

Common Registration Assessment – example questions guide



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Overview

The Board of Assessors (hereinafter 'the Board'), the body responsible for setting and moderating the Common Registration Assessment (hereinafter 'the assessment') have provided a set of Part 1 and Part 2 example questions. All example questions are mapped to the *Common Registration Assessment Framework* and include questions of varying complexity to reflect the breadth of challenge presented in the assessment.

The example questions serve three purposes:

1. to provide trainee pharmacists with information on the range and depth of topics that may be assessed in an assessment.
2. to allow trainee pharmacists to become familiar with the style, format and challenge of questions.
3. to allow trainee pharmacists to become familiar with the functionality of the Surpass platform used to deliver the assessment.

The example questions are not intended to be used as a mock assessment. The best preparation for the assessment comes from the experience gained during the foundation training year. The example questions are intended to complement workplace-based learning.

The assessment framework outlines the topics, skills and knowledge areas that may be assessed in the assessment, with all assessment content directly derived from it. The framework explains the overall scope and structure of the assessment. The framework content areas provide a broad indication of the assessment's scope; however, the specific content will be continuously adapted to reflect contemporary practice. This allows the assessment to remain dynamic and responsive to emerging pharmacy trends, ensuring that all content is contemporary and reflective of the expectations for pharmacists at the point of registration.

The example questions may be of value to other audiences, including Statutory Education Bodies (SEBs), training providers, and designated and educational supervisors who support trainee pharmacist learning and development.

The Board do not endorse any external revision or preparation materials as these may be of a different content and style to actual assessment content.

How to access the example questions

Please follow the instructions below to access the example questions:

1. Click on the Part 1 or Part 2 link to access the example questions on the Common Registration Assessment webpage on the GPhC website.
2. An 'Enter Keycode' box will display. The 8-character alphanumeric keycode is already populated in the entry field. Select 'OK'.
3. A 'Confirm Details' box will display. The generic demo details are already populated. Select 'Yes'.
4. An 'Agree to Terms' box will display. Please read and click the box to accept these terms. Select 'Continue'.

The introduction screen has instructions and includes the list of abbreviations and acronyms. The abbreviations and acronyms can be viewed by clicking on the 'View abbreviations and acronyms' button.

A full list of the accepted abbreviations and acronyms, which do not require definition, is also provided in appendix A of the assessment framework.

The introduction screen can be accessed at any point during the assessment. Select introduction  to return to the introduction page.

The process to access the assessment will be similar, but not the same as the process above. We will give you more information about what you will need to do in the assessment sitting guidance, and test centre staff will make clear the steps you will need to take on the day.

For these example questions, no information about you or your answers will be recorded. You will need to note your answers separately and mark them using the answers section at the end of this guide. You can access the example questions as many times as you choose.

Surpass functionality

You can see the main features of the question screen on pages 3–6 of this guide. Other features which you may find helpful are explained below:

Flagging questions for review

You can flag questions to mark them for an action later. This might be useful if you want to return to a specific question later in the assessment. **Visit the Surpass help site for more information on flagging questions.**

Using the basic on-screen calculator

A calculator is permitted in both Part 1 and Part 2 of the assessment. You may use your own calculator provided it is a model specified by the GPhC or use the onscreen calculator provided. Refer to the permitted item list on the Common Registration Assessment webpage on the GPhC website. **Visit the Surpass help site for more information on using the on-screen calculator.**

Highlighting text

You can highlight text in questions. **Visit the Surpass help site for more information on highlighting text.**

Zoom

You can zoom in and zoom out of the assessment interface using Ctrl + + and Ctrl + - respectively. You can reset zoom to 100% using Ctrl + 0.

Using the PDF viewer

Resources will be provided through the Surpass test platform PDF viewer in selected questions across the assessment. You will have access to several controls in the PDF viewer. For example, zooming in and out and searching for specific text in the PDF file. An example of a resource in the PDF viewer is shown in figure 4 on page 6 of this guide. **Visit the Surpass help site for more information on using the PDF viewer.**

Figure 1: An example Part 1 question page

The screenshot shows the interface for 'Test: CRA example questions Part 1'. At the top, a progress bar indicates 'Progress 0%' and a 'Finish Test' button is present. On the left, a vertical breadcrumb list contains numbers 1 through 15, with number 5 highlighted. The main content area displays a question about vancomycin dosage and a 'Basic Calculator' button. Below the question is an input field with 'mL' next to it. At the bottom, there are navigation buttons: a settings icon, a grid icon, a question mark icon, a 'Close all open tools' button, a flag icon, a 'Back' button, and a 'Next' button. Callout boxes provide instructions for each of these elements.

