

ACVIM Oncology Candidate Study Guidelines

Suggested Study Materials

The list of suggested reference materials is meant to guide Candidates in preparing for the Examination and represent a body of knowledge that a Candidate would know. While the most up to date publications may not be present on this list, as a best practice residents should have exposure to current literature as an ongoing part of their residency training programs. Specific recommendations for exam preparation cannot be made beyond the clinical training gained from participation in a residency program.

Textbooks

When more than one edition is available, reference the most current published edition / version of the textbook, available immediately following the most recent relevant ACVIM examination administration date.

Core textbooks are those in which the entire textbook contributes to a comprehensive knowledge base of the relevant Specialty or the General Examination.

1. Vail, Thamm, and Liptak: *Withrow and MacEwen's Small Animal Clinical Oncology*, 6th Edition. (2019)
2. Harrington, Tannock, Hill, and Cescon: *The Basic Science of Oncology*, 6th Edition. (2021)
3. Weinberg: *The Biology of Cancer*, 3rd Edition. (2023)
4. Chabner and Longo: *Cancer Chemotherapy, Immunotherapy, and Biotherapy: Principles and Practice*, 7th Edition. (2024)
5. Hall and Giaccia: *Radiobiology for the Radiologist*, 8th Edition. (2018)
6. Abbas, Lichtman and Pillai: *Cellular and Molecular Immunology*, 10th Edition. (2021)

Supplemental textbooks are those that include select chapters, sections, or portions that contribute to an expanded understanding of the relevant Specialty or the General Examination.

1. DeVita, Hellman and Rosenberg: *Cancer: Principles and Practice of Oncology*, 12th Edition. (2022)
2. Valenciano and Cowell: *Cowell and Tyler's Diagnostic Cytology and Hematology of the Dog and Cat*, 5th Edition (2019)
3. Raskin, Meyer and Boes: *Canine and Feline Cytology: A Color Atlas and Interpretation Guide*, 4th Edition. (2022)
4. Meuten: *Tumors in Domestic Animals*, 5th Edition. (2020)

5. Latimer: Duncan and Prasse's Veterinary Laboratory Medicine: Clinical Pathology, 5th Edition. (2011)
6. Norman and Streiner: Biostatistics: The Bare Essentials, 4th Edition. (2014)

Journals

Articles Published between July 2020 – June 2025

Core journals are veterinary journals containing articles contributing to a comprehensive knowledge base relating to the relevant Specialty.

1. Journal of Veterinary Internal Medicine
2. Journal of the American Veterinary Medical Association
3. American Journal of Veterinary Research
4. Journal of Feline Medicine and Surgery
5. Journal of the American Animal Hospital Association
6. Veterinary Clinical Pathology
7. Veterinary Clinics of North America: Small Animal Practice
8. Journal of Comparative Pathology
9. Veterinary and Comparative Oncology
10. Veterinary Pathology
11. Veterinary Surgery
12. Veterinary Radiology and Ultrasound
13. Journal of Small Animal Practice
14. Research in Veterinary Science
15. Veterinary Immunology and Immunopathology
16. BMC Veterinary Research
17. BMC Veterinary Oncology
18. The Veterinary Journal
19. Veterinary Sciences

Supplemental journals may include both veterinary and/or non-veterinary journals that contain articles contributing to a more detailed understanding of, and/or different perspective on, important pathophysiologic, pharmacologic, diagnostic, management and/or therapeutic topics of significance to the relevant Specialty, which is not available elsewhere, and/or is complementary to information covered by the "core" journals and textbooks.

1. Nature
2. Cell
3. Science

4. Cancer
5. Clinical Cancer Research
6. Nature Reviews: Cancer
7. Cancer Research
8. Cancer Chemotherapy and Pharmacology
9. PLoS Journals
10. BMC (Biomed Central) Journals
 - a. Genomics
 - b. Cancer
 - c. Genetics
 - d. Molecular Cancer
11. Cancer Immunology/Immunotherapy
12. Oncogene
13. Cancer Gene Therapy

ACVIM Consensus Statements

All published ACVIM Consensus Statements.

Note: ACVIM Forum Proceedings are no longer considered appropriate allowable literature resources for the ACVIM General or Specialty Examinations.

Seminal Articles

Seminal articles drawn from outside the aforementioned publication date limits.

