



AUSTRALIAN AND NEW ZEALAND COLLEGE OF VETERINARY SCIENTISTS

MEMBERSHIP GUIDELINES

Medicine and Surgery of Unusual Pets

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 acquired a high level of knowledge and competence in the principles and application of the medicine and surgery of unusual pets and is able to give sound advice in this field to veterinary colleagues.

LEARNING OUTCOMES

For the purposes of this document “unusual pets” are defined as unusual species legally kept as pets and commonly encountered in veterinary practice in Australia and New Zealand. These include:

- Exotic mammals including rabbits, ferrets, guinea pigs, rats, and mice.
- Native and exotic reptile and amphibian species
- Commonly kept invertebrates
- Native mammals likely to be encountered in clinical practice

For these species:

1. The candidate will have a **sound**¹ knowledge of:
 1. Normal anatomy and physiology of unusual pets including reproduction and immunology;

¹ **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. Captive management of unusual pets, including nutrition and preventative health requirements;
3. Aetiology, pathophysiology, clinical signs, diagnosis, treatment and management of the common infectious and non-infectious diseases of unusual pets;
4. Tests and procedures used for diagnosis of common diseases in unusual pets, including haematology, clinical biochemistries, diagnostic imaging, molecular diagnostics, and cytology, and their interpretation;
5. Therapeutic modalities used in unusual pets, including pharmacotherapy, anaesthesia, surgery, dentistry, endoscopy, and supportive care;
6. Public health and animal welfare issues arising from the keeping and handling of unusual pets, including zoonotic diseases and workplace health and safety.

2. The candidate will have a **basic** knowledge of:

1. Infectious diseases of unusual pets exotic to Australia and New Zealand which could be introduced into the Australia and New Zealand region;
2. Genetics of unusual pets in relation to heritable disease or disease susceptibility;
3. Normal behaviour of unusual pets, behavioural problems and their management;
4. Handling, immobilisation and anaesthetic procedures of venomous or dangerous species of unusual pets.

The candidate will **be able to** demonstrate competency at practical skills associated with the discipline, including catching and handling, clinical examination, history taking, diagnostic sampling, surgery and necropsy of unusual pets.

EXAMINATIONS

For information on both the standard and format of 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): Principles of the Subject
Written Paper 2 (two hours): Applied Aspects of the Subject

- 2. Oral Examination (Component 2)**
Oral (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 shorter answer sub-questions. Marks allocated to each question and to each subsection of questions will be clearly indicated on the written paper.

Written Paper 1:

This paper is designed to test the Candidate's knowledge of the principles of medicine and surgery of unusual pets as described in the Learning Outcomes. Answers may cite specific examples where general principles apply, but should primarily address the theoretical basis underlying each example.

Written Paper 2:

This paper is designed to (a) test the Candidate's ability to apply the principles of medicine and surgery of unusual pets to particular cases/problems or tasks and (b) test the Candidate's familiarity with the current practices and current issues that arise from activities within the discipline of medicine and surgery of unusual pets in Australia and New Zealand.

Oral Examination:

This examination requires the candidate to demonstrate achievement of the above-mentioned Learning Outcomes. The duration of this examination is approximately one (1) hour. This will be conducted as a power point presentation, but radiographs, typed blood results or other physical aids may be used. Ten 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 10 marks.

RECOMMENDED READING MATERIAL

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 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.*

Textbooks²

General

Campbell TW, Ellis CK. *Avian and Exotic Animal Hematology and Cytology* 3rd Ed. Blackwell Publishing, 2007.

Carpenter J. *Exotic Animal Formulary*, 3rd Edition. Elsevier 2005.

Cogger H.G. *Reptiles and Amphibians of Australia*. Reed New Holland 2000.

Fox JG, Anderson FM, Loew FM & Quimby FW. *Laboratory Animal Medicine*, 2nd Edition. Academic Press 2002.

Fudge A. *Laboratory Medicine: Avian and Exotic Pets*. Saunders 2000.

Menkhorst P. and Knight F. *A Field Guide to Mammals of Australia*. Oxford University Press 2001.

Meredith A & Johnson-Delaney C. *BSAVA Manual of Exotic Pets Fifth Edition. A Foundation Manual*. BSAVA 2010.

Johnson-Delaney C.A. *Exotic Companion Medicine Handbook for Veterinarians*. Zoological Education Network 2000

O'Malley B. *Clinical Anatomy and Physiology of Exotic Species*. Elsevier 2005.

Samour J. *Exotic Animal Medicine Review and Test*, Saunders Elsevier, 2012

Mammals

Brown S.A. and Rosenthal K.L. *Self-Assessment Color Review of Small Mammals*. Blackwell 1997.

Capello V, Gracis M & Lennox A. *Rabbit and Rodent Dentistry Handbook*. Zoological Education Network 2005.