Progress bar
Displays your progress.

Finish test
Select 'Finish Test' when you have completed the assessment questions.

Questions are represented by numbers in the breadcrumb.
You can navigate to a question by selecting a number in the breadcrumb.

Section review
You can see an overview of the questions in section review. You can filter the questions by unattempted, attempted and flagged.

Preferences
If you have accessibility requirements, you can change your preferences here. This includes setting the text colour and colour scheme.

Back to introduction
You can navigate back to the introduction page and list of abbreviations and acronyms at any point during the assessment.

Basic calculator
Select 'Basic calculator' to open the calculator. Select the buttons on the calculator to use it. You can also use keyboard inputs.

Calculate your answer and enter it into the box provided.

Flag this question
You can flag a question. This might be useful if you want to return to a specific question later within the allocated assessment time.

Back to previous page
Select 'Back' to move to the previous question.

Next page
Select 'Next' to move to the next question.

Figure 2: An example Part 2 Single Best Answer (SBA) question page

The screenshot displays a digital assessment interface for a Part 2 Single Best Answer (SBA) question. The page is titled "Test: CRA example questions Part 2". At the top right, there is a "Progress bar" showing "Progress 0%" and a "Finish Test" button. On the left side, a vertical list of question numbers (1-20) is shown, with a "Section review" button above it. Below the question list, there are "Preferences" and "Back to introduction" buttons. The main content area contains a clinical scenario: "An 83-year-old man is prescribed one Butech (buprenorphine) 15 micrograms/hour patch once weekly for pain relief, but the patch is irritating his skin. His buprenorphine regimen is stable, well-tolerated, and his pain control is optimal. The prescriber asks for advice on switching to a fentanyl patch at an equivalent dose. An extract from the BNF is provided below." This is followed by the question: "Which is the most appropriate initial dose of transdermal fentanyl for this patient?". Below the question, there are five answer options, each with a checkbox: "12 micrograms/hour", "25 micrograms/hour", "50 micrograms/hour", "75 micrograms/hour", and "100 micrograms/hour". To the right of the question, there is a "View resource" button and a "Flag this question" button. At the bottom right, there are "Back" and "Next" buttons. The bottom of the page features a navigation bar with icons for settings, a grid, and a question mark, along with the "Back" and "Next" buttons. Annotations with arrows point to various elements: "Sections" points to the left sidebar; "Section 1: Questions 1–90. Section 2: Question sets 1–15. There are 15 sets, with each set consisting of two questions." points to the question list; "Questions are represented by numbers in the breadcrumb." points to the question numbers; "Section review" points to the "Section review" button; "Preferences" points to the "Preferences" button; "Back to introduction" points to the "Back to introduction" button; "Flag this question" points to the "Flag this question" button; "Back to previous page" points to the "Back" button; "Next page" points to the "Next" button; "Finish test" points to the "Finish Test" button; "View resource" points to the "View resource" button; and "Options" points to the answer options.

Sections
The Part 2 assessment is divided into two sections:

Section 1:
Questions 1–90.

Section 2:
Question sets 1–15. There are 15 sets, with each set consisting of two questions.

Questions are represented by numbers in the breadcrumb.

Section review

Preferences

Back to introduction

Flag this question

Back to previous page

Next page

Finish test

View resource
Select 'View resource' to open the resource in the PDF viewer. In the assessment, the resource material will dock side-by-side with question content.

Options
The questions in section 1 have five answer options. There is one **best** answer and four alternatives.

Test: CRA example questions Part 2

Progress bar Progress 0%

Finish Test

Sec... 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20

Sec...

An 83-year-old man is prescribed one Butech (buprenorphine) 15 micrograms/hour patch once weekly for pain relief, but the patch is irritating his skin. His buprenorphine regimen is stable, well-tolerated, and his pain control is optimal. The prescriber asks for advice on switching to a fentanyl patch at an equivalent dose.

