

Equine RVS Exam Study Guide - 2022

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

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.

Behavioral B	Up to 1%
Cardiovascular CV	2%
Endocrine E	2%
Gastrointestinal GI	11%
Genetic G	up to 1%
Hemolymphatic HL	1%
Immunologic I	1%
Infectious IN	13%
Integument/Mammary IM	8%
Management/Environment ME	4%
Metabolic M	3%
Musculoskeletal MS	18%
Nervous NV	4%
Nutritional N	1%
Oral/Dentition/Beak O	1%
Neoplasia - concepts, multisystem NP	2%
Pharmacologic RX	up to 1%
Regulatory RG	up to 1%



Reproductive RP	7%
Respiratory RS	9%
Special senses SS	7%
Toxicologic T	1%
Urogenital UG	4%
Zoonotic Z	up to 1%
	100.00%

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.

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*

