Alberta College of Pharmacy

Ethics and Jurisprudence Exam Study Guide

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Exam overview

The Ethics and Jurisprudence Exam tests your abilities to

- remember foundational aspects of pharmacy legislation in Alberta and Canada,
- understand key concepts set out in ACP's standards and Code of Ethics, and
- apply procedural knowledge essential to the safe and effective practice of an entry-level pharmacy professional.

The exam tests on facts, concepts, and procedures. It is offered in an electronic, remotely proctored, 100-question multiple choice exam format, to be written within a two-hour time limit.

The minimum passing score is 75%, however candidates will receive notification after the exam of a pass or fail result only (no marked score will be provided). Candidates who fail will receive a breakdown of their score to support their preparation for future attempts.

Preparation

To organize your study plan, familiarize yourself with the exam blueprint (Appendix 1), which is a comprehensive overview of all topics covered in the exam, along with the relative weight of each domain category (i.e., percentage of questions that focus on each domain).

Candidates are also encouraged to read through each piece of relevant legislation and ACP's standards. No standards or piece of legislation should be read in isolation.

Your primary study resources, found in the practice framework section of the ACP website, include the

- Standards of Practice for Pharmacists and Pharmacy Technicians;
- Standards for the Operation of Licensed Pharmacies;
- *Health Professions Act* (HPA), the Pharmacists and Pharmacy Technicians Profession Regulation, and the Health Professions Restricted Activity Regulation;
- *Pharmacy and Drug Act* (PDA) and its regulation;
- *Health Information Act* (HIA);
- *Food and Drug Act* and regulations;
- *Controlled Drugs and Substances Act* and its regulation;
- Tenets of professionalism;
- ACP Code of Ethics; and
- ACP Guidelines.

Study resources on ACP's website also include the following:

- ACP Bylaws,
- CQI+,
- Alberta drug schedules, and
- TPP Alberta.

While the Jurisprudence Learning Module is a mandatory component of preparing for the exam, it should not be used as a single source of study.

Candidates will have access to the Standards of Practice for Pharmacists and Pharmacy Technicians, the Standards for the Operation of Licensed Pharmacies, and the NAPRA National Drug Schedules website within the exam platform. The expectation is that, if needed, candidates can use these resources to locate the relevant standards or drug schedules and identify their professional responsibilities, as they would in pharmacy practice. The time limit of the exam, however, will not facilitate candidates looking up every answer, and candidates are strongly encouraged to prepare for the exam as they would for a closed-book exam. The exam platform does not support a "search" functionality within the resources, so candidates must be able to locate the required section of each resource independently.

You may also consider reading current and previous issues of ACP's Advice to the Professions and Need to Know articles, as they summarize recent information about pharmacy practice in Alberta.

Lastly, candidates are strongly encouraged to gain experience in a pharmacy, in a patient-facing role, to help contextualize the application of their knowledge.

Appendix 1: Exam blueprint

Your knowledge will be tested in five areas of pharmacy practice as follows.

Person-centred Care (30%)

Person-centred care recognizes that each patient is an individual with their own circumstances, preferences and needs; regulated members must adapt the care they provide to meet each patient's health needs and goals.

Number	Domain	Learning outcome
1.1	Person-centred Care	Identify the unique health-related needs and preferences of patients in order to provide person-centred care.
1.2	Person-centred Care	Describe an evidence-informed process when advice, information, and services are provided to patients.
1.3	Person-centred Care	Describe adapting, prescribing for emergency purposes, prescribing at initial access, deprescribing, and managing ongoing therapy.
1.4	Person-centred Care	Describe a regulated member's responsibilities for the safe administration of drugs or vaccines by injection.
1.5	Person-centred Care	Summarize the appropriate provision of professional services using virtual care.
1.6	Person-centred Care	Identify appropriate information to gather when assessing a patient.
1.7	Person-centred Care	Describe how a regulated member must collaborate with individuals within a patient's circle of care.
1.8	Person-centred Care	Describe what patient information is required to be documented in a patient record.
1.9	Person-centred Care	Identify an appropriate monitoring and follow-up plan for a patient's care in collaboration with the patient.
1.10	Person-centred Care	Identify the requirements for conducting point-of-care and laboratory tests to support the patient care process.
1.11	Person-centred Care	Summarize a regulated member's responsibility to a patient pertaining to continuity and termination of care.
1.12	Person-centred Care	Describe the scope of practice of regulated members when providing services to animals.
1.13	Person-centred Care	Summarize a regulated member's responsibilities as they pertain to patients using drugs with the potential for dependence, misuse, addiction, and diversion.

