



**American Medical Technologists
Registered Phlebotomy Technician (RPT) Certification Competencies
and Examination Specifications**

Summary Table

	Work Area	Number of Questions	Percentage of Exam
I.	Obtaining Blood Samples	85	42.5%
II.	Specimen Collection and Processing	31	15.5%
III.	Time Management and Assignment Organization	16	8.0%
IV.	Professional Communications	9	4.5%
V.	Clerical Skills and Duties	8	4.0%
VI.	Safety Standards and Procedures	20	10.0%
VII.	Legal, Ethical, and Professional Considerations	14	7.0%
VIII.	Terminology, Anatomy, and Physiology	17	8.5%
Total		200	100%

Question Weightings, Work Areas, Task Areas, and Competencies

Number of Items

[85] I. Obtaining Blood Samples (42.5% of exam)

- A. Identify correct patient properly
- B. Select appropriate containers for specimens and know requirements for container identification
- C. Apply knowledge of physiological and age-related aspects of blood collection

- D. Prepare patient for various tests
- E. Select proper venipuncture site
- F. Perform venipunctures
- G. Collect specimen in proper tube-draw sequence
- H. Perform capillary punctures
- I. Perform heel punctures on infants
- J. Provide proper post care of venous and capillary puncture sites
- K. Handle blood samples to maintain specimen integrity
- L. Label specimens according to proper protocol: including transfusion services (blood bank)
- M. Demonstrate proper use of collection devices and equipment

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II. Specimen Collection and Processing (15.5% of exam)

- A. Properly handle non-blood specimens to maintain their integrity
- B. Properly collect and handle specimens with time, temperature, or other special requirements
- C. Properly collect and handle specimens for blood cultures
- D. Select proper department for specimen delivery
- E. Process specimens for shipping
- F. Instruct patient in the collection of urine specimens
- G. Instruct patient in the collection of other non-blood specimens
- H. Collect point-of-care testing (POCT) specimens
- I. Meet quality assurance standards

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III. Time Management and Assignment Organization (8.0% of exam)

- A. Read physician orders and requisitions
- B. Set priorities for specimen collection

- C. Schedule time intervals for tolerance tests
- D. Schedule time intervals for therapeutic drug monitoring (TDM)
- E. Refer problems to supervisor appropriately
- F. Cooperate with coworkers in the completion of assignments
- G. Follow laboratory path of workflow

[9] IV. Professional Communications (4.5% of exam)

- A. Develop and use proper and professional communication skills with staff, patients, and families
- B. Use proper technique and etiquette for answering the telephone
- C. Inform patients of special test requirements

[8] V. Clerical Skills and Duties (4.0% of exam)

- A. Chart or file laboratory-generated reports properly
- B. Enter, retrieve, and verify patient collection data and special notations using appropriate sources
- C. Maintain inventory levels, order and restock supplies
- D. Employ computer skills

[20] VI. Safety Standards and Procedures (10.0% of exam)

- A. Identify appropriate regulatory and standard-setting agencies
- C. Apply information obtained from Safety Data Sheets (SDS) and OSHA Hazard Communication Standard (HCS)
- C. Employ Universal/Standard precautions
- D. Employ infection control and isolation techniques
- E. Recognize and manage patient problems related to syncope, nausea, vomiting, and convulsions

- F. Recognize and manage patient problems related to nerve injury, accidental arterial puncture, lymphedema, hematoma, collecting blood outside of acceptable areas, and iatrogenic anemia
- G. Employ safety procedures for environmental and physical facilities

[14]

VII. Legal, Ethical, and Professional Considerations (7.0% of exam)

- A. Apply principles of liability regarding the practice of phlebotomy
- B. Perform duties professionally, ethically, and legally, adhering to criminal justice and civil rights acts
- C. Employ professional conduct and appearance in the performance of duties
- D. Obtain patient consent

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VIII. Terminology, Anatomy, and Physiology (8.5% of exam)

- A. Employ basic terminology including suffixes, prefixes, and root words
- B. Apply knowledge of basic anatomy
- C. Apply knowledge of physiological systems