



2018 ACVIM LARGE ANIMAL INTERNAL MEDICINE SPECIALTY EXAM **Candidate Preparation Information**

This document contains information to help you prepare for the Specialty Examination in Large Animal Internal Medicine. Included are:

- Overall structure of the examination
- The examination schedule
- Exam section blue prints
- The scoring methods and criteria for acceptable completion of the separate parts and the examination as a whole
- Use of foreign language (translational) dictionaries
- ADA Request for Special Accommodation
- Tips on preparation for the examination

STRUCTURE OF THE EXAMINATION

The Specialty Examination in Large Animal Internal Medicine consists of three major sections:

1. Large Animal Multiple Choice Section – Part I – 100 questions, 4 hours duration
2. Large Animal Case Based Multiple Choice Part II – 100 questions, 4 hours duration
3. Large Animal Patient Management Section – 100 multiple choice items, 4 hours duration

SCHEDULE OF THE EXAMINATION

All candidates must follow PSI's exam room policies regarding the storage of electronic devices.

The exam will take place at designated testing centers on January 11 & 12, 2018. Details regarding testing center reservation will be provided via the LAIM Candidate 360 Community early to mid-October.

DAY	SECTION	ROOM	TIME
Thursday, January 11, 2016	Large Animal Multiple Choice: Part I	TBA	*8:00 am – 12:00 pm 4 hours duration
	Large Animal Multiple Choice: Part II	TBA	*1:30 pm – 5:30 pm 4 hours duration
Friday, January 12, 2016	Large Animal Patient Management	TBA	*8:00 am – 12:00 pm 4 hours duration

**section start times may fluctuate slightly between testing centers*

NOTE: Due to the nature of this examination, each section will be administered at the posted time and place ONLY. The examination administrators will do everything possible to ensure that a candidate is taking the correct section(s) of the exam, but ultimately it is the candidate's responsibility to report to the appropriate session(s) to take this examination. No make-up examinations or examinations at other sites will be considered for any reason.

- All candidates must follow PSI documentation and check-in procedures when checking in at their local testing center. This information will be provided to registered candidates at a later date.
- Candidates must have registered and paid for the exam prior to the October 2 deadline.



2018 ACVIM LAIM SPECIALTY EXAM BLUEPRINT

MULTIPLE-CHOICE QUESTION TOPIC DISTRIBUTION (APPROXIMATE); percentage of items across the major content domains

Every effort will be made to ensure the following percentages remain accurate, however, due to item performance, some slight fluctuation may be necessary in the final scoring of the exam.

Multiple Choice Section 1 (MC1)

Mechanistic/basic knowledge from current text and journal articles.

100 Multiple choice questions

	Food animal	Equine	Camelid	Non-species specific	Totals
Immunology	3-5%	3-5%	0-2%	0-2%	8-10%
Gastrointestinal (including hepatic)	5-7%	5-7%	0-2%	0-2%	12-14%
Infectious Disease	8-10%	6-8%	0-2%		17-19%
Endocrine/Metabolism/Nutrition	4-6%	4-6%	0-2%	0-2%	13-15%
Pharmacology/Toxicology	3-5%	2-4%	0-2%	1-3%	9-11%
Neurology/Musculoskeletal	0-2%	5-7%	0-2%		5-7%
Respiratory	1-3%	2-4%	0-2%		6-8%
Urinary	0-2%	0-2%	0-2%	0-2%	3-5%
Hemolymph	2-4%	2-4%	0-2%	0-2%	5-7%
Cardiovascular	2-4%	0-2%	0-2%	0-2%	3-5%
Fluid Therapy/Electrolytes/Antibiotics	0-2%	0-2%	0-2%	1-3%	2-4%
Genetics/Molecular Biology	0-2%	0-2%	0-2%	0-2%	1-3%
Dermatology	0-2%	0-2%	0-2%		0-2%
Epidemiology/Statistics				4-6%	4-6%
Totals	36-38%	40-42%	3-5%	15-17%	<u>100</u>

Multiple Choice Section 2 (MC2)

Case based knowledge / application of knowledge to clinical data, based upon current text and journal articles.

100 Multiple choice questions

	Food animal	Equine	Camelid	Non-species specific	Totals
Immunology	2-4%	1-3%	0-2%	0-2%	3-5%
Gastrointestinal (including hepatic)	7-9%	6-9%	0-2%		15-17%
Infectious Disease	5-7%	5-7%	0-2%		11-13%
Endocrine/Metabolism/Nutrition	2-4%	3-5%	0-2%		7-9%
Pharmacology/Toxicology	3-5%	0-2%	0-2%		4-6%
Neurology/Musculoskeletal	1-3%	3-5%	0-2%	0-2%	7-9%
Respiratory	1-3%	4-6%	0-2%	0-2%	7-9%
Urinary	1-3%	2-4%	0-2%		4-6%
Hemolymph	3-5%	3-5%	0-2%		6-8%
Cardiovascular	1-3%	1-3%	0-2%		5-7%
Fluid Therapy/Electrolytes/Antibiotics	2-4%	2-4%	0-2%		8-10%
Genetics/Molecular Biology	0-2%	0-2%	0-2%	0-2%	1-3%
Dermatology	3-5%	0-2%	0-2%		2-4%
Epidemiology/Statistics				4-6%	4-6%
Totals	41-43%	40-42%	5-7%	11-13%	<u>100</u>

