



HIV PHARMACIST™

AMERICAN ACADEMY OF HIV MEDICINE

Credentialing Exam Content Outline

Below is an outline of the Domains and Tasks that are evaluated on the HIV Pharmacist™ Credentialing Exam. Each Domain is a high level function for the role of the HIV Pharmacist™. Domains are made up of Tasks that an HIV Pharmacist™ will be able to perform competently.

Each question on the Exam is directly related to one of these Task/Knowledge statements. The number of questions on the exam for each Task is determined based on the results of the Role Delineation Study (RDS) completed in 2024. An RDS is a standardized study of a profession designed to establish the knowledge and skills necessary for competent practice.

Domain I: Screening and Assessment

Task 1: Recommend, order, and/or interpret HIV tests based on incidence and prevalence rates in various populations to diagnose or screen for HIV-1 and HIV-2 accurately.

Knowledge of or skill in:

1. Types of tests and characteristics including over the counter HIV tests
2. Inconclusive and false positive test results
3. Recognizing different window periods for HIV tests
4. Recognizing long-acting early viral inhibition (LEVI) syndrome
5. Testing indications for various populations

Task 2: Recognize HIV at different stages of clinical presentation through patient history, laboratory tests, and clinical signs.

Knowledge of or skill in:

1. Identifying acute retroviral syndrome
2. AIDS (Stage 3) defining conditions
3. Education, counseling, and interpretation of lab results

Task 3: Recommend, order, and/or interpret screening and laboratory tests to monitor for potential HIV-related conditions.

Knowledge of/skill in:

1. Opportunistic infections
2. Sexually transmitted infections
3. HIV-related malignancies
4. Viral Hepatitis
5. Preventive health screenings (e.g., cardiovascular, bone health, mental health)

Domain II: Prevention

Task 1: Assess the relative risk of acquiring and transmitting HIV and other STIs.

Knowledge of/skill in:

1. Epidemiology
2. Obtaining a sexual history and assessing sexual practices
3. Identifying risk factors for patient's acquisition and transmission
4. Perinatal screening and Vertical transmission risk
5. Highly impacted or underscreened populations (e.g., sexual and gender minorities, racial and ethnic minorities, adolescents, older adults)

Task 2: Educate on harm reduction methods to reduce the risk of acquiring and transmitting HIV and other STIs.

Knowledge of/skill in:

1. HIV pre-exposure prophylaxis
2. HIV post-exposure prophylaxis
3. STI prophylaxis and treatment
4. Barrier methods
5. Harm reduction methods for injection drug and substance use
6. Vaccinations

Task 3: Recommend, initiate, and manage HIV pre-exposure prophylaxis.

Knowledge of/skill in:

1. Patient and clinical considerations
2. Medication selection and dosing considerations
3. Monitoring parameters
4. Recognizing long-acting early viral inhibition (LEVI) syndrome
5. Medication adherence
6. Clinical research studies
7. Alternative and novel prevention strategies (e.g., evidence-based Prep, time-based Prep, 2-1-1, vacation-based Prep)

Task 4: Recommend, initiate, and manage HIV post-exposure prophylaxis.

Knowledge of/skill in:

1. Patient and clinical considerations
2. Medication selection and dosing considerations
3. Monitoring parameters
4. Medication adherence

Task 5: Recommend, initiate, and manage STI prophylaxis and treatment.

Knowledge of/skill in:

1. Patient and clinical considerations
2. Medication selection and dosing considerations
3. Monitoring parameters
4. Medication adherence
5. Alternative and novel prevention strategies
6. Expedited Partner Therapy

Task 6: Counsel individuals about HIV treatment as prevention.

Knowledge of/skill in:

1. U = U and medication adherence

Domain III: Treatment and Management

Task 1: Develop an antiretroviral therapy (ART) regimen using medication history, supplement use, medical history, social history, laboratory test results, and other evaluations.

