

Sample Items of the Pharmacy Curriculum Outcomes Assessment® (PCOA®)

PCOA Item Types

The following are examples of item formats that a student may encounter when taking the PCOA. These questions are presented as examples to familiarize students with their formats and are not intended to represent content areas of the PCOA.

Multiple-Choice Question Format

Which of the following vaccines is contraindicated in immunocompromised patients?

- A. Pneumococcal polysaccharide
- B. Varicella
- C. Meningococcal conjugate
- D. Subcutaneous influenza

Multiple-Response Question Format

What counseling information should a pharmacist provide to a patient taking oral tacrolimus?
(Select **ALL** that apply.)

- A. Avoid live virus vaccinations
- B. Avoid grapefruit and grapefruit juice
- C. If a dose is missed, double up on the next dose
- D. Do not drink alcohol while taking this medication
- E. Medication levels need to be monitored

Constructed-Response Question Format

Griseofulvin oral suspension contains 125 mg/5 mL. A physician prescribed 250 mg bid for 2 weeks for a patient. How many milliliters of griseofulvin should be dispensed in order to fill this prescription?

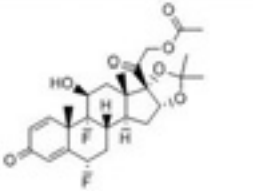
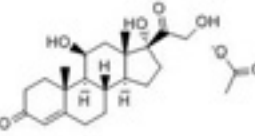
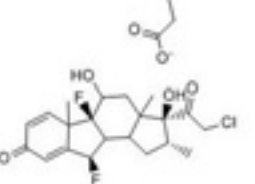
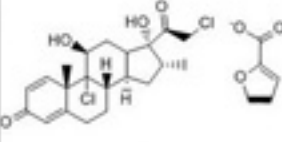
(Answer must be numeric; round the final answer to the nearest **WHOLE** number.)



Ordered-Response Question Format

The following corticosteroids are formulated as topical ointments. Rank their potency from highest to lowest starting with the highest on top.

(ALL options must be used.)

Unordered Options	Ordered Response
	
	
	
	



Hot Spot Question Format

Which area is predominantly responsible for coordination of movement using skeletal muscles? (Place the cursor on the area to select, then click the left mouse button. To change your answer, move the cursor to another area and click.)