An extract from the BNF is provided below.

Which is the most appropriate initial dose of transdermal fentanyl for this patient?

View resource

☐ 12 micrograms/hour

☐ 25 micrograms/hour

☐ 50 micrograms/hour

☐ 75 micrograms/hour

☐ 100 micrograms/hour

Back

Next

Figure 3: An example Part 2 Extended Matching Question (EMQ) page

The screenshot displays a web-based assessment interface for a Part 2 Extended Matching Question (EMQ). The page is titled "Test: CRA example questions Part 2". At the top right, there is a "Progress bar" showing "Progress 0%" and a "Finish Test" button. On the left side, a vertical breadcrumb menu shows a hierarchy of sections and question sets. Section 2 is highlighted, showing sets 1 through 5, with set 3 further indented to show sub-questions 3.1 and 3.2. The main content area features a "Theme: Electrolyte imbalance" and a clinical vignette about a 66-year-old woman with drowsiness, nausea, confusion, depression, and citalopram treatment. Below the vignette, the instruction reads: "Select the electrolyte imbalance most likely to be causing the patient's symptoms." Eight answer options are listed, each with a checkbox: hypercalcaemia, hyperkalaemia, hypermagnesaemia, hypematraemia, hypocalcaemia, hypokalaemia, hypomagnesaemia, and hyponatraemia. At the bottom, there are navigation buttons: "Section review", "Preferences", "Back to introduction", "Flag this question", "Back to previous page", and "Next page".

Section 2:
Question sets 1–15.
There are 15 sets, with each set consisting of two questions.

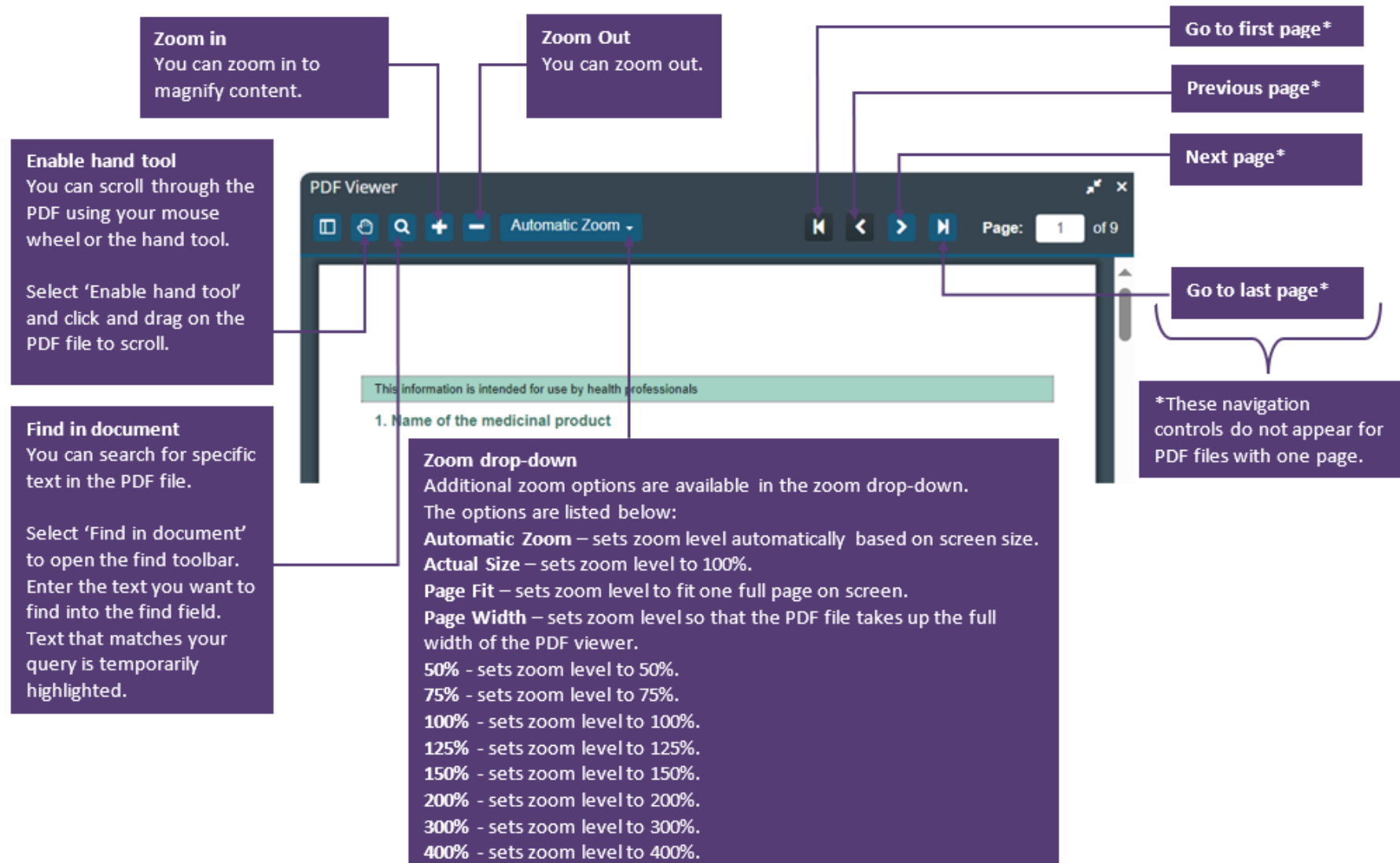
Question sets are represented by numbers in the breadcrumb.
Each question within a set displays individually.
For example, Set 3 consists of two questions (indented breadcrumbs): 3.1 and 3.2.