Patient Management (PM)

100 Multiple choice questions.

	Food animal	Equine	Camelid	Totals
Diagnosis	13-15%	11-13%	0-2%	26-28%
Prevention	6-8%	11-13%	0-2%	18-20%
Test Selection	5-7%	13-15%	5-7%	24-26%
Treatment	14-16%	11-13%	1-3%	28-30%
Totals	40-44%	48-50%	7-9%	<u>100</u>

HOW THE EXAMINATION IS SCORED

To become board-certified, a candidate must pass each section of the specialty examination. In a given year, all candidates have the potential to pass this examination. Pass points are determined based on the minimal level of competence as determined by Diplomates rating the examination, not on the basis of the curve of the candidates' performance. Candidates that do not pass all three sections on the first attempt only have to retake those sections that were failed.

Multiple Choice

All three sections of the exam consist of multiple choice questions. The Multiple Choice questions are evaluated by board certified internists who are members of an ACVIM committee trained to evaluate and rate questions. This committee assists in determination of the pass point. Part I of the multiple choice examination will consist of 100 items. Part II of the multiple choice examination will consist of 100 items. The Patient Management examination will consist of 100 items.

USE OF FOREIGN LANGUAGE (TRANSLATIONAL) DICTIONARIES

Candidates with English as a second language are permitted to use a foreign language (translational) dictionary during the examination provided that they submit the foreign language dictionary request form at the time that they submit their exam registration documents (October 2, 2017). The dictionary will be made available for them to use during the examination in January, and must be returned to the examination proctors at the conclusion of each test subsection. Candidates must refrain from writing in these dictionaries; hand-written notes may be considered grounds for dismissal from the remaining sections of the examination as evidence of cheating.

REQUEST FOR SPECIAL ACCOMMODATIONS FOR THE ACVIM LAIM SPECIALTY EXAMINATION

The American College of Veterinary Internal Medicine (ACVIM) complies with the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990, as amended by the Americans with Disabilities Act Amendment Act of 2008 (the "ADA"). You must complete the ADA Request form and return it with your examination registration form by the registration deadline. If accommodation(s) is (are) not requested in advance, ACVIM cannot guarantee the availability of accommodation(s) on-site. It is critical that the contact information you provide is current and, if there are any changes in contact information after registering for the examination, that you make ACVIM aware of those changes.

PREPARATION FOR THE EXAMINATION

The examination committee has the prerogative to change the examination to any degree that is appropriate, from no changes to a complete replacement of the examination. In a typical year the examination will change by approximately 25 - 30%.

Patient Management Section

The patient management section is designed to test the clinical competency of the candidate. Questions may cover all body systems and infectious diseases. Specific recommendations for preparation cannot be made beyond the clinical experience gained from participation in a residency program.

General Comments on Exam Preparation

The entire examination will emphasize information taken from the current veterinary literature. Selected information will also be taken from the current human literature. With respect to the veterinary literature, current veterinary textbooks and papers published in refereed journals should be the primary study area.

Candidates are advised to prepare for the examination by a systematic review of recent textbooks and periodicals. Your mentors can help you select appropriate study material. **WE CANNOT DEFINE CONCLUSIVELY THE BODY OF KNOWLEDGE NECESSARY TO PASS THIS EXAMINATION** -- the following list is **ONLY A GUIDELINE**:

Textbooks (most recent editions):

A Current Textbook in Physiology (Guyton or Ganong)
Current Therapy in Equine Medicine (Robinson)
Current Therapy in Food Animal Practice (Anderson and Rings)
Diseases of Dairy Cattle (Rebhun)
Equine Geriatric Medicine and Surgery (Bertone)
Equine Internal Medicine (Reed, Bayly, & Sellon)
The Pharmacological Basis of Therapeutics (Goodman and Gilman)
Large Animal Internal Medicine (Smith)
Large Animal Neurology (Mayhew)
Llama and Alpaca Care (Cebra)
Sheep and Goat Medicine (Pugh)
Veterinary Clinical Epidemiology (Smith)
Veterinary Immunology (Tizard)
Veterinary Medicine (Radostits, Gay, Hinchcliff & Constable)
Veterinary Neuroanatomy and Clinical Neurology (DeLahunta)

Journals (last 5 years up to August 2017):

Journal of Veterinary Internal Medicine
Equine Veterinary Journal
Equine Veterinary Education
Journal of the American Veterinary Medical Association
American Journal of Veterinary Research
Journal of Veterinary Emergency and Critical Care
Veterinary Clinics of North America (Equine and Food Animal)

ACVIM Consensus statements (ALL, regardless of date)

ACVIM Forum Proceedings 2012-2017

NOTE: The large animal medicine certifying examination is written in concordance with USA (USDA/APHIS) regulations regarding the extra label use of drugs and legal use of antimicrobials. Candidates need to know drugs illegal for use and legal regulations surrounding common antimicrobials used in food producing animals in the US. The following website may prove useful in reviewing pertinent US regulations regarding drug use in food animals.

<http://frwebgate.access.gpo.gov/cgi-bin/get-cfr.cgi?TITLE=21&PART=530&SECTION=41&TYPE=TEXT>

If you have further questions once you have reviewed the information in this letter, you may contact any of the examination committee members for further clarification.

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