

EXAM PREPARATION FOR CCEMTPsm

Overview

- One (1) exam question was developed for each objective.
- Though the self-assessments and final exam questions were designed by the same group, no specific question will appear on both tests.

Self Assessment Tool

- There is a question for each objective. By working through the self-assessment tools you are preparing for the final exam.
- It is suggested that you work through the self-assessment then review your results to identify areas where you need improvement.
- Both the self assessment exams and the final exam are divided into modules.
- Study groups are highly recommended. Go through the assessment alone and then discuss it with classmates.
- Some classes have divided questions and each group has researched questions to discuss with the rest of the class.

STUDY SESSIONS ARE VERY IMPORTANT!

Final Exam

Structure

- 110 questions
- None of the questions on the self assessments are on the final exam
- Due to the differences in jurisdictions, we've strived to eliminate as many regional preferences as possible
- Passing score is 70%
- Average test score is 75-80%
- The exam questions are designed with different degrees of difficulty:
 - Recall: What is normal pH?
 - Interpretation: With a pH of 7.3, what would you expect?
 - Case Scenarios: There may be several questions for each scenario, however, each question stands alone from the other questions. Therefore, if you get the first question wrong, you will not necessarily get the next question wrong
- The entire exam is multiple choice – A, B, C, and D
- 90% of all students are successful at passing the exam the first time

Process

- A pen or pencil may be used
- Students may write all over the exam
- If students desire, they may write criticisms and/or suggestions. If you want your comments to be read by UMBC, be sure to write a note on the front page to see notes within test.
- There is a 3 hour time limit to take the test
- The testing procedure is:
 - Everyone takes the exam. Students are encouraged to take a break while waiting for everyone to finish.
 - The exams are graded by hand.
 - Grades will not be released until all exams are graded.
 - No Calculators, Laptops, Cell Phones, or PDA's are allowed to be used.
- Students are allowed to retest two times within one year of their original test date
- Retest Options: Students may retest at UMBC, another scheduled CCEMTP test, or by meeting a University representative at an agreed upon location
- Students may not retest within 24 hours of the initial exam
- There is a \$75 retest fee each time the test is retaken

Exam Specifics

Overall

- 110 questions on the exam (10 modules taught in approximately 10 days). There is at least one question for every lesson. The exam is weighted -- the number of questions on the exam is related to the number of hours spent on any topic. If a full day is spent on a topic, you can expect about 10 questions; if a half-day is spent on a topic, expect about 5 questions.

- Lab Data

Lab values are integrated throughout the test

Know the main values. For less common lab tests, the results will be given to you with a note of "high" or "low" – you should know the implication but do not need to recall the exact lab value.

Due to regional differences, we will not ask which procedure is best. Instead you may asked, "When you are performing a cricothyrotomy..."

- Blood
- Lines
- Hemodynamics
- Be sure to review pacemakers and ICDs
- There are two 12 lead strips on the test, however, there are additional questions referring to 12 lead without strips
- Pharmacology related to sections:

What is most significant medication? "Paralytics? – sux?"

The other meds? How do they relate to that medication?

“depolarizing vs. non-depolarizing”

- Do not need to know exact dosage of abnormal medications
- Know classifications – what kind of drug ____? ____ is.
- Know dosages for the most significant drugs.
- Don’t worry about half life
- Know short/long acting
- Understand implications of GI procedures that have been performed (colonostomies, gastric tubes, etc) in relation to CC Transports
- Neurological section is very important topic for Critical Care Transport
 - Again, for every skill or topic, ask yourself:
What is the procedure and what is it for?
What could go wrong?
How do I fix it?
- There are flight physiology questions on the exam even though there may be none on the self-assessment exams.
- Peds and OB/Gyn questions
 - Done in scenario type question
 - This is the portion of the exam that most students do poorly – please emphasize that students should study the pediatric portions of the course as well as Gynecological emergencies.