Theme: Electrolyte imbalance
The theme of the question set.

Options
The question sets in section 2 have eight answer options.
There is one most appropriate answer and seven alternatives.

Section review
Preferences
Back to introduction
Flag this question
Back to previous page
Next page

Figure 4: An example resource in the PDF viewer



Answers

Part 1: Pharmacy and healthcare calculations

Table 1: Answers to Part 1 example questions

Question number	Answer
Question 1	217 tablet(s)
Question 2	225 mL
Question 3	86 mL/hour
Question 4	48 capsule(s)
Question 5	0.92 mL/hour
Question 6	588 mL
Question 7	64 hour(s)
Question 8	72 mL
Question 9	19.3 mL
Question 10	20 patient(s)
Question 11	2 mg
Question 12	57%
Question 13	295 minute(s)
Question 14	112 mL
Question 15	£337

Part 2: Safe and effective pharmacy care of the public

Table 2: Answers to SBA example questions

Question number		Answer
Question 1	B	Colchicine
Question 2	E	Supply oral mebendazole to treat the whole family
Question 3	E	Rifampicin
Question 4	A	12 micrograms/hour
Question 5	B	<i>Haemophilus influenzae</i>
Question 6	A	Cervical cancer
Question 7	C	Provide advice about the condition and recommend paracetamol for the headache and general aches as necessary
Question 8	B	Common
Question 9	C	30 days
Question 10	D	Metformin hydrochloride
Question 11	A	Amlodipine
Question 12	C	Check she is on a Pregnancy Prevention Programme, understands the Patient Card and is aware of the risks in pregnancy
Question 13	C	Humalog Mix25 (biphasic insulin lispro)
Question 14	C	Ibuprofen 400mg tablets
Question 15	D	Methotrexate
Question 16	B	Montelukast
Question 17	A	Amlodipine
Question 18	B	Record receipt in a patient-returned controlled drugs record and then destroy the medication using a denaturing kit
Question 19	C	50 micrograms/24 hours
Question 20	C	Reduce the dose of Lantus (insulin glargine) administered each night

Table 3: Answers to EMQ example questions

Question set	Question number		Answer
Set 1	Question 1.1	C	Clotrimazole 1% w/w cream
Set 1	Question 1.2	G	Reassure that it is a self-limiting condition and provide safety-netting advice
Set 2	Question 2.1	E	75mg SC twice daily
Set 2	Question 2.2	A	20mg SC once daily
Set 3	Question 3.1	H	Hyponatraemia
Set 3	Question 3.2	B	Hyperkalaemia
Set 4	Question 4.1	B	Contraindication
Set 4	Question 4.2	G	Limited benefit
Set 5	Question 5.1	G	Statin
Set 5	Question 5.2	A	Angiotensin-converting enzyme inhibitor

