



## Phlebotomy Technician Certification (PTC) Exam Blueprint

Job Task List	Weight	# of Items
<b>1. Professionalism and Regulatory Compliance</b>	18%	18
1.01 Present a professional appearance and a positive attitude.		
1.02 Act with integrity and respect towards others.		
1.03 Display empathy and compassion towards others.		
1.04 Take responsibility for personal actions in the workplace.		
1.05 Recognize and respond to ethical dilemmas.		
1.06 Demonstrate respect for diversity.		
1.07 Perform tasks within the scope of practice of a phlebotomy technician.		
1.08 Demonstrate respect for patient's rights under The Patient Care Partnership (formerly Patient's Bill of Rights).		
1.09 Obtain informed (expressed or implied) consent from a patient or a family member prior to specimen collection.		
1.10 Ensure the confidentiality of patient's protected health information (e.g., HIPAA).		
1.11 Follow the legislation governing laboratory testing (e.g., CLIA and OSHA) if applicable.		
1.12 Report patient-related incidents as required by legislation.		
1.13 Effectively communicate with patients and healthcare professionals.		
1.14 Engage in continuing education (e.g., online courses).		
<b>2. Infection Control and Safety (incl. Standard and Transmission-based Precautions)</b>	16%	16
2.01 Perform proper hand hygiene.		
2.02 Use respiratory hygiene and cough etiquette.		
2.03 Properly use personal protective equipment (e.g., gloves, goggles, gown, mask).		
2.04 Follow proper isolation procedures.		
2.05 Clean and disinfect phlebotomy equipment and work areas before and after a phlebotomy procedure.		
2.06 Use proper procedures to dispose of the contaminated sharps and biohazard fluids.		
2.07 Perform basic emergency care activities (e.g., First Aid, CPR, rapid response procedures) in accordance with facility's protocol.		
2.08 Adhere to the workplace safety regulations (e.g., CDC, OSHA, NFPA).		
<b>3. Patient Identification, Assessment, and Site Preparation</b>	17%	17
3.01 Obtain and review a requisition form before specimen collection.		
3.02 Introduce yourself as a phlebotomy technician to the patient.		
3.03 Perform patient identification using appropriate identifiers (e.g., patient's name and date of birth).		
3.04 Follow facility's protocol related to patient misidentification.		
3.05 Verify patient's compliance with collection requirements (e.g., fasting, medication).		
3.06 Identify patient's history that may impact specimen collection (e.g., medication, mastectomy, fistula, allergies, syncope).		
3.07 Position the patient for specimen collection to ensure safety.		
3.08 Select a blood collection site that is appropriate for the test and the patient.		
3.09 Prepare a site for blood collection (e.g., application of aseptic and sterile techniques).		
3.10 Apply and release the tourniquet appropriately.		
3.11 Follow the CLSI guidelines pertaining to the use of a tourniquet, hand squeezing, and heating pads in blood collection.		
<b>4. Equipment Selection and Maintenance</b>	10%	10
4.01 Identify various types of additives used in blood collection.		
4.02 Select appropriate evacuated tube colors for the test.		
4.03 Identify the circumstances that can interfere in clinical analysis of blood constituents.		
4.04 Select proper antiseptic agents for the test.		
4.05 Select proper venipuncture equipment for the test and the size and the condition of veins.		
4.06 Select proper capillary equipment for the site and the patient.		
4.07 Select proper equipment for non-blood specimen collection.		
4.08 Perform quality control on equipment (e.g., needle integrity, calibration of centrifuges, point-of-care equipment).		
<b>5. Collection of Blood and Non-Blood Specimens</b>	29%	29
5.01 Explain the blood collection procedure to the patient.		
5.02 Obtain blood specimens following the order of draw recommended by CLSI.		
5.03 Prioritize specimens for collection (e.g., timed, fasting, stat specimens).		
5.04 Comply with the chain of custody collection requirements (e.g., paternity testing, drug screening).		
5.05 Perform venipuncture using appropriate methods (e.g., ETS, syringe).		

5.06 Perform capillary puncture collection using appropriate methods (e.g., heel, finger stick).		
5.07 Use appropriate needle insertion and removal techniques during blood collection.		
5.08 Respond to patient complications during blood collection (e.g., syncope, excessive bleeding and pain, seizure, lack of circulation, arterial nick).		
5.09 Collect blood specimens from patients with special circumstances (e.g., bleeding disorders, burns, IV).		
5.10 Collect specimens for POC testing (e.g., glucose, UA, HCG).		
5.11 Perform blood culture collections.		
5.12 Identify the amount of blood needed for a tube.		
5.13 Instruct patients in the collection of non-blood specimens (e.g., urine, stool, semen, sputum).		
5.14 Perform non-blood specimen collection (e.g., a throat culture, sputum, and a nasal swab).		
5.15 Perform appropriate post-puncture care for the patient (e.g., assess patient, apply pressure, check a site for bleeding, and bandaging).		
5.16 Record specimen collection details in a timely and accurate manner.		
5.17 Measure and record vital signs as requested by a facility.		
<b>6. Specimen Processing and Transportation</b>	10%	10
6.01 Ensure that the specimen is properly labelled.		
6.02 Assess specimen quality and suitability for analysis (e.g., hemolysis, QNS, and clotting).		
6.03 Prepare blood specimens for further testing at a laboratory (e.g., centrifugation and aliquoting).		
6.04 Prepare non-blood specimens for further testing at a laboratory (e.g., urine).		
6.05 Store specimens in the conditions appropriate to the purpose of collection (e.g., temperature, light).		
6.06 Deliver specimens to the correct unit in a laboratory.		
6.07 Take corrective action for problems with specimen processing or transportation.		
<b>Total:</b>	100%	100*

\* This number indicates the number of scored items on the certification exam. All AMCA certification exams are subject to pilot testing, meaning that there could be additional unscored items on the exam. The scored items will be from a current operational form of our exam. The unscored items will be new items that data is being collected on. The unscored items will not have any effect on the candidate's score and/or their pass/fail decision.

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PTC Passmarks	
Form Name	Passmark
PTC (A) - Retired 04/2021	69
PTC (B) - Retired 04/2021	69
PTC (C)	74
PTC (D)	74
PTC (A) and PTC (B) exam forms are equated to the same passing standard established in the 2016 PTC Exam Specifications Report.	
PTC (C) and PTC (D) exam are equated to the same passing standard established in the 2021 PTC Exam Specifications Report.	