



Guidelines for Preparing Multiple Choice Questions

Pursuant to Section 4.G.5 of the Certification Manual

Two original multiple-choice questions must be submitted online as part of your General Exam Registration. One question must be for the General: General section and one must be for the General: Species-specific section (Gen-Small Animal or Gen-Large Animal). Please follow formatting instructions provided below.

Questions not meeting the specifications supplied the candidates will be rejected, and the candidate may not be allowed to sit the General Exam that year.

The general section question should address information common to all species including physiology, pharmacology and disease-related information (e.g. pathophysiology, clinical pathology, diagnosis and treatment). The species-specific section consists of questions which pertain specifically to information covered during your residency training program (either small or large animal focus). Both questions must include a single best answer and three distractors. "All of the above", "None of the above", "Which one is NOT" or similar variations are not acceptable questions stems or distractors.

Each question must be on its own page, the examination section (Gen-General, Gen-Small Animal, or Gen-Large Animal) and category area (see list below, use only ONE category) must be listed for each, there must be a reference for each, and the Candidate ID# should be included at the top of each page (note: do NOT put your name on either page).

Category Options:

Cardiology	Gastrointestinal	Infectious Disease	Pharmacology
Dermatology	Genetics	Neurology	Nephrology
Endocrine	Hematology	Nutrition/Metabo.	Reproductive
Epidemiology	Immunology	Oncology	Respiratory
			Toxicology

References must be from the latest available edition of a textbook and must include the title of the text or journal, editor/author, and page number(s). Below is a recommended reading list from which references may be taken. If there is a more current version or edition of a source, please use that most current version.

Sources for all Candidates:

Textbook of Medical Physiology: Guyton and Hall, 13th ed (2016)

Textbook of Veterinary Immunology: Tizard, 10th edition (2018)

Veterinary Drug Handbook: Plumb, 9th ed (2018)

Respiratory Physiology: The Essentials: West, 10th edition (2015)

Veterinary Clinical Epidemiology: Smith, 3rd edition (2005)

Duncan and Prasse's Veterinary Laboratory Medicine: Clinical Pathology: Latimer, 5th edition (2011)

Small Animal Clinical Pharmacology and Therapeutics: Boothe, 2nd edition (2012) Chapter One ONLY: Principles of Drug Therapy (although this is a small animal text, chapter one covers basic pharmacological principals with which all candidates should be familiar)

ACVIM Consensus statements ONLY: 2014-2019



Sources for Small Animal Internal Medicine Candidates:

Textbook of Veterinary Internal Medicine: Ettinger and Feldman, 8th edition (2017)

Canine and Feline Infectious Diseases: Sykes, 1st edition (2014)

Small Animal Clinical Oncology: Vail and Withrow, 5th edition (2013) Chapters eleven and eighteen through thirty-three ONLY

Practical Guide to Canine and Feline Neurology: Dewey and DaCosta, 3rd edition (2015) Chapters 2 and 3 only.

Sources for Large Animal Internal Medicine Candidates:

Veterinary Medicine: A textbook of the diseases of cattle, horses, sheep, pigs, and goats: Constable, Hinchcliff, Done, and Gruenberg, 11th edition (2017)

Large Animal Internal Medicine: Smith, 6th edition (2020)

Equine Internal Medicine: Reed, Bayly and Sellon, 4th edition (2018)

Each question should be formatted as directed below:

General Section – Category

1. How much is $2 + 2$?

- A. 1
- B. 2
- C. 3
- D. 4

Ref: ABC Textbook

Correct Answer: D

Small Animal Section – Category

2. How many inches are in a foot?

- A. 3
- B. 6
- C. 9
- D. 12

Ref: ABC Textbook

Correct Answer: D

Large Animal Section – Category

3. How much is $1 + 1$?

- A. 1
- B. 2
- C. 3
- D. 4

Ref: ABC Textbook

Correct Answer: B