



## AUSTRALIAN AND NEW ZEALAND COLLEGE OF VETERINARY SCIENTISTS

### MEMBERSHIP GUIDELINES

#### *Small Animal Surgery*

### INTRODUCTION

These Membership Guidelines should be read in conjunction with the Membership Candidate Handbook.

### ELIGIBILITY

Refer to the Membership Candidate Handbook.

### OBJECTIVES

To demonstrate that the candidate has sufficient knowledge of the aetiology and pathophysiology of common surgical diseases of the dog and cat and the experience and ability to appropriately advise veterinary colleagues about the current treatment options for these surgical diseases.

### LEARNING OUTCOMES

**Specific Objectives:** The candidate is required to have knowledge and experience of Small Animal Surgery sufficient to be recognised by colleagues as having an additional qualification

1. The candidate will have a **sound**<sup>1</sup> knowledge of:
  - 1.1 the anatomy and physiology of the dog and cat.
  - 1.2 the principles of surgery as they relate to the dog and cat.
  - 1.3 the aetiology, pathogenesis and pathophysiology of surgical diseases of the dog and cat.
  - 1.4 the type and range of commonly occurring surgical diseases of the dog and cat.
  - 1.5 the treatment of surgical diseases of the dog and cat.

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<sup>1</sup> Knowledge Levels:

**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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2. The candidate must be able to perform the following with a **sound**<sup>2</sup> level of expertise:
  - 2.1 diagnose surgical diseases of the dog and cat, including a sound knowledge of the clinical examination, diagnostic aids and clinical and tissue pathology.
  - 2.2 surgical techniques, anaesthesia and critical care, chemotherapeutics and surgical nursing.
  - 2.3 critical evaluation of the current surgical concepts and literature of surgery of the dog and cat.

## EXAMINATIONS

For information on the standard and format of both the Written and Oral examinations candidates are referred to the Membership Candidates Handbook. The Membership examination has two separate components:

1. **Written Examination** (*Component 1*)
  - Written Paper 1** (two hours): Surgical Principles
  - Written Paper 2** (two hours): Application of surgical principles
2. **Oral Examination** (*Component 2*)
  - Oral** (45 minutes to one hour)

The written examination will comprise of two separate two-hour written papers taken on the same day. There will be an additional 15 minutes perusal time for each paper, during which no writing in an answer booklet is permitted. In each paper you are provided with four (4) questions to answer, worth 30 marks each, giving a total of 120 marks per paper. There is no choice of questions. Questions may be long essay type, a series of shorter answer sub-questions, or multiple-choice questions. Marks allocated to each question will be clearly indicated on the written paper.

### Written Paper 1:

This paper focuses on the principles of surgery and the pathophysiology of surgical diseases.

### Written Paper 2:

This paper focuses on the clinical application of small animal surgery. This will include all clinical problems an experienced general practitioner with a large surgical load might be expected to face.

### Oral Examination:

This comprises images, radiographs and other clinically relevant material to assess the candidate's diagnostic skills, problem solving skills and ability to apply surgical principles to clinical problems. The duration of this examination is approximately 45 minutes to 1 hour.

Four (4) cases are presented with supporting questions asked verbally in a face-to-face setting. The oral examination has a total of 100 marks with each case allocated 25 marks.

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<sup>2</sup> **Skill levels:**

**Sound expertise** – the candidate must be able to perform the technique with a moderate degree of skill, and have moderate experience in its application. A middle level of proficiency.

**Basic expertise** – the candidate must be able to perform the technique competently in uncomplicated circumstances

## RECOMMENDED READING LIST

The candidate is expected to read widely within the discipline. This list of books and journals is intended to guide the candidate to some major references and other source material. Candidates also should be guided by their mentors. The list is not comprehensive and is not intended as an indicator of the content of the examination.

### Recommended Textbooks<sup>3</sup>

Veterinary Surgery Small Animal, 2nd Edition  
Johnston and Tobias, ISBN: 9780323320658 ISBN-10: 0323320651  
Elsevier - Published August 2017

### Additional References

Small Animal Surgery, 5th Edition  
Theresa Welch Fossum, ISBN: 9780323443449  
Elsevier · Published August 2018

Mechanisms of Disease in Small Animal Surgery, 3rd Edition  
edited by M. Joseph Bojrab; consulting soft tissue editor, Daniel D. Smeak; consulting bone and joint editor, Mark S. Bloomberg, ISBN: 0812114914 DDC: 636.0897 LCC: SF991  
Publisher: Philadelphia : Lea & Febiger, August 2012

Atlas of Surgical Approaches to Bones & Joints of the Dog & Cat, 5th Edition  
By Donald L. Piermattei, Kenneth A. Johnson  
Columbus, Ohio , ISBN 0721687075 / 9780721687070 ·  
Hardback Saunders · Published January 2014

Matthews K, Kronen PW et al (2014) WSAVA Guidelines for Recognition, Assessment and Treatment of Pain. JSAP 2014. Open Access at <https://onlinelibrary.wiley.com/doi/full/10.1111/jsap.12200>

## FURTHER INFORMATION

For further information contact the College Office

Telephone: International +61 (07) 3423 2016

Email: [examinations@anzcvcs.org.au](mailto:examinations@anzcvcs.org.au)

Web: [www.anzcvcs.org.au](http://www.anzcvcs.org.au)

Postal Address: Building 3, Garden City Office Park, 2404 Logan Road  
EIGHT MILE PLAINS QLD 4113 Australia

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<sup>3</sup> **Textbook** Definitions:

**Recommended textbook** – candidates should own or have ready access to a copy of the book and have a sound knowledge of the contents.

**Additional references** – candidates should have access to the book and have a basic knowledge of the contents

**Additional Reading Materials** - These are conference proceedings, other non-refereed publications and other journals that would offer some information in the subject area including differing points of view but are not required reading.

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