

## COPT Content Outline

**The Oncology Pharmacy Technician Certification exam will contain questions on the subjects outlined below, with percentages indicating the relative weight assigned to each section.**

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### **Domain I- Core Oncology Pharmacy Training: 25%**

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#### Knowledge of:

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##### **Pharmaceutical Calculations:**

Understanding the definitions and primary uses of essential pharmaceutical calculations is crucial for oncology pharmacy technicians. Key calculations include:

- Body Surface Area (BSA): Used for determining appropriate medication dosages based on a patient's size.
- Cockcroft-Gault Equation: Utilized to estimate renal function, impacting drug dosing and selection.
- Pounds to Kilograms: Important for converting patient weight to the metric system for accurate medication calculations.

##### **USP 800 Guidelines:**

Familiarity with USP 800 is vital for safely handling hazardous drugs. Key focus areas include:

- Dispensing Final Dosage Forms: Understanding proper techniques for preparing and dispensing medications.
- Types of Exposure: Awareness of potential exposure routes and associated risks.
- Storage and Handling: Knowledge of appropriate storage conditions to maintain drug integrity.
- Personal Protective Equipment (PPE): Importance of using PPE to minimize exposure risks.
- Proper Disposal: Guidelines for disposing of hazardous materials safely and responsibly.
- Pharmacy Accreditation: Recognizing the major bodies of pharmacy accreditation and their standards is essential for maintaining quality in pharmacy practice. Understanding these standards helps ensure compliance and promotes best practices in oncology pharmacy settings.

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### **Domain II- Clinical Oncology Skills and Patient Management: 25%**

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#### Knowledge of:

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##### **Lab Values and Their Significance:**

Pharmacy technicians in oncology should understand critical lab values, including:

- Complete Blood Count (CBC): With emphasis on Absolute Neutrophil Count (ANC) for assessing infection risk.
- Comprehensive Metabolic Panel (CMP): Focus on Blood Urea Nitrogen (BUN) and creatinine levels to evaluate kidney function.
- Liver Function Tests: Key for assessing the liver's ability to metabolize medications.

- Tumor Markers: Used to monitor cancer progression or response to treatment.

**Radiology Studies:**

Technicians should be familiar with common radiology studies used in oncology, including:

- Positron Emission Tomography (PET): For detecting cancer spread.
- Computed Tomography (CT): For visualizing tumors and other abnormalities.
- Bone Scans: Primarily used to identify metastasis to bone.

**Oral Oncolytic Adverse Effects:**

Understanding adverse event management is essential, particularly using these key resources:

- Common Terminology Criteria for Adverse Events (CTCAE): A standardized system for reporting side effects.
- Prescribing Information: Details on identifying and managing side effects for specific

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**Domain III- Oncology Pharmacy Billing: 20%**

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**Knowledge of:**

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**Oral Oncolytic Billing:**

Understanding billing specifics for oral oncolytics, including:

- Billing by Cycle, Quantity, and Day Supply\*\*: Ensuring accurate billing practices based on treatment specifics.

**Insurance Verification:**

Proficient in verifying patient insurance to confirm coverage, eligibility, and benefit details.

**Medicare Parts and Coverage:**

Key insights into Medicare, including:

- Federal Plans and Medicare Part D: Coverage details for prescription medications.
- Medicare Part B: Rules and regulations for billing oral oncolytics, with specific compliance standards.

**Commercial Insurance Plans:**

Understanding commercial plan billing processes and requirements for oncology medications.

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**Domain IV- Oral Oncolytics: 30%**

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**Knowledge of:**

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**Oral Oncolytic Medications:**

Knowledge of commonly prescribed oral oncolytic drugs, including:

- Generic and Brand Names: Be familiar with both generic and brand names for quick identification.
- Recommended Dosage per Indication: Understanding dosages based on specific cancer types and stages.

- Dosage Forms and Strengths: Awareness of available forms and strengths to ensure accurate dispensing.
- Common Adverse Reactions: Recognizing typical side effects to assist with patient education.
- Supportive Medications: Familiarity with both OTC and prescription medications used to manage side effects and support treatment.