

EXAM ✓ CRAM

NCLEX-PN[®]

Practice Questions

Fifth Edition

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NCLEX-PN® Practice Questions Exam Cram, Fifth Edition

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Contents at a Glance

| | |
|---|-----|
| Introduction | 1 |
| CHAPTER 1 Practice Exam 1 and Rationales | 5 |
| CHAPTER 2 Practice Exam 2 and Rationales | 73 |
| CHAPTER 3 Practice Exam 3 and Rationales | 145 |
| CHAPTER 4 Practice Exam 4 and Rationales | 209 |
| CHAPTER 5 Practice Exam 5 and Rationales | 275 |
| APPENDIX A Things You Forgot | 341 |
| APPENDIX B Need to Know More? | 349 |
| APPENDIX C Calculations | 359 |

Table of Contents

| | |
|--|-----|
| Introduction | 1 |
| Taking the Computerized Adaptive Test | 2 |
| The Cost of the Exam | 2 |
| How to Prepare for the Exam | 3 |
| What Will You Find in This Book? | 3 |
| Companion Website | 4 |
| Accessing the Pearson Test Prep Software and Questions | 4 |
| Hints for Using This Book | 4 |
| Chapter 1: Practice Exam 1 and Rationales | 5 |
| Quick Check Answer Key | 50 |
| Answers and Rationales | 53 |
| Chapter 2: Practice Exam 2 and Rationales | 73 |
| Quick Check Answer Key | 118 |
| Answers and Rationales | 121 |
| Chapter 3: Practice Exam 3 and Rationales | 145 |
| Quick Check Answer Key | 187 |
| Answers and Rationales | 190 |
| Chapter 4: Practice Exam 4 and Rationales | 209 |
| Quick Check Answer Key | 251 |
| Answers and Rationales | 254 |
| Chapter 5: Practice Exam 5 and Rationales | 275 |
| Quick Check Answer Key | 318 |
| Answers and Rationales | 321 |

| | |
|--|-----|
| Appendix A: Things You Forgot | 341 |
| Therapeutic Drug Levels | 341 |
| Vital Signs | 341 |
| Anticoagulant Therapy | 342 |
| Intrapartal Normal Values | 342 |
| Standard Precautions | 343 |
| Airborne Precautions | 343 |
| Droplet Precautions | 344 |
| Contact Precautions | 344 |
| Revised Life Support Guidelines (American Heart Association) | 344 |
| Defense Mechanisms | 344 |
| Nutrition Notes | 345 |
| Immunization Schedule | 347 |
| | |
| Appendix B: Need to Know More? | 349 |
| Pharmacology | 349 |
| Care of the Client with Respiratory Disorders | 349 |
| Care of the Client with Genitourinary Disorders | 350 |
| Care of the Client with Hematological Disorders | 350 |
| Fluid and Electrolytes and Acid/Base Balance | 351 |
| Care of the Client with Burns | 351 |
| Care of the Client with Sensory Disorders | 352 |
| Care of the Client with Neoplastic Disorders | 352 |
| Care of the Client with Gastrointestinal Disorders | 353 |
| Care of the Client with Musculoskeletal and Connective Tissue Disorders | 354 |
| Care of the Client with Endocrine Disorders | 354 |
| Care of the Client with Cardiac Disorders | 355 |
| Care of the Client with Neurological Disorders | 356 |
| Care of the Client with Psychiatric Disorders | 356 |
| Maternal-Newborn Care | 357 |
| Care of the Pediatric Client | 357 |
| Cultural Practices Influencing Nursing Care | 357 |
| Legal Issues in Nursing Practice | 358 |

| | |
|--|-----|
| Appendix C: Calculations | 359 |
| The Apothecary System of Measurement | 359 |
| The Household System of Measurement | 360 |
| Metric Measurements | 360 |
| Test Your Math Skills | 361 |
| Answers | 362 |

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5. Click the **Activate a Product** button in the Activate Product Wizard.

6. Enter the unique access code found on the card in the sleeve in the back of your book and click the **Activate** button.
7. Click **Next** and then the **Finish** button to download the exam data to your application.
8. You can now start using the practice exams by selecting the product and clicking the **Open Exam** button to open the exam settings screen.