Knowledge of/skill in:

1. Pharmacology of antiretroviral drugs
2. First line ART regimens
3. Rapid initiation of ART
4. ART considerations for perinatal populations
5. ART considerations for pediatric populations
6. ART considerations for treatment experienced populations
7. ART considerations for long-acting agents
8. ART considerations for comorbidities
9. ART considerations for drug-drug interactions including complementary/alternative medications and supplements
10. ART considerations for social-economic barriers
11. ART considerations for adherence challenges
12. ART considerations for achieving viral suppression, degree of immunosuppression and viremia
13. ART considerations for adverse effect history
14. ART considerations for co-infections
15. ART considerations for transgender populations
16. Investigational treatment strategies and emerging agents
17. Strategies to enhance adherence, such as simplifying regimens and considering patient preferences (optimization simplification switch)
18. Situations where alternative dosage forms are needed

Task 2: Monitor the efficacy, tolerability, patient adherence, and presence of resistance to ART using patient history and clinical assessment.

Knowledge of/skill in:

1. Monitoring parameters
2. Antiretroviral specific adverse effects
3. Interpreting resistance testing

Task 3: Evaluate the relevance of drug interactions associated with ART to optimize efficacy and minimize adverse events.

Knowledge of/skill in:

1. Identifying potential drug-drug, drug supplement, and drug-food interactions that could affect ART efficacy
2. Managing potential drug-drug, drug supplement, and drug-food interactions that could affect ART efficacy
3. Mechanisms of drug interactions such as enzyme induction and inhibition

Task 4: Recommend, initiate, and manage OI prophylaxis and treatment to improve quality of life and prolong survival.

Knowledge of/skill in:

1. Patient and clinical considerations
2. Medication selection and dosing considerations
3. Monitoring parameters
4. Initiation and discontinuation of prophylaxis
5. Primary vs secondary prophylaxis
6. Factors affecting timing of initiation of ART
7. Geographic differences in OI exposures including endemic regions for certain infections

Task 5: Manage other comorbidities and promote patient engagement to improve quality of life and increase survival.

Knowledge of/skill in:

1. Renal disease and metabolic disorder management
2. Cardiovascular management
3. Bone health management
4. Mental health management
5. Viral Hepatitis management
6. Incorporating the potential impact of aging in the HIV population into clinical decision making.
7. Coordination strategies to address social determinants of health
8. Gender affirming care
9. Addressing polypharmacy

Task 6: Recommend, initiate, and manage vaccinations in PWH to improve quality of life and increase survival.

Knowledge of/skill in:

1. CDC vaccination schedule
2. Patient and clinical considerations on vaccination schedule
3. Travel vaccinations

Domain IV: Professional Responsibility and Health Equity

Task 1: Evaluate and apply the results of research studies to optimize the efficacy and safety of treatment modalities.

Knowledge of/skill in:

1. Literature evaluation
2. Identifying appropriate candidates for clinical trials and expanded access programs

Task 2: Promote professional and patient advocacy, HIV education, and development of public policy.

Knowledge of/skill in:

1. Recognizing federal public health regulations regarding disclosure and confidentiality of HIV results and related issues
2. Collaborative practice agreements and expanding pharmacist role
3. Essential information, references, or tools to enhance the patient's ability to make an informed decision on the potential risks and benefits of complementary and alternative medicine (CAM therapies)

Task 3: Identify opportunities to optimize care, promote equitable access to care, and reduce health care inequities.

Knowledge of/skill in:

1. Current national programs to end the HIV epidemic
2. Medication access (e.g., cost savings, medication assistance programs, prior authorization)
3. Using technology to increase access to care and patient engagement (e.g., telehealth, digital applications, and point-of-care tools)
4. Managing transitions of care (e.g., hospitalization, telephone encounters, medication reconciliation, patient assessment) to enhance retention in care.
5. Antiretroviral stewardship
6. Multidisciplinary care coordination to affect the HIV care continuum

Task 4: Recognize the importance of social determinants of health in optimizing HIV outcomes.

Knowledge of/skill in:

1. Addressing language and literacy barriers using appropriate resources
2. Recognizing and mitigating implicit bias, stigma, and discrimination
3. Assessing barriers to adherence and engagement in care
4. Resources for financial support, food insecurity, transportation and housing
5. Addressing the needs of special populations (e.g., geriatric, PWID, pediatric, pregnant, transgender, incarcerated persons) by analyzing their unique needs to optimize the effectiveness, impact, and adherence to treatment