

Canine and Feline RVS Exam Study Guide - 2022

This guide will help you prepare for your ABVP Recognized Veterinary Specialty (RVS) examination in November 2022.

The 350 item Combined RVS Exam given in two parts on the same day. The exams are mostly to exclusively multiple-choice. There is the possibility of fill in the blank, short answer, essay, or matching for some exam items.

The AVMA best practices is that the examination items align with a Job Task Analysis (JTA) of current RVS Diplomates. The 2018 JTA identified tasks, diseases, etc. that Diplomates either saw frequently or expected a Specialist to have immediate knowledge of the 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. The exception to this is Veterinary Clinics of North America (if applicable), where the exam taker is responsible for the whole article.

Exam Blueprint

For topics that are systems (such as Cardiovascular, etc.), questions can include anatomy, physiology, pathophysiology, diseases (Including neoplasia), etiologies, diagnosis, and therapy.

Topic	Percentage on Exam
Behavioral B	4%
Cardiovascular CV	6%
Endocrine E	3%
Gastrointestinal GI	9%
Genetic G	up to 1%
Hemolymphatic HL	up to 1%
Immunologic I	1%
Infectious IN	18%
Integument/Mammary IM	20%
Management/Environment ME	up to 1%
Metabolic M	up to 1%
Musculoskeletal MS	9%
Nervous NV	5%
Nutritional N	1%
Oral/Dentition/Beak O	5%
Neoplasia - concepts, multisystem NP	up to 1%
Pharmacologic RX	up to 1%



Regulatory RG	up to 1%
Reproductive RP	2%
Respiratory RS	4%
Special senses SS	2%
Toxicologic T	8%
Urogenital GU	3%
Zoonotic Z	up to 1%

Specific conditions

Certain conditions were identified as important to Diplomates in your RVS. This list is meant to help guide your study and not meant to be an all-inclusive list. Conditions not on this list may be present on the exam.

Acne
Acral Lick Dermatitis
Anal Sac Disease
Atopic dermatitis
Aural Hematoma
Bilious Vomiting Syndrome
Bordetellosis
Brachial Plexus Avulsion
Brachycephalic Airway Syndrome
Campylobacteriosis
Canine Coronavirus Infection
Canine Distemper
Canine Influenza
Canine Parvovirus Infection
Capital physeal fracture (feline)
Cardiac blood flow defects - acquired
Cardiomyopathy - Dilated
Chlamydiosis
Chocolate Toxicosis
Cholangitis/ Cholangiohepatitis Syndrome
Clostridial Enterotoxigenesis
Cobalamin Malabsorption
Coccidiosis
Cognitive Dysfunction Syndrome
Colitis, Histiocytic Ulcerative
Cranial/Anterior Cruciate Disease
Deciduous Teeth, Retained

Degenerative Myelopathy
Demodicosis
Dental Caries
Dermatoses, Erosive or Ulcerative
Dermatoses, Exfoliative
Dermatoses, Papulonodular
Dermatoses, Vesiculopustular
Diabetes Mellitus
Diabetes Mellitus with Ketoacidosis
Discolored Tooth/Teeth
Discospondylitis
Ehrlichiosis
Elbow Dysplasia - UAP
Elbow Dysplasia - FMCP
Electric Shock/ Cord Bite Injury
Entropion
Eosinophilic Granuloma Complex
Epilepsy
Epulis
Exocrine Pancreatic Insufficiency
False Pregnancy
Fears, Phobias, and Anxieties
Feline Calicivirus Infection
Feline Idiopathic Lower Urinary Tract Disease/FLUTD
Feline Infectious Peritonitis (FIP)
Feline Panleukopenia
Feline Rhinotracheitis Virus Infection
Feline Tooth Resorption (Odontoclastic Resorption)
Fibrocartilaginous Embolic Myelopathy
Flea Bite Hypersensitivity and Flea Control
Food Reactions (Gastrointestinal)
Food Reactions, Dermatologic
Foreign Body Obstruction
Gallbladder Mucocele
Gingival Hyperplasia
Heartworm Disease
Hemotropic Mycoplasmosis (Haemobartonellosis)
Hepatic Nodular Hyperplasia
Hip Dysplasia
Histiocytoma
Hookworms (Ancylostomiasis)
Inappropriate urination/defecation

