

CRNI® EXAMINATION CONTENT OUTLINE

The CRNI® examination is scored on 120 multiple-choice questions in 3 core areas of infusion therapy. The test specifications that follow are based on a job analysis—a survey that determines the activities and job requirements for an infusion nurse. To ensure the exam is current, a job analysis is conducted approximately every five years. The findings of INCC’s most recent job analysis, conducted in 2019, were implemented with the March 2020 exam.

The exam consists of four-option, multiple-choice questions. Items are written at different cognitive levels even for the same knowledge content:

- 1. Recall items:** primarily test the recognition or recall of information. Such items require predominantly an effort of memory. They include the recall of specific facts, concepts, principles, processes, procedures, or theories. To simplify, such an item will ordinarily be asking: “What is X?”
- 2. Application items:** primarily test the interpretation or evaluation of the given data. It is an application of known or presented information to solve or address situations, problems, and scenarios. Items could require examinees to make judgments concerning the effectiveness, appropriateness, or best course of action for a particular situation. Items at this level will ordinarily be asking: “Given the following information about X, what is Y?”

1. Principles of Practice

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- A. Anatomy and Physiology
- B. Infection Prevention and Control
 1. Epidemiology
 2. Chain of infection (e.g., standard precautions)
 3. Blood stream infections (e.g., CLABSI, CRBSI)
- C. Phlebotomy
 1. Blood sampling
 2. Therapeutic

2. Access Devices

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- A. Technology and Clinical Applications
 1. Equipment
 - a. Solution containers
 - b. Administration sets
 - c. Filters
 - d. Add-on devices
 - e. Administration devices (electronic, nonelectronic)
 - f. Vein location devices (e.g., transillumination, ultrasound)
 - g. Navigational tools (e.g., tip locating system)
 2. Infusion Access Devices
 - a. Peripheral
 1. Short peripheral
 2. Midline
 - b. Central
 1. Peripherally inserted central catheter (PICC)
 2. Tunneled
 3. Non-tunneled
 4. Implanted (i.e., ports)
 - c. Subcutaneous

- B. Special Populations
 - 1. Older adults
 - 2. Pregnancy
 - 3. Chronic renal conditions

3. Infusion Therapies

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- A. Pain Management
- B. Cardiovascular
- C. Antineoplastic
- D. Biologics/Immunologic
- E. Anti-infectives
- F. Blood Products
- G. Fluid and Electrolyte Balance
 - 1. Body composition
 - 2. Fluid volume excess and deficit
 - 3. Electrolyte disorders
 - 4. Maintenance and replacement
- H. Parenteral Nutrition
 - 1. General solution composition
 - a. Formulas
 - b. Additives
 - 2. Complications
 - a. Infectious
 - b. Metabolic

Total

120

*Each test form will include 1 set of 20 unscored pretest items in addition to the 120 scored items.

2.5 hours (150 minutes) of testing time.

Initial base form passing point by Angoff method to be approved by March 2020.

Future passing points established through pre-equating.