1. Bergman PJ, Camps-Palau MA, McKnight JA, et al. Development of a xenogeneic DNA vaccine program for canine malignant melanoma at the Animal Medical Center. *Vaccine* 2006; 24:4582-4585.
2. Hanahan D, Weinberg RA. Hallmarks of cancer: the next generation. *Cell*. 2011 Mar 4;144(5):646-74.
3. Nguyen SM, Thamm DH, Vail DM, London CA. Veterinary and Comparative Oncology. Response evaluation criteria for solid tumours in dogs (v1.0): a Veterinary Cooperative Oncology Group (VCOG) consensus document. *Vet Comp Oncol*. 2015 Sep;13(3):176-83
4. Vail DM, Michels GM, Khanna C, Selting KA, London CA; Veterinary Cooperative Oncology Group. Response evaluation criteria for peripheral nodal lymphoma in dogs (v1.0)--a Veterinary Cooperative Oncology Group (VCOG) consensus document. *Vet Comp Oncol*. 2010 Mar;8(1):28-37. doi: 10.1111/j.1476-5829.2009.00200.x. PMID: 20230579.

5. Burton JH, Mitchell L, Thamm DH, Dow SW, Biller BJ. Low-dose cyclophosphamide selectively decreases regulatory T cells and inhibits angiogenesis in dogs with soft tissue sarcoma. *J Vet Intern Med.* 2011 Jul-Aug;25(4):920-6. doi: 10.1111/j.1939-1676.2011.0753.x. Epub 2011 Jul 7. PMID: 21736624.
6. Kent MS, Emami S, Rebhun R, Theon A, Hansen K, Sparger E. The effects of local irradiation on circulating lymphocytes in dogs receiving fractionated radiotherapy. *Vet Comp Oncol.* 2020 Jun;18(2):191-198. doi: 10.1111/vco.12531. Epub 2019 Aug 29. PMID: 31424596.
7. Pierro JA, Mallett CL, Saba CF. Phase I clinical trial of vinorelbine in tumor-bearing cats. *J Vet Intern Med.* 2013 Jul-Aug;27(4):943-8. doi: 10.1111/jvim.12101. Epub 2013 May 10. PMID: 23662626.
8. Mochizuki H, Breen M. Comparative Aspects of BRAF Mutations in Canine Cancers. *Vet Sci.* 2015 Aug 24;2(3):231-245. doi: 10.3390/vetsci2030231. PMID: 29061943; PMCID: PMC5644641.
9. Bloch J, Rogers K, Walker M, Dawson J, Wilson-Robles H. Treatment of feline injection-site sarcoma with surgery and iridium-192 brachytherapy: retrospective evaluation of 22 cats. *J Feline Med Surg.* 2020 Apr;22(4):313-321. doi: 10.1177/1098612X19844345. Epub 2019 Apr 15. PMID: 30982391; PMCID: PMC10814673.
10. Wormhoudt TL, Boss MK, Lunn K, Griffin L, Leary D, Dowers K, Rao S, LaRue SM. Stereotactic radiation therapy for the treatment of functional pituitary adenomas associated with feline acromegaly. *J Vet Intern Med.* 2018 Jul;32(4):1383-1391. doi: 10.1111/jvim.15212. Epub 2018 May 21. PMID: 29782043; PMCID: PMC6060317.
11. Hammond GM, Gordon IK, Theon AP, Kent MS. Evaluation of strontium Sr 90 for the treatment of superficial squamous cell carcinoma of the nasal planum in cats: 49 cases (1990-2006). *J Am Vet Med Assoc.* 2007 Sep 1;231(5):736-41. doi: 10.2460/javma.231.5.736. PMID: 17764434.
12. Théon AP, Pusterla N, Magdesian KG, Wittenburg L, Marmulak T, Wilson WD. A pilot phase II study of the efficacy and biosafety of doxorubicin chemotherapy in tumor-bearing equidae. *J Vet Intern Med.* 2013 Nov-Dec;27(6):1581-8. doi: 10.1111/jvim.12144. Epub 2013 Sep 20. PMID: 24107145.
13. Willcox JL, Marks SL, Ueda Y, Skorupski KA. Clinical features and outcome of dermal squamous cell carcinoma in 193 dogs (1987–2017). *Veterinary and Comparative Oncology.* 2019;17(2):130–138. DOI: 10.1111/vco.12461