AUSTRALIAN AND NEW ZEALAND COLLEGE OF VETERINARY SCIENTISTS

FELLOWSHIP GUIDELINES
Veterinary Dentistry

1. ELIGIBILITY REQUIREMENTS OF CANDIDATE

The candidate shall meet the eligibility prerequisites for Fellowship as outlined in the Fellowship Candidate Handbook.

All candidates must be Members of the College, by examination, in Veterinary Dentistry before the Fellowship examination can be attempted.

2. OBJECTIVES

To demonstrate that the candidate has sufficient training, experience, knowledge and accomplishment in Veterinary Dentistry to meet the criteria for registration as a specialist in this field.

3. LEARNING OUTCOMES

The field of veterinary dentistry includes the examination, diagnosis and treatment of diseases of the oral cavity in all animal species, including but not limited to domestic mammals.

There is no sub-specialisation within the discipline.

The candidate will be expected to have a detailed\(^1\) knowledge of:

(i) the normal anatomy and physiology of the oral cavity and the structures contained therein.
(ii) the aetiology, pathogenesis and pathophysiology of oral diseases.

\(^{1}\) Knowledge levels:

- **Detailed knowledge** — candidates must be able to demonstrate an in-depth knowledge of the topic including differing points of view and published literature. The highest level of knowledge.
- **Sound knowledge** — candidate must know all of the principles of the topic including some of the finer detail, and be able to identify areas where opinions may diverge. A middle level of knowledge.
- **Basic knowledge** — candidate must know the main points of the topic and the core literature.

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(iii) the diagnosis, differential diagnosis, treatment, prognosis and prevention of oral diseases.

(iv) the principles of periodontics, oral surgery, orthodontics, endodontics, prosthodontics, restorative dentistry and oral medicine.

(v) both the principles of radiography and radiology as it applies to the diagnosis of diseases of the oral cavity and related structures.

(vi) oral tumour biology and the effectiveness of different treatment protocols.

(vii) anaesthesia and analgesia as it applies to the treatment of diseases of the oral cavity.

(viii) the basic principles of surgery, including but not limited to wound healing, haemostasis, wound infections, biological materials and surgical instrumentation as it pertains to the surgical treatment of conditions of the oral cavity.

(ix) the principles of fracture healing and repair as they are relevant to conditions of the oral cavity.

(x) current veterinary literature in the field of Veterinary Dentistry as well as the relevant human dental literature and the ability to critically evaluate this literature.

The candidate will be expected to:

- demonstrate competency in the treatment of dental diseases and conditions in all veterinary species, and competence in surgical dental techniques, anaesthesia and critical care and dental nursing.

For each of the above the candidate should have:

- **detailed** knowledge and understanding of dogs and cats.
- **sound** knowledge and understanding of other domestic mammals.
- **basic** knowledge and understanding of other animals.

4. EXAMINATIONS

Refer to the Fellowship Candidate Handbook.

Examinations will follow the basic protocol as outlined in the Fellowship Candidate Handbook and reproduced below. Candidates need to be aware of the variance of the practical examination compared to the protocol in the blue book.

Although the certifying body will set and grade the examinations, it is expected that examinations will be comprehensive and will meet the following broad thresholds.

**Written paper 1.** A written paper or papers of at least 3 hours duration which will be oriented towards the basic science and principles of veterinary dentistry.

**Written paper 2.** A written paper or papers of at least 3 hours duration oriented towards the practice and clinical applications of veterinary dentistry.

**Oral examination.** In this examination of at least 3-hour duration the candidate will be expected to be able to enter into a detailed discussion of any aspect of the subject.

**Practical examinations.** Within the training program the candidate’s mentor is required to certify that the following list of clinical procedures has been performed:
**Periodontology**

- Complete prophylaxis
- Reverse bevel flap
- Apical reposition flap and open curettage
- Sliding pedicle flap
- Deep pocket treatment
- Gingivectomy
- Free gingival graft
- Periodontal splinting

**Endodontics**

- Standard pulpectomy - canine/ carnassial / incisor; Dog and Cat
- Vital pulpotomy
- Apicectomy
- Hemisection
- Treat a luxated or avulsed tooth

**Oral Surgery**

- Acrylic splint repair of a fracture
- Oronasal fistula repair - rostral / midline / caudal
- Maxillectomy
- Mandibulectomy
- Intra oral wiring - Ivy loop / Stout / Risdon / Essig
- Extraction - simple / surgical (canine / carnassial / other) of dog / cat
  - quadrant / whole mouth
  - incisors / premolar ( open and closed ) in a rabbit
- Symphyseal fracture repair
- Frenectomy
- Tight lip
- Condylectomy
- Comissuroplasty

**Restorative**

- Class V restoration - canine / carnassial with amalgam / composite
- Subgingival restoration
- Pulp capping and restoration
- Slab fracture repair with / out pins
- Restore an encircling lesion
- Crown preparation and impressions canine / carnassial
- Crown lengthening
- Post / core crown build up

**Orthodontics**
Incline plane construction
Full mouth alginate impressions and stone models
Apply orthodontic brackets
Occlusal readjustment in a rabbit

5. TRAINING PROGRAMS

Training programs must adhere to the Fellowship Candidate Handbook requirements. The following caveats are approved by the FTCC and Chief Examiner:

(i) It is likely that training programs will be “Alternative” training programs as defined in the Fellowship Candidate Handbook section 4.2.3. These programs must include at least 76 weeks of directly supervised training (DST). Therefore a maximum of 20 weeks of DST (to meet the total 96 weeks required) can be replaced by 100 weeks of indirectly supervised training (5 weeks of indirectly supervised training is equivalent to 1 week of directly supervised training).