Interdigital Dermatitis
Legg-Calve-Perthes Disease
Lumbosacral Stenosis and Cauda Equina Syndrome
Malassezia Dermatitis
Mammary Gland Hyperplasia
Mammary Gland Tumors
Marking and Roaming Behavior
Mast Cell Tumors
Megaesophagus
Nail and Nailbed Disorders
Nasal Dermatoses
Nasopharyngeal Stenosis
Nonsteroidal Anti-Inflammatory Drug Toxicity
Ovarian Remnant Syndrome
Pancreatitis
Parvovirus
Patellar Luxation
Patent Ductus Arteriosus
Pectus Excavatum
Pediatric Behavioral Problems
Perianal Fistula
Peritoneopericardial Diaphragmatic Hernia
Pododermatitis
Prolapsed Gland of the Third Eyelid (Cherry Eye)
Puppy Strangles (Juvenile Cellulitis)
Pyrethrin and Pyrethroid Toxicity
Salivary Mucocele
Sebaceous Adenitis
Thunderstorm Phobias
Tracheal Collapse
Transmissible Venereal Tumor
Unruly Behaviors: Jumping, Digging, Chasing, Stealing
Vaccine- Associated Sarcoma
Vacuolar Hepatopathy
Zinc Toxicity

Canine & Feline Reading List

Behavioral

- Horwitz DF: *Blackwell's Five-Minute Veterinary Consult Clinical Companion: Canine and Feline Behavior*, 2nd ed., Wiley-Blackwell, 2017



Cardiovascular

- Smith, FWK, Tilley LP: *Manual of Canine and Feline Cardiology*, 5th ed., Elsevier, 2015

Endocrine

- Greco DS, Davidson AP: *Blackwell's Five-Minute Veterinary Consult Clinical Companion: Small Animal Endocrinology and Reproduction*, Wiley-Blackwell, 2017

Gastrointestinal

- Hall E, Williams DA, Kathrani A: *BSAVA Manual of Canine and Feline Gastroenterology*, 3rd ed., BSAVA, 2019
- Mott J., Morrison JA: *Blackwell's Five-Minute Veterinary Consult Clinical Companion: Small Animal Gastrointestinal Diseases*, Wiley-Blackwell, 2019

General Medicine

- Cote E: *Clinical Veterinary Advisor: Dogs and Cats*, 4th ed., Mosby, 2020
- Tilley LP, Smith FW, et al: *The Five-Minute Veterinary Consult: Canine and Feline*, 7th ed., Wiley-Blackwell, 2021

Genetics

- Ackerman L: *Genetic Connection: A Guide to Health Problems in Purebred Dogs*, 2nd ed., AAHA, 2011

Hemic/Lymphatic

- Valenciano AC, Cowell RL: *Cowell and Tyler's Diagnostic Cytology and Hematology of the Dog and Cat*, 5th ed., Mosby, 2019

Immunologic

- Tizard IR: *Veterinary Immunology*, 10th ed., Saunders, 2016

Infectious

- Barr SC, Bowman DD: *The 5-Minute Veterinary Consult Clinical Companion, Canine and Feline Infectious Diseases and Parasitology*, 2nd ed., Blackwell, 2011
- Greene CE: *Infectious Diseases of the Dog and Cat*, 4th ed., Elsevier, 2012

Integument/Mammary

- Hnilica, K. and Patterson, A.; *Small Animal Dermatology: A Color Atlas and Therapeutic Guide*, 4th ed. Elsevier, 2016
- Rhodes KH, Werner AH: *Blackwell's Five-Minute Veterinary Consult Clinical Companion: Small Animal Dermatology*, 3rd ed., Wiley-Blackwell, 2018

Internal Medicine

- Bruyette D: *Clinical Small Animal Internal Medicine*, Wiley-Blackwell, 2020.
- Ettinger SJ, Feldman EC: *Textbook of Veterinary Internal Medicine*, 8th ed., Elsevier, 2017
- Little S: *August's Consultations in Feline Internal Medicine*, Volume 7, Elsevier, 2016
- Nelson RW, Couto CG: *Small Animal Internal Medicine*, 6th ed., Elsevier, 2019
- Schaer M, Gaschen FP: *Clinical Medicine of the Dog and Cat*, 3rd ed., CRC Press Taylor & Francis Group, 2016

Metabolic

- DiBartola SP: *Fluid, Electrolyte, and Acid-Base Disorders in Small Animal Practice*, 4th ed., Elsevier, 2012
- Klein BG: *Cunningham's Textbook of Veterinary Physiology*, 6th ed., Elsevier, 2019
- Willard MD, Tvedten H: *Small Animal Clinical Diagnosis by Laboratory Methods*, 5th ed., Elsevier, 2012

