

American College of Veterinary Nutrition



Guidelines for Questions Submitted by New Diplomates

All newly boarded Diplomates are responsible for submission of five high quality multiple choice questions each, for both Section One and Section Two of the examination (ten questions total).

Section One: Physiological, Biochemical, Pathophysiological, and Basic Medical and Surgical Nutrition; Section Two: Practical, Clinical, and Pathological Nutrition.

Any new Diplomate who took the Large Animal or Comparative examination should provide swine, ruminant, or equine questions rather than Small Animal based questions.

All questions should be typed and submitted electronically to the Chair of the Examination Committee. Once received, confirmation of submission and adequacy of the submitted questions will be in the form of a follow-up email from the Examination Committee. *The Examination Committee asks that all 10 questions be submitted no later than **September 1st** of the calendar year in which confirmation of Diplomate status has been received.*

Basic guidelines to follow:

1. All questions submitted should be fundamentally proven concepts that have **at least 2 peer reviewed references** confirming the right answer to the question, **or** can be referenced with **at least 2 reputable textbook resources** including the textbooks listed in the most current candidate reading list or a combination of a primary reference and textbook, i.e., one of each.
2. All questions submitted should be multiple choice questions with 4 possible answers (A-D) including only one correct answer listed in bold type. "All of the above" or "none of the above"-type answers are not acceptable as possible choices.
3. All questions should be written in the affirmative rather than the negative. (**correct**: Vitamin D functions to enhance absorption of; **incorrect**: vitamin D is essential to all of these physiologic functions except...)

4. Please list references for each question completely including edition of textbooks used. Journal references should be formatted in sequence after the question proposed, using the following format:

- 1) Eirmann LA, Freeman LM, Laflamme DP et al. (2009) Comparison of adipokine concentrations and markers of inflammation in obese versus lean dogs. *Int J App Vet Med Res* **4**: 196-205.
- 2) Ishioka K, Omachi A, Sagawa M et al. (2006) Canine adiponectin: cDNA structure, mRNA expression in adipose tissues and reduced plasma levels in obesity. *Res Vet Sci* **80**: 122-132.

Textbooks should be referenced using the following format:

- 1) Remillard RL, Saker KE, Parenteral Assisted Feeding. In: Hand MS, Thatcher CD, Remillard RL, Roudebush P, Novotny BJ. *Small Animal Clinical Nutrition*. 5th ed. 2010, Topeka, Mark Morris Institute. Pages 495-496.

Example:

The following is an example question and potential answers for reference in preparing the questions for submission (note references would need to be included as indicated above) note the correct answer is bolded:

The neurotransmitters norepinephrine, epinephrine, and dopamine are derived from which essential amino acid:

- A.) tyrosine
- B.) tryptophan
- C.) histidine
- D.) phenylalanine**

References:

- 1) Chapter 18: Amino Acids In: Lehninger's - Principles of Biochemistry. Eds. Cox MM, Nelson 5th Ed, 2005, pp. 678-679.
- 2) National Research Council, Amino Acids. In: *Nutrient Requirements of Dogs and Cats*. 2006, Washington, D.C., The National Academy of Sciences. Page 473.