(ii) Candidates may submit retrospective training programs, including “Alternative” training programs (with a minimum of 76 weeks DST and maximum of 100 weeks indirectly supervised training).

(iii) Indirectly supervised training credits may be awarded for training towards AVDC, human dental degree or similar training or experience.

In addition to the requirements of the Fellowship Candidate Handbook, Training Program Documents must include the following:

(i) A commitment by the candidate to be involved in patient-oriented teaching rounds, seminars or discussion groups, journal and text reviews. The candidate should also plan to attend clinically didactic lectures and continuing education conferences where appropriate. Attendance at an international dental conference is recommended.

(ii) A copy of the oral-dental record forms and list and photographs of veterinary dental equipment, instruments and supplies currently available to the candidate, arranged in procedure category.

6. CREDENTIALS DOCUMENTS

In addition to the requirements of the Fellowship Candidate Handbook, Credentials Documents must include the following:

(i) A complete set of dental radiographs of a dog and a cat.

(ii) Evidence that the candidate has given at least one oral presentation at a scientific meeting prior to the examination.

(iii) At least two Category A publications that each cover different dental disciplines.

(iv) Documentation of 40 hours of training in each related discipline of Anaesthesia, Small Animal Surgery, and Radiology under the supervision of a Veterinary Specialist registered in each respective discipline.

7. ACTIVITY LOG
A minimum of 500 (five hundred) cases over the training period. The candidate should try to gain as broad a range of experience as possible. A narrow range of experience within each category will not meet the minimum requirements (e.g. 80% complete prophylaxis in section b. periodontics). The following case number threshold is a guide to the minimum number of cases that the candidate is expected to have performed in each discipline (the candidate may be questioned on these and any related issues in any part of the examination process).

Activity Logs shall use the following categories for both the 6 month Activity Log submission (Appendix E1) and Activity Log Summary (Appendix F2 of the Fellowship Candidate Handbook)

a. Oral Medicine (20 cases minimum)

b. Periodontics (60 cases minimum)
   - Complete prophylaxis not requiring involved periodontal treatment (20)
   - Involved periodontal scaling and root planing (20)
   - Simple periodontal surgery (10)
   - Involved periodontal treatment (10)

c. Endodontics (38 cases minimum)
   - Mature canal endodontic obturation, non-surgical (25)
   - Partial vital pulpectomy (10)
   - Surgical endodontic treatment (3)

d. Restorative dentistry (12 cases minimum)

e. Oral surgery (75 cases minimum)
   - Simple (closed) dental extractions, crown amputations (FORL) (35)
   - Involved dental extractions, full-mouth extractions (25)
   - Mandibular or maxillary fracture fixation (5)
   - Involved oral surgical procedures (5)
   - Miscellaneous soft tissue oral surgery (5)

f. Prosthodontics (10 cases minimum)

g. Orthodontics (20 cases minimum)
   - Malocclusion treatment plan, including detailed consultation and charting, or bite registration, impressions, study models, with or without occlusal adjustment, occlusal adjustment in exotics (10)
   - Extraction of deciduous teeth or permanent teeth causing malocclusion (4)
   - Management of clinical malocclusion (crown amputation, application of an inclined plane) (4)
   - Management of clinical malocclusion (use of an active force orthodontic device) (2)

h. Other species (5 cases minimum)
7. RECOMMENDED READING LIST

The candidate is expected to read widely within the discipline, paying particular attention to areas not part of their normal work experiences. This list of books and journals is intended to guide the candidate to some core references, including comparative texts, and other source material. Candidates also should be guided by their supervisor. The list is not comprehensive and is not intended as an indicator of the content of the examination. Candidates at fellowship level are expected to have library search skills and be aware of recent publications and advances in veterinary dentistry.

Texts:


Australian Veterinary Dental Society Annual Conference Proceedings 1990 - current


Veterinary Clinics of North America. Equine Practice.


Proffit Contemporary Orthodontics

Page and Schroeder Periodontitis in Man and Other Animals

Carranza Glickman’s Clinical Periodontology

Cohen and Burns Pathways of the Pulp

Craig, Powers & Wataha Dental Materials

Evans Miller’s Anatomy of the Dog

Withrow and McEvan Clinical Oncology Journals


Journals:

Australian Veterinary Journal
Australian Veterinary Practitioner
Compendium on Continuing Education for the Practicing Veterinarian
Equine Practice
Equine Veterinary Journal
Large Animal Veterinarian
Journal of Veterinary Dentistry
New Zealand Veterinary Journal
Journal of Endodontics
Journal of Periodontology
Journal of Clinical Periodontology
American Journal of Veterinary Research
Journal of Small Animal Practice
Journal of the American Veterinary Medical Association
Journal of the American Animal Hospital Association
Seminars in Veterinary Medicine

FURTHER INFORMATION
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