark that guides the positioning of the acetabular component. Accurate identification of the COR is essential for optimizing the biomechanics of the hip joint post-surgery. Utilizing multiple fine registration points allows for a more precise mapping, ensuring that the implant is positioned correctly in relation to the patient's anatomy. This can lead to improved function and longevity of the hip implant. Each of these initial points feeds into the registration algorithm, refining the overall accuracy of the placement. In the context of this question, understanding the nuances of how these registration points function solidifies why they are vital for an accurate surgical outcome, and thus reinforces the assertion made in the correct answer choice.

10. A failure to accurately recapture hip center following certain adjustments could lead to which of the following?

- A. Optimal implant stability
- B. Increased dislocation risk**
- C. Shorter surgical time
- D. Enhanced post-operative recovery

The concept of accurately recapturing the hip center is crucial in total hip arthroplasty (THA) because it directly impacts the stability of the hip joint post-surgery. When the hip center is not properly aligned, it can lead to an imbalance in the biomechanics of the hip. This imbalance increases the risk of dislocation, as the artificial joint may not function as intended during movements. Proper alignment allows for optimal engagement of the joint components, promoting stability and reducing the likelihood of dislocation. If the offset or version of the implant is mismanaged, it can lead to an unstable joint that is more susceptible to failing under standard motions or loads experienced during daily activities. In contrast, achieving optimal implant stability is fundamentally tied to proper positioning; therefore, if the hip center is not accurately recaptured, the implant's stability diminishes, making increased dislocation risk the primary concern. This is why accurate recapture is essential, especially when making adjustments during the procedure. The other aspects such as surgical time and post-operative recovery are not directly related to the recapture of the hip center but rather are influenced by a myriad of other factors, including surgical technique and individual patient recovery, which makes them less relevant to this specific scenario.

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://thacompetency.examzify.com>

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

SAMPLE