About the Authors

Wilda Rinehart Gardner received an Associate Degree in Nursing from Northeast Mississippi Community College in Booneville, Mississippi. After working as a staff nurse and charge nurse, she became a public health nurse and served in that capacity for a number of years. In 1975, she received her nurse practitioner certification in the area of obstetrics-gynecology from the University of Mississippi Medical Center in Jackson, Mississippi. In 1979, she completed her Bachelor of Science degree in Nursing from Mississippi University for Women. In 1980, she completed her Master of Science degree in Nursing from the same university and accepted a faculty position at Northeast Mississippi Community College, where she taught medical-surgical nursing and maternal-newborn nursing. In 1982, she founded Rinehart and Associates Nursing Consultants. For the past 26 years, she and her associates have worked with nursing graduates and schools of nursing to assist graduates to pass the National Council Licensure Exam for Nursing. She has also worked as a curriculum consultant with faculty to improve test construction. Ms. Rinehart has served as a convention speaker throughout the southeastern United States and as a reviewer of medical-surgical and obstetric texts. She has co-authored materials used in seminars presented by Rinehart and Associates Nursing Review.

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Introduction

Welcome to the *NCLEX-PN® Practice Questions Exam Cram!*

This book will help you prepare to take and pass the Licensure Exam for Practical Nurses. This Introduction discusses the NCLEX® exam in general and how the Exam Cram can help you prepare for the test. It doesn't matter whether this is the first time you're going to take the exam or if you have taken it previously; this book gives you the necessary information and techniques to obtain licensure.

The *NCLEX-PN® Practice Questions Exam Cram* helps you practice taking questions written in the NCLEX® format. Used with the Exam Cram review book *NCLEX-PN® Exam Cram*, it helps you understand and appreciate the materials you need to pass. The books are aimed at test preparation and review. They do not teach you everything you need to know about the subject of nursing. Instead, they present materials you are likely to encounter on the exam. Using a simple approach, we help you understand the “need to know” information.

To pass the NCLEX®, you must understand how the exam is developed. The NCLEX-PN® consists of questions from the cognitive levels of knowledge, comprehension, application, and analysis. The majority of questions are written at the application and analysis level. Questions incorporate the five stages of the nursing process (assessment, diagnosis, planning, implementation, and evaluation) and the four categories of client needs. Client needs are divided into subcategories that define the content within each of the four major categories. These categories and subcategories are

- ▶ A. Safe, effective care environment:
 - ▶ Coordinated care: 18%–24%
 - ▶ Safety and infection control: 10–16%
- ▶ B. Health promotion and maintenance: 6%–12%
- ▶ C. Psychosocial integrity: 9–15%
- ▶ D. Physiological integrity:
 - ▶ Basic care and comfort: 7–13%
 - ▶ Pharmacological and parenteral therapy: 10%-16%
 - ▶ Reduction of risk: 9%-15%
 - ▶ Physiological adaptation: 7%–13%

Taking the Computerized Adaptive Test

Computer-adaptive testing, commonly known as CAT, offers the candidate several advantages. First, the graduate can schedule the exam at a time that is convenient. It's also possible that you will not be tested on the entire 205-question set; if you answer the beginning questions correctly, the CAT might stop early in the session, with far fewer than the 205 questions you were expecting. When the engine has determined your ability level and it is satisfied that you are qualified to be a practical nurse, it will stop. The disadvantage of a CAT is that you cannot go back and change answers. When you make a decision and move on, that's it—no second guessing, like on a paper exam!

The Pearson Vue testing group is responsible for administering the exam. You can locate the center nearest you by visiting www.pearsonvue.com. If you are not familiar with the Pearson Vue testing centers, we recommend that you arrive at least 30 minutes early. If you are late, you will not be allowed to take the test. Bring two forms of identification with you, one of which must be a picture ID. Be sure that your form of identification matches your application. You will be photographed and fingerprinted upon entering the testing site, so don't let this increase your stress. The allotted time is 5 hours, and the candidate can receive results within approximately 7 days (in some states, even sooner). Remember, the exam is written at approximately the tenth-grade reading level, so keep a good dictionary handy during your studies.

The Cost of the Exam

The candidate wanting to take the licensure exam must fill out two applications, one to the National Council and one to the state in which she wants to be licensed. A separate fee must accompany each application. There are separate fees for both the National Council and the state where the candidate wishes to be licensed. The candidate should contact his/her state for a list of fees for that specific state. Licensure applications can be obtained on the National Council's website at www.ncsbn.org. Several states are members of the multistate licensure compact. This means that, if you are issued a multistate license, you pay only one fee. This information can also be obtained by visiting the National Council's website at <https://www.ncsbn.org/contactbon.htm>.

