



National Certified Phlebotomy Technician 2025 Detailed Test Plan - Comparison to Previous

Below is a quick comparison guide detailing the changes in the new Detailed Test Plan

Comparison	Previous	New
Total # scored test questions	125	100
Total # unscored pretest items	25	25
Total time	3 hours	3 hours
4-option multiple-choice items	90-95%	92%
Alternative items	5-10%	8%

Changes to Exam Content Categories:

Previous		New	
Quality and Professional Issues	19	Laws and Ethics	15
Infection Control and Safety	22	Infection Control and Safety	15
Orders and Equipment Selection	22	Equipment Selection	12
Patient ID and Site Preparation	23	Patient and Site Preparation	13
Collections	23	Specimen Collections	30
Problems and Correction	16	Collection Complications and Troubleshooting	15

New Tasks:

- 2B4 Educate patients about specimen collection.
- 3A8 Perform venipuncture.
- 5A3 Obtain consent to perform specimen collection.
- 5A4 Prevent occurrences that could result in legal action (e.g., nerve damage, probing, patient falls).

Deleted Tasks:

- Perform and record quality control procedures and results (e.g., temperature logs, glucose meter).
- Identify and follow up with quality control results that do not meet pre-determined criteria (e.g., what was corrective action).
- Adhere to professional standards of the industry (e.g., hygiene, dress code).
- Respond to workplace hazards including fire, electrical, and chemical.
- Perform laboratory test order entry.
- Resolve questionable entries or errors on patient requisition.
- Select appropriate requisitions for specialty lab departments.
- Identify patients according to regulatory standards and facility protocol.
- Select the appropriate site for arterial blood collection.

Deleted Tasks (Continued):

- Collect laboratory specimens per requirements (e.g., urine, stool, culture swabs).
- Process special non-blood specimens (e.g., CSF, synovial fluid, peritoneal fluid, pericardial fluid).
- Arrange for transport of blood specimens for testing at reference laboratories.
- Report results and critical values to authorized personnel.
- Take corrective actions for problems with test requests, specimen transport, or specimen processing.
- Take corrective actions for misidentified patients or samples.
- Take corrective actions for patient complaints or refusals.

Changes to Critical Skill Performance Competency:

Previous	New
Venipuncture: Minimum of 25 venipuncture procedures	Venipuncture: Minimum of 50 venipuncture procedures
Capillary puncture: Minimum of 5 capillary puncture procedures	Capillary puncture: Minimum of 10 capillary puncture procedures