Drug Schedules (15%)

Regulated members must classify drugs according to federal and Alberta drug schedules and relate these schedules to their responsibilities when releasing drugs.

Number	Domain	Learning outcome
2.1	Drug Schedules	Categorize drugs according to federal and provincial schedules and exceptions.
2.2	Drug Schedules	Compare drugs listed under the Controlled Drugs and Substances Act by classification; prescription requirements; ability to refill or transfer; and purchase, storage, and sale record requirements.
2.3	Drug Schedules	Identify the responsibilities of a regulated member as they pertain to the release and storage of Schedule 1-3 drugs, unscheduled drugs, homeopathic drugs, and natural health products.

Drug Preparation and Distribution (20%)

Accurate, safe, and appropriate drug preparation and distribution is integral to the achievement of patients' health goals.

Number	Domain	Learning outcome
3.1	Drug Preparation and Distribution	Determine the authenticity, completeness, and currency of a prescription.
3.2	Drug Preparation and Distribution	Describe packaging and dispensing procedures, including labelling, final checks, and delivery.
3.3	Drug Preparation and Distribution	Classify record retention requirements for prescription, dispensing, patient, and sale records.
3.4	Drug Preparation and Distribution	Identify a regulated member's responsibilities when identifying a suspected forgery, loss, or theft to ACP, Health Canada, and law enforcement.
3.5	Drug Preparation and Distribution	Describe the requirements for dispensing drugs monitored through the Tracked Prescription Program.
3.6	Drug Preparation and Distribution	Determine the prescribing authority of other health professionals.
3.7	Drug Preparation and Distribution	Describe the preparation of non-sterile and sterile preparations and hazardous and non-hazardous compounds.
3.8	Drug Preparation and Distribution	Define the practices of manufacturing, compounding, and repackaging.

Pharmacy Operations (15%)

Regulated members contribute to the environment and operation of the pharmacy, ensuring privacy, security, and accessibility while providing effective and appropriate professional services.

Number	Domain	Learning outcome
4.1	Pharmacy Operations	Compare the categories of pharmacy licences and understand what professional activities they permit or prohibit.
4.2	Pharmacy Operations	List the requirements of the dispensary, patient services area, pharmacy consultation room, prescription department, shared premises, and public area as they relate to the licenced pharmacy.
4.3	Pharmacy Operations	Outline the security requirements of the pharmacy to safeguard drugs and patient records.
4.4	Pharmacy Operations	Describe the roles of the various members of the pharmacy team considering training; scope of practice; and the provision of supervision, oversight, and direction; describe who these roles apply to.
4.5	Pharmacy Operations	Describe the key activities related to a continuous quality improvement process.
4.6	Pharmacy Operations	Apply legislation pertaining to health information when collecting, using, storing, and disclosing patient information.

Ethics and Professionalism (20%)

To retain the high level of trust and respect that is given to regulated members, they must be competent, professional, and abide by a high standard of conduct.

Number	Domain	Learning outcome
5.1	Ethics and Professionalism	Describe how governing legislation, standards, and guidance apply to pharmacy practice.
5.2	Ethics and Professionalism	Describe regulated member categories and authorizations maintained by ACP, including the clinical pharmacist, pharmacy technician, courtesy, provisional, and student registers.
5.3	Ethics and Professionalism	Describe the structure and role of ACP in protecting the public.
5.4	Ethics and Professionalism	Apply the Code of Ethics to pharmacy practice.
5.5	Ethics and Professionalism	Describe how a regulated member can support public health and health stewardship.
5.6	Ethics and Professionalism	Outline the boundaries of an appropriate professional relationship with a patient.
5.7	Ethics and Professionalism	Identify scenarios that would impact a regulated member's independence, judgement, or integrity.
5.8	Ethics and Professionalism	Identify behaviours and actions that align with the Tenets of Professionalism.