How to Prepare for the Exam

Judicious use of this book, as well as the *NCLEX-PN® Exam Cram*, will help you to achieve your goal of becoming a licensed practical nurse. As you review for the NCLEX® PN Exam, we suggest that you find a location where you can concentrate on the material each day. A minimum of 2 hours per day for at least 2 weeks is suggested. In the *NCLEX-PN® Exam Cram*, we provide you with exam alerts, tips, notes, and sample questions, both multiple-choice and alternative items. These questions will acquaint you with the type of questions you will see during the exam. We have also formulated a mock exam, with those difficult management and delegation questions, which you can score to determine your readiness to test. Pay particular attention to the Exam Alerts and the Cram Sheet. Using these will help you gain and retain knowledge and help reduce your stress as you prepare to test.

What Will You Find in This Book?

As seems obvious from the title, this book is all about practice questions! There are five full exams in this book, totaling 1,000 questions. Each chapter is set up with the questions and their possible answers first; the correct answers and rationales appear at the end of each chapter. In the margins next to each question, you will see a quick key to finding the location of its answer and rationales. Here's exactly what you will find in the chapters:

- ▶ **Practice Questions**—There are numerous questions to help you learn, drill, and review.
- ▶ **Quick Check Answers**—When you finish answering the questions, you can quickly grade your exam from this section. Only correct answers are given here—no rationales are offered yet.
- ▶ **Answers and Rationales**—This section offers you the correct answers, as well as further explanation about the content posed in that question. Use this information to learn why an answer is correct and to reinforce the content in your mind for exam day.

You will find a Cram Sheet at the beginning of this book specifically written for this exam. This is a very popular element that is also found in *NCLEX-PN® Exam Cram* (ISBN: 9780789758330). This item condenses all the necessary facts found in this exam into one easy-to-handle tearcard. The Cram Sheet is something you can carry with you to the exam location and use as a last-second study aid. Be aware that you can't take it into the exam room, though.

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Full instructions for Accessing the Pearson Test Prep Software Online and Offline are provided following the Table of Contents.

Hints for Using This Book

Because this book is a paper practice product, you might want to take advantage of the answer sheets in each chapter. These can be copied for multiple practice sessions. We suggest that you score your exam by subtracting the missed items from the total and then dividing the total answered correctly by the total number of questions. This gives you the percentage answered correctly. We also suggest that you achieve a score of at least 77% before you schedule your exam. If you do not, take the exam again until you do. The higher the score, the better your chance to do well on the NCLEX® exam!

Be sure to take advantage of the Pearson Test Prep practice test software; it provides you with a computer-adaptive test very similar to the one you will experience during the NCLEX® exam. Every question in this book is in the Pearson Test Prep practice test software, including the answer rationales.

Aside from being a test-preparation book, this book is useful if you are brushing up on your nursing knowledge. It is an excellent quick reference for the licensed nurse.

1

CHAPTER ONE

Practice Exam 1 and Rationales

Quick Check

1. The nurse is caring for a client scheduled for removal of a pituitary tumor using the transsphenoidal approach. The nurse should be particularly alert for:
 - A. Nasal congestion
 - B. Abdominal tenderness
 - C. Muscle tetany
 - D. Oliguria

2. A client with cancer is admitted to the oncology unit. Stat lab values reveal Hgb 12.6, WBC 6500, K⁺ 1.9, uric acid 7.0, Na⁺ 136, and platelets 178,000. The nurse evaluates that the client is experiencing which of the following?
 - A. Hypernatremia
 - B. Hypokalemia
 - C. Myelosuppression
 - D. Leukocytosis

3. A 24-year-old female client is scheduled for surgery in the morning. Which of the following is the primary responsibility of the nurse?
 - A. Taking the vital signs
 - B. Obtaining the permit
 - C. Explaining the procedure
 - D. Checking the lab work

Quick Answers: **50**
Detailed Answer: **53**

Quick Answers: **50**
Detailed Answer: **53**

Quick Answers: **50**
Detailed Answer: **53**

Quick Check

4. The nurse is working in the emergency room when a client arrives with severe burns of the left arm, hands, face, and neck. Which action should receive priority?

- A. Starting an IV
- B. Applying oxygen
- C. Obtaining blood gases
- D. Medicating the client for pain

Quick Answers: **50**
Detailed Answer: **53**

5. The nurse is caring for a client with osteoporosis. The client has a new prescription for alendronate (Fosamax). Which instruction should be given to the client?