Musculoskeletal

- Brown GDA et al: *BSAVA Manual of Canine and Feline Musculoskeletal Disorders*, 2nd ed., BSAVA,



2019

- Fossum TW: *Small Animal Surgery*, 5th ed., Elsevier, 2018
- Kirberger RM, McEvoy FJ: *BSAVA Manual of Canine and Feline Musculoskeletal Imaging*, 2nd ed., 2016

- Tobias K, Johnston S: *Veterinary Surgery: Small Animal*, 2nd ed., Elsevier, 2018

Nervous

- DeLahaunta A, Glass EN, Kent M: *Veterinary Neuroanatomy and Clinical Neurology*, 5th ed., Elsevier, 2020
- Dewey CW, DaCosta RC: *Practical Guide to Canine and Feline Neurology*, 3rd ed., Wiley Blackwell, 2015

Nutrition

- Case LP, Daristotle L: *Canine and Feline Nutrition: A Resource for Companion Animal Professionals*, 3rd ed., Elsevier 2010
- Fascetti AJ, Delaney SJ: *Applied Veterinary Clinical Nutrition*, Wiley-Blackwell, 2012
- Hand MS et al: *Small Animal Clinical Nutrition*, 5th ed., Mark Morris Institute, 2011

Oral/dentition

- Holmstrom: *Veterinary Dentistry, A Team Approach*, 3rd ed., Saunders, 2018
- Lobprise HB: *Blackwell's Five-Minute Veterinary Consult Clinical Companion: Small Animal Dentistry*, 3rd ed., Wiley-Blackwell, 2021
- Reiter AM, Gracis M: *BSAVA Manual of Canine and Feline Dentistry*, 4th ed., BSAVA, 2018

Pathologic

- Villiers E, Ristic J: *BSAVA Manual of Canine and Feline Clinical Pathology*, 3rd ed., BSAVA, 2016
- Zachary JF: *Pathologic Basis of Veterinary Disease*, 6th ed., Mosby, 2016

Pharmacologic

- Boothe DM: *Small Animal Clinical Pharmacology and Therapeutics*, 2nd ed., Elsevier, 2011
- Papich MG, Riviere JE: *Veterinary Pharmacology & Therapeutics*, 10th ed., Wiley-Blackwell, 2018

Reproductive

- Greco DS, Davidson AP: *Blackwell's Five-Minute Veterinary Consult Clinical Companion: Small Animal Endocrinology and Reproduction*, Wiley-Blackwell, 2017

Respiratory

- Johnson, L: *Clinical Canine and Feline Respiratory Medicine*, 2nd ed., Wiley-Blackwell, 2020

Surgery (General)

- Fossum TW: *Small Animal Surgery*, 5th ed., Elsevier, 2018
- K, Johnston S: *Veterinary Surgery: Small Animal*, 2nd ed., Elsevier, 2018

Special Senses

- Maggs D, Miller P, Ofri R: *Slatter's Fundamentals of Veterinary Ophthalmology*, 6th ed., Saunders, 2016

Toxicologic

- Hovda LR, et al: *Blackwell's Five-Minute Veterinary Consult Clinical Companion: Small Animal Toxicology*, 2nd ed., Wiley-Blackwell, 2016

Urogenital

- Elliott J, Grauer GF: *BSAVA Manual of Canine and Feline Nephrology and Urology*, 3rd ed., BSAVA, 2017

Zoonotic

- Colville J, Berryhill G: *Handbook of Zoonoses - Identification and Prevention*, Elsevier, 2008



Journals

- *American Journal of Veterinary Research*
- *Compendium on Continuing Education for the Practicing Veterinarian*
- *Journal of the American Animal Hospital Association*
- *Journal of the American Veterinary Medical Association*
- *Journal of Veterinary Internal Medicine*
- *Veterinary Clinics of North America Small Animal Practice*
- *Veterinary Surgery*
- *Veterinary and Comparative Orthopedics and Traumatology*
- *Journal of Feline Medicine and Surgery*
- *Journal of Veterinary Behavior*
- *Journal of Veterinary Emergency and Critical Care*
- *Journal of Veterinary Cardiology*
- *Journal of Veterinary Dentistry*
- *Veterinary Dermatology*
- *Veterinary Ophthalmology*
- *Veterinary Anaesthesia and Analgesia*
- *Journal of Small Animal Practice*
- *Journal of the American Veterinary Medical Association*

