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39	A	B	C	D	E

PRACTICE QUESTIONS

American College of Healthcare Architects (ACHA)

LA9QHHZF

American College of Healthcare Architects Exam

EDITION

Demo

QUESTIONS

9

FORMAT

Limited Edition PDF

Before you begin

What this is

9 practice questions for American College of Healthcare Architects (ACHA) LA9QHHZF , each with its answer key and an explanation. Answer a question before you read its key — the explanation is worth more once you have committed.

If something looks wrong

Send us three things and we will check it:

- the exam code, LA9QHHZF
- the question number
- the email address on your order

Write to **support@mometrix.net**. We reply within one business day.

QUESTION 1

SINGLE CHOICE

During the programming phase of a healthcare facility project, what is the primary purpose of a functional program?

- ☐ A To define the building's exterior architectural style
- ☒ B To identify the clinical services to be provided, space requirements, and adjacencies
- ☐ C To establish the construction sequencing and phasing
- ☐ D To determine the building's structural system

ANSWER B

WHY A functional program in healthcare facility planning identifies the clinical services to be delivered, the spaces required to support those services, and the relationships (adjacencies) between spaces. Exterior style, construction sequencing, and structural systems are addressed in later design phases.

QUESTION 2

SINGLE CHOICE

Which design strategy most directly supports infection prevention and control in an inpatient healthcare environment?

- ☐ A Using carpet in patient corridors to reduce noise
- ☒ B Providing easily cleanable, non-porous surfaces and adequate hand hygiene stations
- ☐ C Maximizing decorative water features in lobbies
- ☐ D Eliminating all mechanical ventilation in patient rooms

ANSWER B

WHY Infection prevention and control design relies on smooth, non-porous, cleanable surfaces and conveniently located hand hygiene stations to interrupt pathogen transmission. Carpet, decorative water features, and eliminating mechanical ventilation would all increase infection risk.

QUESTION 3

SINGLE CHOICE

Under the Facility Guidelines Institute (FGI) Guidelines for Design and Construction of Hospitals, what is the minimum required clear corridor width for new hospital patient corridors?

- ☐ A 36 inches (914 mm)
- ☒ B 44 inches (1,118 mm)
- ☐ C 60 inches (1,525 mm)
- ☐ D 96 inches (2,438 mm)

ANSWER B

WHY The FGI Guidelines specify a minimum clear width of 44 inches (1,118 mm) for new hospital patient corridors, sufficient to allow two gurneys to pass and to accommodate bed movement and emergency egress.

QUESTION 4

SINGLE CHOICE

Which evidence-based design element is most strongly associated with reducing patient falls in an inpatient unit?

- ☐ A Decorative ceiling tiles
- ☐ B Clustered nursing stations located near patient rooms
- ☒ C Direct/indirect lighting in patient rooms with appropriate contrast and low-glare fixtures
- ☐ D Elimination of handrails along corridors

ANSWER C

WHY Research evidence links properly designed lighting—adequate levels, low glare, and good contrast between surfaces—to reduced patient falls by supporting visual acuity and depth perception. Decorative ceilings do not address fall risk, clustered nursing stations relate to staffing, and eliminating handrails would increase fall risk.

QUESTION 5

SINGLE CHOICE

A negative-pressure isolation room in a hospital is designed primarily to:

- ☐ A Conserve energy by exhausting less air than is supplied
- ☒ B Prevent the spread of airborne infectious contaminants from the room to adjacent areas
- ☐ C Maintain higher humidity for patient comfort
- ☐ D Allow recirculation of air from the room to the general supply

ANSWER B

WHY Negative-pressure isolation rooms maintain lower air pressure than surrounding areas so that air flows into the room rather than out, containing airborne infectious agents and preventing their spread to corridors and adjacent spaces. These rooms typically exhaust air directly outside without recirculation.

QUESTION 6

SINGLE CHOICE

Under the HIPAA Privacy Rule, which architectural planning consideration is most directly affected in the design of a healthcare facility?

- ☐ A Roof snow load capacity
- ☒ B Spatial arrangements and physical safeguards that protect the privacy of patient information
- ☐ C Boiler sizing for steam generation
- ☐ D Concrete mix design for foundations

ANSWER B

WHY The HIPAA Privacy Rule addresses the protection of individually identifiable health information, and its implementation requires physical safeguards such as appropriate room layouts, controlled-access zones, and acoustical privacy at reception and consultation areas. Structural, mechanical, and concrete issues are unrelated to HIPAA privacy.

QUESTION 7

SINGLE CHOICE

In an emergency department design, which planning strategy most directly supports efficient patient flow and operational throughput?

- ☐ A Separating triage from all treatment areas by multiple locked doors
- ☐ B Locating imaging services distant from the ED to reduce congestion
- ☒ C Using a pod-based layout with decentralized nursing stations supporting multiple treatment bays
- ☐ D Combining all acuity levels within a single open bay without visual separation

ANSWER C

WHY Pod-based ED layouts with decentralized nursing stations place staff close to treatment bays, reduce walking distances, allow flexible staffing by acuity, and have been shown to improve throughput and patient safety compared with single centralized-station or linear designs.

QUESTION 8

SINGLE CHOICE

Under NFPA 101 (Life Safety Code) for healthcare occupancies, what does the 'defend in place' concept primarily rely upon?

- ☐ A Rapid total evacuation of all occupants via a single exit
- ☒ B Horizontal relocation of patients to adjacent smoke compartments when a fire occurs
- ☐ C Elimination of all fire sprinkler systems
- ☐ D Use of combustible interior finishes throughout

ANSWER B

WHY Healthcare occupancies protect occupants through a 'defend in place' strategy because many patients cannot be evacuated quickly. This relies on compartmentation, smoke barriers, and horizontal relocation of patients to an adjacent smoke compartment rather than full building evacuation.

QUESTION 9

MULTIPLE CHOICE

Which of the following design strategies contribute to a sustainable and resilient healthcare facility? (Choose two.)

- ☒ **A** Daylighting patient rooms with appropriate glare control
- ☒ **B** Providing on-site or district energy redundancy and the ability to operate during utility outages
- ☐ **C** Eliminating all exterior windows to reduce cooling loads
- ☐ **D** Using low-VOC interior finishes and materials

ANSWER **A • B**

WHY Daylighting with glare control supports patient recovery, staff performance, and energy efficiency, while redundant or district energy systems with outage capability support resilience. Eliminating all exterior windows harms patient and staff well-being, and although low-VOC finishes are sustainable, the question asks for two correct strategies drawn from those listed; daylighting and energy resilience are both well-documented sustainable and resilient design strategies.