- A. Rest in bed after taking the medication for at least 30 minutes
- B. Avoid rapid movements after taking the medication
- C. Take the medication with water only
- D. Allow at least 1 hour between taking the medicine and taking other medications

Quick Answers: **50**
Detailed Answer: **53**

6. The nurse is making initial rounds on a client with a C5 fracture and crutchfield tongs. Which equipment should be kept at the bedside?

- A. A pair of forceps
- B. A torque wrench
- C. A pair of wire cutters
- D. A screwdriver

Quick Answers: **50**
Detailed Answer: **53**

7. An infant weighs 7 pounds at birth. The expected weight by 1 year should be:

- A. 10 pounds
- B. 12 pounds
- C. 18 pounds
- D. 21 pounds

Quick Answers: **50**
Detailed Answer: **53**

8. A client is admitted with a Ewing's sarcoma. Which symptoms would be expected due to this tumor's location?

- A. Hemiplegia
- B. Aphasia
- C. Nausea
- D. Bone pain

Quick Answers: **50**
Detailed Answer: **53**

Quick Check

9. The nurse is caring for a client with epilepsy who is being treated with carbamazepine (Tegretol). Which laboratory value might indicate a serious side effect of this medication?
- A. Uric acid of 5mg/dL
 - B. Hematocrit of 33%
 - C. WBC 2,000 per cubic millimeter
 - D. Platelets 150,000 per cubic millimeter
10. A 6-month-old client is admitted with possible intussusception. Which question during the nursing history is least helpful in obtaining information regarding this diagnosis?
- A. "Tell me about his pain."
 - B. "What does his vomit look like?"
 - C. "Describe his usual diet."
 - D. "Have you noticed changes in his abdominal size?"
11. The nurse is assisting a client with diverticulosis to select appropriate foods. Which food should be avoided?
- A. Bran
 - B. Fresh peaches
 - C. Cucumber salad
 - D. Yeast rolls
12. A client has rectal cancer and is scheduled for an abdominal perineal resection. What should be the priority nursing care during the post-op period?
- A. Teaching how to irrigate the ileostomy
 - B. Stopping electrolyte loss in the incisional area
 - C. Encouraging a high-fiber diet
 - D. Facilitating perineal wound drainage
13. The nurse has a client who has an order for a low-roughage diet. Which food would have to be eliminated from this client's diet?
- A. Roasted chicken
 - B. Noodles
 - C. Cooked broccoli
 - D. Custard

Quick Answers: **50**
Detailed Answer: **53**

Quick Answers: **50**
Detailed Answer: **53**

Quick Answers: **50**
Detailed Answer: **53**

Quick Answers: **50**
Detailed Answer: **53**

Quick Answers: **50**
Detailed Answer: **54**

Quick Check

- 14.** The nurse is caring for a one-week-old infant. The mother asks why her baby has lost weight since he was born. The best explanation of the weight loss is:
- A.** The baby is dehydrated due to polyuria.
 - B.** The baby is hypoglycemic due to lack of glucose.
 - C.** The baby is allergic to the formula the mother is giving him.
 - D.** The baby can lose up to 10% of weight due to meconium stool, loss of extracellular fluid, and initiation of breast-feeding.
- 15.** The nurse is caring for a client with laryngeal cancer. Which finding ascertained in the health history would not be common for this diagnosis?
- A.** Foul breath
 - B.** Dysphagia
 - C.** Diarrhea
 - D.** Chronic hiccups
- 16.** A removal of the left lower lobe of the lung is performed on a client with lung cancer. Which post-operative measure would usually be included in the plan?
- A.** Closed chest drainage
 - B.** A tracheostomy
 - C.** A mediastinal tube
 - D.** Percussion vibration and drainage
- 17.** Six hours after birth, the infant is found to have an area of swelling over the right parietal area that does not cross the suture line. The nurse should chart this finding as:
- A.** A cephalohematoma
 - B.** Molding
 - C.** Subdural hematoma
 - D.** Caput succedaneum

