



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**¹ 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.

¹ **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.

2. The candidate must be able to perform the following with a **sound**² 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 or a series of short answer 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.

² **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 Textbooks³

Veterinary Surgery Small Animal, 2nd Edition

Tobias and Johnston, ISBN: 9780323320658 ISBN-10: 0323320651

Elsevier - Published August 2017

Small Animal Surgery, 4th Edition

Theresa Welch Fossum, ISBN: 9780323100793

Elsevier · Published August 2012

Additional Textbooks

Atlas of Small animal wound management and reconstructive surgery, 3rd edition

Steven F. Swaim, ISBN 978-0-8138-1124-6/2010 Publisher WB Saunders 2010

Pathologic Basis of Veterinary Disease, 5th Edition

Zachary and McGavin, ISBN 978-0-323-07533-6 Publisher Elsevier - 2012

Disease Mechanisms 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

Brinker, Piermattei and Flo's Handbook of Small Animal Orthopedics and Fracture Repair, 5th Edition

Donald L. Piermattei, Gretchen L. Flo, Charles E. DeCamp ISBN 0721692141 / 9780721692142 ·

Paperback · 832 Pages · 1834 Illustrations Saunders · Published December 2015

Veterinary Surgical Oncology

editors Kudnig and Seguin, ISBN 978-0-8138-0542-9/2012

Wiley and Blackwell, Published 2012

Withrow and MacEwen's Small Animal Clinical Oncology, 5th Edition

By Stephen J. Withrow, David M. Vail

ISBN 0721605583 / 9780721605586 · Hardback 864 Pages 275 Illustrations

Saunders · Published November 2012

³ **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.

Journals⁴

Veterinary Surgery

Journal of the American Veterinary Medical Association Journal of Small Animal Practice

Journal of the American Hospital Association Compendium of Continuing Education

Veterinary Clinics of North America (Small Animal)

Veterinary Comparative Orthopaedics and Traumatology

Australian Veterinary Journal

Australian Veterinary Practitioner

FURTHER INFORMATION

For further information contact the College Office

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⁴ **Journal Definitions:**

Recommended Journal – candidates should have ready access to either print or electronic versions of the journal and have a sound knowledge of the published articles in the subject area.

Additional Journal – candidates should be able to access either printed or electronic versions of the journal and have a basic knowledge of the published articles in the subject area.