CNOR® Exam Review



Presented by

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Molly has been a perioperative nurse for 23 years, serving in many different capacities including team leader for Cardiothoracic, Ophthalmology and Urology. In addition, she managed an Ambulatory Surgery Unit that saw upwards of 110 encounters per day. Currently, Molly serves as the CNS for PeriOperative Services, overseeing the competency and credentialing of 125+ employees. Molly is published, and also nationally presents the CNOR[®] Review Course, Ambulatory Review Course, CPAN[®]/CAPA[®] Review Course, Nurse Executive Review Course and miscellaneous topics related to all aspects of perioperative nursing care and safety. Molly's passion is to assist healthcare employees to reach beyond their own expectations and to do great things. In addition, Molly loves to teach and invariably learns a gem from each participant at every presentation.

10.5 Contact Hours | Course Length: 613 minutes

Program Description

This course is designed for nurses working in the perioperative setting who plan to take the CNOR Certification Exam. The course will focus on core concepts defined by AORN® while caring for all populations. The CNOR Test Blueprint published by CCI® is used to design the course content to enhance the nurse's knowledge of key information needed to successfully pass the CNOR Certification Exam.

Program Learning Outcomes

This program prepares the learner to:

- 1. Describe the CNOR Exam, test plan and the practice requirements to sit for the exam.
- 2. Construct a study plan for the exam based on understanding the blueprint and domains of practice covered.
- 3. Identify common mistakes and pitfalls that are made during studying and testing for the exam.
- 4. Recall the core components covered in the exam through didactic supplementation and test questions.

1 Introduction: It's All About You

Module Description

This module reviews necessary testing information, studying tips and test-taking practices.

Module Learning Outcomes

This module prepares the learner to:

- 1. Identify common test-taking practices for passing the CNOR Exam.
- 2. Describe the testing environment for the CNOR Exam.

2 The Professional Nurse

Module Description

This module discusses the profession of perioperative nursing. Although this module doesn't seem important, it accounts for 9% of the CNOR Exam. Roles and responsibilities within perioperative practice are discussed as well as all the different areas in which perioperative nursing in practiced. It is subject areas such as these that truly assist with being successful on the CNOR Exam because most people otherwise would not study information related to this material potentially missing the opportunity to get 17 out of 185 questions correct.

Module Learning Outcomes

This module prepares the learner to:

- 1. Discuss the standards of perioperative clinical practice.
- 2. List the different roles and responsibilities found in perioperative services.
- 3. Identify areas where more studying is necessary for passing the CNOR Exam.

3 Preoperative Patient Assessment and Diagnosis

Module Description

The content of this module accounts for 12% of the CNOR Exam. This module is another example of those elements that without guided instruction, one may be reluctant to study the content, thus having the potential to miss 22 questions on the exam. The preoperative assessment is a vital part of the care for the perioperative patient. So much that is discovered preoperatively translates to the outcomes for the patient postoperatively.

Module Learning Outcomes

This module prepares the learner to:

- 1. Differentiate between the preadmission and the preoperative assessment of the surgical patient.
- 2. List the Joint Commission requirements for a history and physical and patient identification.
- 3. Review the components of the preoperative assessment.

4 Plan of Care and Expected Outcomes

Module Description

This module reviews information related to developing an individualized plan of care while identifying expected outcomes for that patient/family. This domain represents 10% of the CNOR Exam, translating to 19 questions.

Module Learning Outcomes

This module prepares the learner to:

- 1. Discuss the patient's perioperative plan of care.
- 2. Correlate expected patient outcomes related to nursing interventions.

37 minutes

43 minutes

54 minutes

34 minutes

5 Intraoperative Activities

Module Description

This module is the greatest single percentage of the CNOR Exam, totaling 27% of the questions. Most OR nurses feel very comfortable with this information; however, the challenge is that although many of these topics are used every day, the OR nurses don't know what the actual Association of periOperative Registered Nurses (AORN) guidelines state about each individual topic. In addition to the content reviewed during the online portion, it is very important that one reads the AORN guidelines to understand the difference in individual practice and the guideline.

Module Learning Outcomes

This module prepares the learner to:

- 1. Integrate intraoperative activities into daily perioperative practice.
- 2. Discuss key concepts to facilitate improved intraoperative patient care.

6 Communication

Module Description

This module reviews how important communication is in healthcare among nurses, practitioners, patients, families and all staff. How to improve communication for the benefit of patient safety is reviewed, including the communication of critical values, medication safety, avoiding abbreviations and telephone and verbal orders. This domain accounts for 10% of the test questions, which translates to 18 total questions.

Module Learning Outcomes

This module prepares the learner to:

- 1. Discuss principles of communication related to perioperative nursing.
- 2. Facilitate safe care utilizing Joint Commission standards related to communication.

7 Transfer of Care

Module Description

This module reviews the phases of postanesthesia care as well as expectations when transferring care in order to do so safely. This module relates to individualized patient care and outcomes for the perioperative patient consisting of 6% of the CNOR Exam, or 11 questions.

Module Learning Outcomes

This module prepares the learner to:

- 1. Relate transfer-of-care principles to perioperative interdisciplinary care.
- 2. Discuss how transfer of care provides safe patient-care continuity.

8 Central Sterile Processing

Module Description

This module represents 9% of the CNOR Exam. Central sterile processing is a perioperative area that many nurses recognize the importance of, but they do not necessarily possess the knowledge related to cleaning, disinfecting, packaging and sterilization of equipment and instrumentation. This module reviews parameters by the Association of periOperative Registered Nurses (AORN). Association for the Advancement of Medical Instrumentation (AAMI) standards, especially ST79 and guidelines, also are important related to central sterile processing.

Module Learning Outcomes

This module prepares the learner to:

- 1. Discuss decontamination, assembly and packaging in central sterile processing.
- 2. Differentiate among types of sterilization.
- 3. Explain biological and chemical indicators.

(continued)

80 minutes

21 minutes

9 Emergency Situations

Module Description

This module reviews much information related to intraoperative emergency situations, which is 11% of the CNOR Exam. Patients come to the OR expecting to be "fixed," unknowing that much of what happens to them has the potential to gravely harm them. Association of periOperative Registered Nurses (AORN) guidelines are the best resource for additional information related to emergency situations in the OR.

Module Learning Outcomes

This module prepares the learner to:

- 1. Discuss principles related to emergency situations in the perioperative environment.
- 2. Interpret standards and guidelines for improved patient outcomes related to perioperative emergency situations.

10 Management

17 minutes

Module Description

This is a relatively new domain that CCI included into the testing material in 2014. Some of the material was found within the test blueprint prior; however, some material was introduced at that time. Critical thinking skills for anticipation of patient needs, basic management techniques including delegation, healthcare industry representatives, non-OR personnel management and product evaluation, including cost containment, are included in this domain. The test will have 17 questions on management, making up 9% of the test.

Module Learning Outcomes

This module prepares the learner to:

- 1. List principles of management in the perioperative area.
- 2. Discuss delegation, mentoring and peer evaluation related to improved staff morale and relationships in the perioperative environment.

(continued)

Accreditation

RN/LPN/LVN/Other: 10.5 Contact Hours

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