

Preparing for the CNOR Exam Frequently Asked Questions

I am interested in taking the CNOR exam. Does AORN offer any preparation suggestions?

AORN offers the online *Preparing for the CNOR Exam* course as a review.

I can't find the page to register for the CNOR Exam on the AORN website.

AORN does not administer the CNOR exam. CCI administers the exam. Please visit their website www.cc-institute.org for the latest information regarding the exam, registration, and test dates, as well as resources for your success. We advise you to register for the CNOR exam before purchasing our review course. That way, you will have a specific goal date in mind as you study.

If I take the AORN CNOR review course do I have to study?

Yes. Preparation for the CNOR should not be taken lightly. The AORN online review course will help you identify your areas of strength and weakness.

How much time is really needed to study for the exam?

You should give yourself anywhere from 10-20 weeks to fully prepare yourself for success. CCI provides a study plan in their site: www.cc-institute.org

In addition to the online course what other references should I review?

Additional resources to study from:

- Last year's and current year's *Perioperative Standards and Recommended Practices*
- *Alexander's Care of the Patient in Surgery*, latest edition
- *Berry and Kohn's Operating Room Technique*
- *Competency for Safe Patient Care During Operative and Invasive Procedures* (Phippen et al)
- Pharmacology Review:
 - Pre-op meds:
 - Intraoperative meds, including anesthesia meds
 - Post-Op meds (anti-emetics, anti-pyretics, narcotics, reversal agents, anti-infectives, anti-hypertensive medications; anti-inflammatory agents, anti-coagulants; basic cardiac meds; role of solu-medrol in surgery and preoperatively.
 - Toxicity levels of local medications.
- A Med/Surg review book for basic nursing concepts that will augment your perioperative practice content.
 - Hone in on content related to:
 - Preoperative history and pre-existing conditions
 - Disease processes that require surgical interventions (signs and symptoms, causes, treatments, diagnostic procedures to determine causes)
 - Immediate post operative care of the surgical patient
 - Review of ABG interpretation (included in the AORN program)

What types of questions can I expect on the exam?

The CNOR exam tests you on the Nursing Process. It is important to review the nursing process if you are unfamiliar with it. We recommend the following:

- Thorough review of the Nursing Process
- Review National Council Licensure Examination-Registered Nurse (NCLEX) questions. These prepare you to answer questions based on the nursing process and accustom you to thinking in this manner. <https://www.ncsbn.org/nclex.htm>
- Critical thinking concepts related to nursing (this is included in the AORN online program)

Does AORN offer a consult line for the CNOR prep course?

No. AORN does not offer a consult line for the course.

Are the questions in the AORN online course the same type of questions as are on the exam?

No. The questions in our review course are based on the specific content that we provide. Our questions are challenging; they are fact and scenario based. The review course contains content that our nurses think you need to know in order to pass the CNOR exam.

It is also important to note that the questions on the CNOR exam are not comparable to the post test questions in the studies from the *AORN Journal*. Rather, the questions test your ability to think critically and pull knowledge together from many sources.

Can I make a printed copy of the prep course?

No. Our program is copyrighted; therefore, you cannot copy it. You can take notes online or on paper as you go through the course. It is very important to take notes during the course as a hard copy of the material is not available.

How long to I have access to the course?

You have access for 3 months.

What if I need more time for studying?

You can extend your study time for the course for a fee of \$50/month for up to three months. You must pay for the extension before the original course time expires. Extensions months must be consecutive.

Does the course have contact hours?

Yes. The course is worth 30 contact hours. To earn the contact hours you must complete the practice exam within the course with a score of XXX and submit the course evaluation.

How many practice questions are in the course?

There are XX questions. XX are in the practice exam at the end of the course, and XX are interspersed throughout the course.

I understand that this online program is guaranteed?

If you take the CNOR exam with 6 months of purchasing the course, and you do not pass the CNOR exam, you can either:

- Receive a refund on the cost of the review course; or
- Retake the review course at no charge. If you decide to take the review course again, you should make sure that you have selected a date to retake the exam.

To take advantage of this offer, you must send our Customer Service department a copy of the letter from CCI stating that you did not pass the exam. Customer Service will either refund your money or re-register you for the course, whichever you prefer. This guarantee is available only one time per registrant.

How often is the course updated?

The course is updated annually. As new recommended practices are developed, we update the course content.