Reptile and Amphibian 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 9th or 10th year of their Maintenance of Certification (MOC) cycle, 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>
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</table>
Immediate Knowledge, low caseload | 30+ | 105+
---|---|---
Journals | 0-5 | 0-17
Exam Committee Choice | 5+ | 18

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**

**Amphibian**

Abrasions  
Abscesses  
Animal Community health  
Bacterial infections  
Dysdcdysis  
Ectoparasites  
Emergency intervention/medicine  
Fractures  
Management/environmental related diseases

**Squamata (snakes and lizards)**

Abscesses  
Anorexia  
Bacterial infections  
Behavioral issues  
Burns  
Diseases of pharynx/larynx/trachea  
Dysdcdysis  
Ectoparasites  
Endoparasites  
Foreign Body obstruction  
Fungal infections  
Gastrointestinal disease  
Hypercalcemia  
Hyperglycemia  
Management/environmental related diseases  
Ocular disease
### Otitis
- Reproductive disorders
- Respiratory diseases
- Rhinitis/sinusitis
- Stomatitis
- Trauma/abrasions
- Zoonoses

### Chelonians
- Aggression
- Algae growth on shell
- Anorexia
- Bacterial infections
- Burns
- Ectoparasites
- Endoparasites
- Foreign Body obstruction
- Hypoglycemia
- Management/environmental related diseases
- Metabolic bone disease
- Otitis
- Reproductive disorders
- Rhinitis/sinusitis
- Swimming/ floating disorders

### Crocodilian
- Abscesses
- Bacterial infections
- Burns
- Dysecdysis
- Emergency intervention/medicine
- Foreign Body obstruction
- Fractures
- Fungal infections
- Gastrointestinal disease
- Hepatic disease
- Herd Health
- Stomatitis
- Trauma/abrasions/bite wounds
Reptile and Amphibian Reading List

Essential Monographs


Essential Periodicals

- American Journal of Veterinary Research
- Journal of Exotic Pet Medicine
- Journal of Herpetological Medicine and Surgery (formerly Bulletin of ARAV)
- Journal of Wildlife Diseases
- Journal of Zoo and Wildlife Medicine
- Journal of the American Veterinary Medical Association

Additional Study

Supplemental Monographs


Supplemental Periodicals

- Chelonian Conservation & Biology
- Comparative Medicine
- Conservation Physiology
- Copeia
- Diseases of Aquatic Organisms
- Journal of Herpetology
- Journal of Parasitology
- Journal of the American Association for Laboratory Animal Science
- Journal of Veterinary Diagnostic Investigation
- Journal of Veterinary Pharmacology and Therapeutics
- Journal of Zoology
- Journal of Zoo and Aquarium Research
- Veterinary Clinical Pathology
- Veterinary Clinics of North America: Exotic Animal Practice
• Veterinary Microbiology
• Veterinary Pathology
• Veterinary Record
• PLOS ONE
• Veterinary Radiology and Ultrasound
• Veterinary Ophthalmology