

# ABMM Exam Questions Pdf & Printable ABMM PDF

## Sample Questions

American Board of Medical Microbiology

*The American Board of Medical Microbiology  
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### SAMPLE QUESTIONS

The sample questions included in this examination guide are actual questions from previous examinations. They have been removed from the question pool. Do not judge the content as indicative of content in current questions, but use these sample questions as templates for the format.

1. Five cases of prosthetic valve endocarditis caused by *Staphylococcus epidermidis* are observed in one hospital. Of the following available methods, which is BEST for determining whether all five isolates were derived from a single source?

A. Serotyping  
B. Restriction fragment length polymorphism analysis  
C. Antimicrobial susceptibility testing  
D. Bacteriophage typing

Question tests Bacteriology: Infection Control.

2. Which of the following organisms is the most common cause of septicemia in patients with sickle cell disease?

A. *Salmonella enteritidis*  
B. *Streptococcus pneumoniae*  
C. *Streptococcus agalactiae*  
D. *Shigella sonnei*

Question tests Bacteriology: Infectious Disease and Pathogenesis.

3. A 20-year-old man was generally healthy until his impacted wisdom tooth was removed by an oral surgeon. The area where the tooth had been was sore and there were eruptions through the skin beneath the area of the jaw where the tooth had been.

Which of the following is the most probable etiologic agent of this patient's condition?

A. *Actinomyces israelii*  
B. *Histoplasma capsulatum*  
C. *Nocardia asteroides*  
D. *Actinomyces bovis*

Question tests Bacteriology: Infectious Disease and Pathogenesis.

4. The highly infectious asexual conidia of *Coccidioides immitis* are called which of the following?

A. Arthroconidia  
B. Blastospores  
C. Chlamydospores  
D. Sporangiospores

Question tests Mycology: Public Health.

5. Which of the following specimens is used to diagnose infections with *Naegleria fowleri*?

A. Cerebrospinal fluid  
B. Corneal scraping  
C. Blood  
D. Urine

Question tests Parasitology: Diagnostic Systems and Interpretation of Laboratory Data.

6. An individual who has received all three doses of hepatitis B vaccine and who has never had hepatitis B virus (HBV) infection

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## American Society of Microbiology ABMM Sample Questions (Q39-Q44):

### NEW QUESTION # 39

A patient presents with a pruritic rash consisting of raised, serpiginous tracks on their skin. The patient recently returned from a Caribbean vacation and reported walking barefoot on the beach. The MOST likely causative organism is:

- A. Larvae of *Ancylostoma braziliense*
- B. Larvae of *Strongyloides stercoralis*
- C. *Sarcoptes scabiei*
- D. *Pediculus humanus*

Answer: A

### NEW QUESTION # 40

A 6-year-old child presents with a pharyngitis characterized by a grayish-white pseudomembrane covering the tonsils and posterior pharynx. Gram stain of the membrane reveals Gram-positive bacilli. Culture on Loeffler's medium shows growth of metachromatic granules. The MOST significant virulence factor associated with this organism's pathogenicity is:

- A. Diphtheria toxin
- B. Hyaluronidase
- C. Protein A
- D. Streptolysin O

Answer: A

### NEW QUESTION # 41

A clinical microbiology laboratory is using CRISPR-based technology for rapid and sensitive detection of specific bacterial DNA sequences directly from patient samples. This method relies on the ability of the Cas enzyme to:

- A. Amplify target DNA sequences using specific primers and thermal cycling.
- B. Reverse transcribe RNA into complementary DNA.
- C. Detect the presence of specific antibodies produced in response to bacterial infection.
- D. Specifically bind to and cleave target DNA sequences guided by a short RNA molecule.

Answer: D

### NEW QUESTION # 42

A clinical microbiology laboratory is performing quality control on antimicrobial susceptibility testing. The zone diameter for *Escherichia coli* ATCC 25922 tested against ciprofloxacin is consistently smaller than the acceptable range published by CLSI. The MOST likely cause of this discrepancy is:

- A. Incubation at an incorrect temperature
- B. Use of expired antibiotic disks
- C. All of the above
- D. Inoculation with a bacterial suspension that is too dense

Answer: C

### NEW QUESTION # 43

A patient presents with perianal itching, particularly at night. Microscopic examination of cellophane tape preparation from the perianal area reveals oval-shaped eggs with one flattened side. The MOST likely causative organism is:

- A. *Strongyloides stercoralis*
- B. *Ascaris lumbricoides*
- C. *Enterobius vermicularis*
- D. *Trichuris trichiura*

**Answer: C**

### NEW QUESTION # 44

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