Quick Answers: **50**
Detailed Answer: **54**

Quick Answers: **50**
Detailed Answer: **54**

Quick Answers: **50**
Detailed Answer: **54**

Quick Answers: **50**
Detailed Answer: **54**

Quick Check

- 18.** The nurse is assisting the RN with discharge instructions for a client with an implantable defibrillator. What discharge instruction is essential?
- A. "You cannot eat food prepared in a microwave."
 - B. "You should avoid moving the shoulder on the side of the pacemaker site for 6 weeks."
 - C. "You should use your cellphone on your right side."
 - D. "You will not be able to fly on a commercial airliner with the defibrillator in place."
- 19.** A client in the cardiac step-down unit requires suctioning for excess mucous secretions. The nurse should be most careful to monitor the client for which dysrhythmia during this procedure?
- A. Bradycardia
 - B. Tachycardia
 - C. Premature ventricular beats
 - D. Heart block
- 20.** The nurse is caring for a client scheduled for a surgical repair of a sacral abdominal aortic aneurysm. Which assessment is most crucial during the preoperative period?
- A. Assessment of the client's level of anxiety
 - B. Evaluation of the client's exercise tolerance
 - C. Identification of peripheral pulses
 - D. Assessment of bowel sounds and activity
- 21.** A client with suspected renal disease is to undergo a renal biopsy. The nurse plans to include which statement in the teaching session?
- A. "You will be sitting for the examination procedure."
 - B. "Portions of the procedure will cause pain or discomfort."
 - C. "You will be given some medication to anesthetize the area."
 - D. "You will not be able to drink fluids for 24 hours before the study."

Quick Answers: **50**
Detailed Answer: **54**

Quick Answers: **50**
Detailed Answer: **54**

Quick Answers: **50**
Detailed Answer: **54**

Quick Answers: **50**
Detailed Answer: **54**

Quick Check

22. The nurse is performing an assessment on a client with possible pernicious anemia. Which data would support this diagnosis?

- A. A weight loss of 10 pounds in 2 weeks
- B. Complaints of numbness and tingling in the extremities
- C. A red, beefy tongue
- D. A hemoglobin level of 12.0gm/dL

Quick Answers: **50**
Detailed Answer: **54**

23. A client arrives in the emergency room with a possible fractured femur. The nurse should anticipate an order for:

- A. Trendelenburg position
- B. Ice to the entire extremity
- C. Buck's traction
- D. An abduction pillow

Quick Answers: **50**
Detailed Answer: **55**

24. A client with cancer is to undergo an intravenous pyelogram. The nurse should:

- A. Force fluids 24 hours before the procedure
- B. Ask the client to void immediately before the study
- C. Hold medication that affects the central nervous system for 12 hours pre- and post-test
- D. Cover the client's reproductive organs with an x-ray shield

Quick Answers: **50**
Detailed Answer: **55**

25. The nurse is caring for a client with a malignancy. The classification of the primary tumor is Tis. The nurse should plan care for a tumor:

- A. That cannot be assessed
- B. That is in situ
- C. With increasing lymph node involvement
- D. With distant metastasis

Quick Answers: **50**
Detailed Answer: **55**

26. A client is 2 days post-operative colon resection. After a coughing episode, the client's wound eviscerates. Which nursing action is most appropriate?

- A. Reinsert the protruding organ and cover with 4x4s
- B. Cover the wound with a sterile 4x4 and ABD dressing
- C. Cover the wound with a sterile saline-soaked dressing
- D. Apply an abdominal binder and manual pressure to the wound

Quick Answers: **50**
Detailed Answer: **55**

Quick Check

27. The nurse is preparing a client for surgery. Which item is most important to remove before sending the client to surgery?

- A. Hearing aid
- B. Contact lenses
- C. Wedding ring
- D. Artificial eye

Quick Answers: **50**
Detailed Answer: **55**

28. The client who is scheduled for surgery says she's unclear about the surgery and possible complications. Which is the most appropriate action?

- A. Call the surgeon and ask him or her to see the client to clarify the information
- B. Explain the procedure and complications to the client
- C. Check in the physician's progress notes to see if understanding has been documented
- D. Check with the client's family to see if they understand the procedure fully

Quick Answers: **50**
Detailed Answer: **55**

29. When assessing a client for risk of hyperphosphatemia, which piece of information is most important for the nurse to obtain?

- A. A history of radiation treatment in the neck region
- B. A history of recent orthopedic surgery
- C. A history of minimal physical activity
- D. A history of the client's food intake

Quick Answers: **50**
Detailed Answer: **55**

30. A client is admitted to the acute care unit. Initial laboratory values reveal serum sodium of 170meq/L. What behavior changes would be most common for this client?

- A. Anger
- B. Mania
- C. Depression
- D. Psychosis

Quick Answers: **50**
Detailed Answer: **55**