Equine RVS Exam Study Guide - 2019

This guide will help you prepare for your ABVP Recognized Veterinary Specialty (RVS) examination this Autumn.

Depending on where you are in your examination cycle, you will be sitting for one of these possible exams. The ABVP Main Office will confirm EXACTLY WHAT EXAM you will need to attend. The possible exams are:

1) **300 item Legacy Specialty Exam given in two parts on the same day. This is a multiple choice exam.**
   a. This exam is for initial candidates who have successfully passed their RVS Practical Exam in 2016 or 2017, or
   b. For recertifying Diplomates who are in their 10th year of their Maintenance of Certification (MOC) cycle who took their first recertifying exam in 2017, or
   c. For former Diplomates who have successfully passed their RVS Practical Exam in 2016 or 2017.

2) **50 to 100 item/point Legacy Practical Exam given in one part on one day. This may be multiple choice, fill in the blank, matching, short answer or essay.**
   a. This exam is for candidates who have successfully passed their RVS Specialty Exam in 2016 or 2017, or
   b. For former Diplomates who have successfully passed their RVS Specialty Exam in 2016 or 2017.

3) **350 item Combined RVS Exam given in two parts on the same day. This is mostly to exclusively multiple choice. There is the possibility of fill in the blank, short answer, essay, or matching for some exam items.**
   a. This exam is for all others not meeting the above criteria.

The AVMA best practices is that the examination items align with a Job Content Analysis (JCA) of current RVS Diplomates. The 2018 JCA identified tasks, diseases, etc. that Diplomates either saw frequently or expected a Specialist to have immediate knowledge of subject.

Additionally, it has been decided that some exam items can come from current journals and a small percentage can be at your Exam Committee’s discretion.

Please note that items drawn from current journals (with a 5 year look back period) are 1) from a journal on the RVS Reading List, 2) the question is drawn from the abstract only, and 3) the journal abstract must be inexpensively obtained.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Exam Topic Category</th>
<th>%</th>
<th># questions out of 350</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Frequent Caseload</td>
<td>60+</td>
<td>210+</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
The 2018 JCA was completed in May 2018 and the Exams are still transitioning from the prior blueprint to the current recommendations. Thank you for your understanding as our volunteers complete this task.

Exam Topics

- abscesses
- acute colitis/diarrhea
- analgesia
- anesthesia and recovery
- arthritis (septic and nonseptic)
- athletic training injuries
- bacterial pneumonia
- bacterial sepsis
- colic
- conjunctivitis
- corneal ulcer
- cryptorchidism
- degenerative joint disease
- dehydration
- dental disorders
- desmitis of suspensory ligament
- developmental orthopedic disease
- endoparasites
- esophageal obstruction
- exuberant granulation tissue
- gastric ulcers
- hyperadrenocorticism
- inflammatory airway disease
- influenza
- intestinal obstruction
- keratoconjunctivitis
- lameness
- laminitis
- melanoma
- metabolic syndrome
| navicular disease | neonatal disorders | ocular trauma | osteochondritis dissecans | pituitary disorders | rectal tears | recurrent airway obstruction | retained placenta | rupture of tendon or ligament | Sarcoid | squamous cell carcinoma | Streptococcus spp | subsolar abscess | tendonitis/desmitis | thrush | trauma | uveitis |

**Equine Reading List**

**Referred Journals:** (The last 5 years ending January 1 of the year the exam is taken)
- American Journal of Veterinary Research
- Compendium on Continuing Education for the Practicing Veterinarian
- Equine Veterinary Journal
- Journal of the American Veterinary Medical Association
- Journal of Veterinary Internal Medicine
- Veterinary Surgery

**Texts:** (The most current edition of the text should be used.) – pick one medicine, one lameness, one reproduction and one surgery book since you will not have time to cover all.
- Adams and Stashak's Lameness in Horses, Baxter
- Current Practice of Equine Surgery, White & Moore
- Current Therapy in Equine Medicine, Robinson et al
- Diagnosis and Management of Lameness in the Horse, Ross and Dyson
- Diagnostic Techniques in Equine Medicine, Taylor et al
- Equine Dermatology, Scott et al
- Equine Emergencies, Orsini
- Equine Internal Medicine, Reed et al
- Equine Medicine and Surgery, Colahan et al
- Equine Medicine Secrets, Savage
- Equine Neonatology, Madigan et al
- Equine Ophthalmology, Gilger
- Equine Reproduction, McKinnon et al
• *Equine Surgery*, Auer & Stick
• *Large Animal Internal Medicine*, Smith
• *Manual of Equine Reproduction*, Brinsko et al
• *Veterinary Laboratory Medicine: Clinical Pathology*, Duncan and Prasse

Other references that were found useful to support these primary references or to cover specific disciplines in which the candidate may feel deficient included:
• A clinical pharmacology text (Booth and McDonald: *Veterinary Pharmacology and Therapeutics*, Iowa State Univ. Press)
• A physiology text (Guyton or Ganong)
• An immunology text (Tizard: *Veterinary Immunology*, Saunders)
• Clinical pathology (Coffman or Meyer & Coles)
• *Pocket Companion to Guyton and Hall Textbook of Medical Physiology*
• Proceedings of the American Association of Equine Practitioners
• *Veterinary Clinics of North America Equine Practice*