

QUALIFICATION IN DONOR PHLEBOTOMY, QDP

EXAMINATION TOPIC OUTLINE

The Qualification in Donor Phlebotomy examination questions encompass different topics or content areas within the area of Donor Phlebotomy: Basic Science, Donor Identification and Selection, Donor Blood Collection and Handling, Donor Considerations, and Donor Center Operations. Each of these content areas comprises a specific percentage of the overall 50-question qualification exam.

Exam questions may be both theoretical and/or procedural. Theoretical questions measure skills necessary to apply knowledge. Procedural questions measure skills necessary to evaluate donor eligibility, prepare donor and equipment, perform collection, and follow quality assurance protocols. Additionally, regulatory questions are based on U.S. sources (e.g., AABB, FDA, CLIA, etc.). The content areas and percentages are described in detail below.

IMPORTANT NOTE ABOUT COVID-19: FDA guidance for changes in donor eligibility during the COVID-19 pandemic are to ensure an adequate blood supply and only apply for the duration of the pandemic. Donor eligibility questions are based on pre-pandemic requirements and will not reflect temporary changes. Creutzfeldt-Jakob disease (CJD) questions are based on pre-pandemic requirements and will not reflect temporary changes or the [FDA guidance issued May 2022](#).

I. BASIC SCIENCE (5 – 15%)

A. Structure and Function of the Circulatory System

1. Heart
2. Arteries
3. Veins

B. Composition and Function of Blood

1. Types of blood (e.g., venous, capillary, arterial)
2. Plasma
3. Serum
4. Cellular elements (RBC, WBC, platelets)

C. Blood Compatibility (e.g., donor vs. recipient)

1. ABO
2. Rh
3. HLA antibodies

D. Terminology

II. DONOR IDENTIFICATION AND SELECTION (25 – 35%)

A. Donor Identification/Verification

B. Donor Selection

1. Interview
 - a. Whole blood
 - b. Platelet
2. Physical assessment
 - a. Hgb/Hct evaluation
 - b. Pulse
 - c. Blood pressure
 - d. Temperature

C. Terminology

III. DONOR BLOOD COLLECTION AND HANDLING (30 – 40%)

A. Phlebotomy Process

1. Site selection
2. Site preparation
3. Labeling
4. Venipuncture
5. Post-donation instructions

B. Supplies/Equipment (e.g., additives, collection kits, scales)

C. Handling

1. Transport
2. Storage

D. Terminology

IV. DONOR CONSIDERATIONS (10 – 20%)

A. Special Donor Categories

1. Directed
2. Autologous
3. Therapeutic

B. Concerns (e.g., petechiae, occluded veins, scarring, edema)

C. Adverse Events

1. Low volume/incomplete collection
2. Arterial puncture
3. Donor reactions (e.g., hematoma, fainting)

D. Terminology

V. DONOR CENTER OPERATIONS (10 – 15%)

A. Safety (e.g., OSHA Guidelines)

1. Personal (e.g., PPE, Standard Precautions)
2. Equipment
3. Donor center (e.g., fire, chemical)
4. Infection control

B. Quality Assurance and Control

1. Techniques
2. Equipment and materials
3. Variance/incident/error reports

C. Donor-Related Regulatory Compliance (e.g., HIPAA, CDC, FDA)

D. Terminology

Examples provided (as indicated by e.g.) are not limited to those listed.

All Board of Certification examinations use conventional and SI units for results and reference intervals.

END OF CONTENT GUIDELINE