



AUSTRALIAN AND NEW ZEALAND COLLEGE OF VETERINARY SCIENTISTS MEMBERSHIP GUIDELINES

Medicine of Horses

INTRODUCTION

These membership guidelines should be read in conjunction with the *Membership Candidate Handbook*.

ELIGIBILITY

Refer to the *Membership Candidate Handbook*.

OBJECTIVES

Membership of the College in this subject is an official recognition of a veterinary surgeon's knowledge and experience in the field of Medicine of Horses. Membership is an indication to the profession and the general public of an advanced practitioner, representing a middle-tier of knowledge, competence and experience in a specific area of veterinary practice.

LEARNING OUTCOMES

The candidate will have a **sound**¹ knowledge of:

- a) The principles of equine medicine (including sports medicine and emergency medicine) and their application based on theoretical understanding as well as practical experience managing clinical cases. This would involve taking a history, physical examination, further diagnostic tests including acquisition of samples for suggested testing, interpretation of results with reference to differential diagnoses and establishing a treatment plan.
- b) The anatomy, physiology and pathophysiology of all equine organ systems including the eye, skin and reproductive organs in health and disease in both adult horses and foals.
- c) The aetiology, pathophysiology, clinical signs, diagnosis, differential diagnosis, treatment, management, epidemiology and prevention of all infectious and non-infectious equine diseases.

¹ **Knowledge Levels:**

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.

Medicine of Horses Membership Guidelines 2024

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- d) All diagnostic tests and procedures including but not limited to the relevant aspects of diagnostic imaging and clinical pathology as they apply to the diagnosis of disease conditions in the horse:
 - i. Diagnostic imaging including interpretation of radiographs and ultrasound images.
 - ii. Common endoscopic procedures involving the respiratory, gastrointestinal and urogenital systems.
 - iii. Interpretation of haematology and biochemistry panels and blood gas analysis.
 - iv. Application and interpretation of culture and antimicrobial sensitivity testing.
 - v. Interpretation of tests used for disease surveillance such as serology and PCR panels.
- e) Applied clinical pharmacology and therapeutics including chemotherapeutics, vaccines and biologics used in the management of equine diseases and performance disorders.
- f) Equine husbandry in Australia and New Zealand including stud, racing, competition and pleasure horse practices as they affect horse health, welfare and performance.

The candidate will have **basic** knowledge of :

- a) The principles of equine nutrition in adult horses and foals.
- b) The aetiologic agents, pathophysiology, clinical signs, diagnosis and management of toxicity associated with poisonous plants, toxins and envenomations encountered in horses in Australia and New Zealand.
- c) Exotic equine diseases and their potential importance to Australia and New Zealand.
- d) Application and interpretation of advanced imaging such as CT and MRI.

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 typing is allowed.

The exam may include a series of short answer questions, multiple-choice questions or may require an essay-type response. The exam is worth a total of 120 marks and all questions must be answered.

Allocated marks to each question/sub question will be clearly indicated.

Written Paper 1:

This paper is designed to test the candidate's knowledge of the principles of the medicine of horses 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 the medicine of horses 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 the medicine of horses in Australia and New Zealand. Where clinical pathology results form part of the question, normal ranges will be provided. Calculators can be used during the examination.

Oral Examination:

This examination requires the candidate to demonstrate achievement of the above-mentioned Learning Outcomes during a face-to-face or online discussion with examiners. The duration of this examination is approximately one (1) hour. Images, radiographs, ultrasound images and clinical pathology results are likely to be used during this examination. Five (5) cases are presented with supporting questions. The oral examination has a total of 100 marks with each case allocated 20 marks.

RECOMMENDED READING MATERIAL

The following list of recommended reading material is intended as a guide only. Candidates should not necessarily limit themselves to only studying material on the list and candidates should be aware that the detail in some sections of the books / journals listed is more advanced than that required for examination at Membership level. *The list is not comprehensive and is not intended as an indicator of the content of the examination.*

RECOMMENDED TEXTS²

Current Therapy in Equine Medicine 7th edition (2015) – N.E. Robinson (ed) W.B. Saunders Co.

Equine Internal Medicine 4th edition (2016) – S. Reed, W. Bayly, D. Sellon (ed)

ADDITIONAL READING MATERIAL

Candidates in this subject may find useful material in the list of following texts, however access to these is not required to pass at membership level.

Equine Sports Medicine and Surgery: Basic and clinical sciences of the equine athlete 3rd edition (2013) – K.W. Hinchcliff, A.J. Kaneps, R.J. Geor

The Equine Hospital Manual 1st edition (2008) – K. Corley, J. Stephen

Equine Emergencies: Treatment and Procedures 4th edition (2014) – J.A. Orsini, T.J. Divers

RECOMMENDED JOURNALS³

Candidates in this subject may find useful material in the list of following journals, however access to these journals is not required to pass at membership level.

Equine Veterinary Journal

Equine Veterinary Education

Australian Veterinary Journal

Journal of Veterinary Internal Medicine

PROCEEDINGS

OTHER RESOURCES

Candidates in this subject may find useful material in following proceedings, however access to these is not required to pass at membership level.

Proceedings of the Bain-Fallon Memorial Lectures

Proceedings of the Annual Convention of the American Association of Equine Practitioners

Proceedings of the British Equine Veterinary Association Annual Congress

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.

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.

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FURTHER INFORMATION

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