Capello V and Lennox AM. *Clinical Radiology of Exotic Companion Mammals*. Wiley-Blackwell 2008

Flecknell P. *Manual of Rabbit Medicine and Surgery*. BSAVA 2000

Fox J.G. *Biology and medicine of the Ferret* 2nd Edition. Blackwell 1998.

Harcourt-Brown F, 2002. *Textbook of Rabbit Medicine*. Oxford 2002.

Harcourt-Brown F and Chitty J. *BSAVA Manual of Rabbit Surgery, Dentistry and Imaging*. BSAVA 2013.

Harkness J.E. and Wagner J.E. *The Biology and Medicine of Rabbits and Rodents* 5th Edition.

² **Definitions of Textbooks**

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.

Wiley-Blackwell 2010.

Lewington J.H. *Ferret Husbandry, Medicine and Surgery 2nd Edition*. Saunders Elsevier 2007.

Meredith A *BSAVA Manual of Rabbit Medicine and Surgery*. BSAVA 2018.

Oglesbee B.L (Editor). *Blackwell's Five-Minute Veterinary Consult: Small Mammal, 2nd Edition* Blackwell 2011

Percy D.H. and Barthold S.W. *Pathology of Laboratory Rodents and Rabbits* 2nd edition. Blackwell 2007

Quesenberry KE and Carpenter JW. *Ferrets, Rabbits and Rodents Clinical Medicine and Surgery*, 3rd Edition. Elsevier Saunders 2012.

Richardson V. *Diseases of Domestic Guinea Pigs* 2nd edition. Blackwell 2000.

Saunders R.A. and Davies R.R. *Notes on Rabbit Internal Medicine*. Blackwell 2005.

Volgelnest L and Woods R. *Medicine of Australian Mammals. CSIRO Publishing* 2008.

Reptiles

Barnard S.M. and Upton S.J. *A Veterinary Guide to the Parasites of Reptiles*. Volume 1: Protozoa. Krieger Publishing 1994.

Barnard S.M. and Durden L.A. *A Veterinary Guide to the Parasites of Reptiles*. Volume 2: Arthropods. Krieger Publishing 2000.

Frye, F.L. *Biomedical and surgical aspects of captive reptile husbandry*. Volumes 1 and 2. Krieger Publishing 1994.

Frye F.L. and Williams D.L. *Self-Assessment Colour Review of Reptiles and Amphibians*. Manson Publishing 1995

Girling S & Raiti P. *BSAVA Manual of Reptiles*, 2nd Edition. BSAVA 2004.

Jacobson, E. *Infectious Diseases and Pathology of Reptiles*, CRC Press 2007.

Mader D. *Reptile Medicine and Surgery* 2nd Edition. Elsevier 2006.

McArthur S, Wilkinson R & Meyer J. *Medicine and Surgery of Tortoises and Turtles*. Blackwell Publishing 2004.

Amphibians and Invertebrates

Frye, F.L. *Captive Invertebrates: A guide to their biology and captive care*. Krieger Publishing 1992.

Henderson A, Henderson D and Sinclair J. *Bugs Alive! A Guide to Keeping Australian Invertebrates*. Museum Victoria 2008

Lewbart G. *Invertebrate Medicine*. Blackwell 2006.

Wright K.M. and Whittaker R. *Amphibian Medicine and Captive Husbandry*. Krieger Publishing 2001.

Journals³

Australian Veterinary Journal

Exotic DVM

Journal of Herpetological Medicine and Surgery

Journal of Exotic Pet Medicine

Lab Animal

Veterinary Clinics of North America: Exotic Animal Practice

Other Resources

Proceedings 327 *Wildlife in Australia Healthcare and Management*. Post Graduate Committee in Veterinary Science 1999

Unusual and Exotic Pet Special Interest Group of the Australian Veterinary Association, conference proceedings

Veterinary Information Network (www.vin.com)

FURTHER INFORMATION

For further information contact the College Office

Telephone: International +61 (07) 3423 2016

Fax: International +61 (07) 3423 2977

Email: examinations@anzcvs.org.au

Web: www.anzcvs.org.au

Postal Address: Building 3, Garden City Office Park, 2404 Logan Road

EIGHT MILE PLAINS QLD 4113 Australia

© 2018 The Australian and New Zealand College of Veterinary Scientists ABN 00 50 000894 208

This publication is copyright. Other than for the purposes of and subject to the conditions prescribed under the Copyright Act, no part of it may in any form or by any means (electronic, mechanical, microcopying, photocopying, recording or otherwise) be reproduced, stored in a retrieval system or transmitted without prior written permission. Enquiries should be addressed to the Australian and New Zealand College of Veterinary Scientists

³ **Definitions of Journals**

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.

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.

Medicine and Surgery of Unusual Pets Membership Guidelines 2018

© 2018 The Australian and New Zealand College of Veterinary Scientists ABN 00 50 000894 208

Last updated: September 2018