

# Primary Care II Senior Dog Care Exam 2 Practice (Sample)

## Study Guide



**Everything you need from our exam experts!**

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# Table of Contents

<b>Copyright</b> .....	<b>1</b>
<b>Table of Contents</b> .....	<b>2</b>
<b>Introduction</b> .....	<b>3</b>
<b>How to Use This Guide</b> .....	<b>4</b>
<b>Questions</b> .....	<b>5</b>
<b>Answers</b> .....	<b>8</b>
<b>Explanations</b> .....	<b>10</b>
<b>Next Steps</b> .....	<b>16</b>

SAMPLE

# Introduction

Preparing for a certification exam can feel overwhelming, but with the right tools, it becomes an opportunity to build confidence, sharpen your skills, and move one step closer to your goals. At Examzify, we believe that effective exam preparation isn't just about memorization, it's about understanding the material, identifying knowledge gaps, and building the test-taking strategies that lead to success.

This guide was designed to help you do exactly that.

Whether you're preparing for a licensing exam, professional certification, or entry-level qualification, this book offers structured practice to reinforce key concepts. You'll find a wide range of multiple-choice questions, each followed by clear explanations to help you understand not just the right answer, but why it's correct.

The content in this guide is based on real-world exam objectives and aligned with the types of questions and topics commonly found on official tests. It's ideal for learners who want to:

- Practice answering questions under realistic conditions,
- Improve accuracy and speed,
- Review explanations to strengthen weak areas, and
- Approach the exam with greater confidence.

We recommend using this book not as a stand-alone study tool, but alongside other resources like flashcards, textbooks, or hands-on training. For best results, we recommend working through each question, reflecting on the explanation provided, and revisiting the topics that challenge you most.

**Remember:** successful test preparation isn't about getting every question right the first time, it's about learning from your mistakes and improving over time. Stay focused, trust the process, and know that every page you turn brings you closer to success.

Let's begin.

# How to Use This Guide

**This guide is designed to help you study more effectively and approach your exam with confidence. Whether you're reviewing for the first time or doing a final refresh, here's how to get the most out of your Examzify study guide:**

## **1. Start with a Diagnostic Review**

**Skim through the questions to get a sense of what you know and what you need to focus on. Your goal is to identify knowledge gaps early.**

## **2. Study in Short, Focused Sessions**

**Break your study time into manageable blocks (e.g. 30 - 45 minutes). Review a handful of questions, reflect on the explanations.**

## **3. Learn from the Explanations**

**After answering a question, always read the explanation, even if you got it right. It reinforces key points, corrects misunderstandings, and teaches subtle distinctions between similar answers.**

## **4. Track Your Progress**

**Use bookmarks or notes (if reading digitally) to mark difficult questions. Revisit these regularly and track improvements over time.**

## **5. Simulate the Real Exam**

**Once you're comfortable, try taking a full set of questions without pausing. Set a timer and simulate test-day conditions to build confidence and time management skills.**

## **6. Repeat and Review**

**Don't just study once, repetition builds retention. Re-attempt questions after a few days and revisit explanations to reinforce learning. Pair this guide with other Examzify tools like flashcards, and digital practice tests to strengthen your preparation across formats.**

**There's no single right way to study, but consistent, thoughtful effort always wins. Use this guide flexibly, adapt the tips above to fit your pace and learning style. You've got this!**

## Questions

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- 1. What is the primary clinical effect of Resveratrol in CCDS supplements?**
  - A. It protects neurons from toxic substances and lessens Abeta in the brain.**
  - B. Increases appetite**
  - C. Raises blood glucose levels**
  - D. Causes hair loss**
  
- 2. Which non-pharmacologic strategy is commonly recommended in Cognitive Dysfunction Syndrome (CADES) management?**
  - A. Aggressive chemotherapy**
  - B. Surgical intervention**
  - C. Environmental enrichment and caregiver routines**
  - D. High-protein diet alone**
  
- 3. Why are Medium Chain Triglycerides (MCTs) included in diets like Purina Neurocare for senior dogs?**
  - A. They provide ketone bodies as an alternative energy source for the brain**
  - B. They increase slow-release carbohydrates**
  - C. They reduce protein requirements**
  - D. They block amyloid formation**
  
- 4. Which property explains why SDMA is a more sensitive marker for GFR than creatinine?**
  - A. It is influenced by hydration status**
  - B. It is not influenced by muscle mass or diet**
  - C. It requires less testing**
  - D. It correlates with liver enzymes**
  
- 5. By approximately what percentage does low tubular flow increase urea reabsorption?**
  - A. 10%**
  - B. 60%**
  - C. 30%**
  - D. 80%**

- 6. Which of the following is a common senior dog disease identified in primary care service?**
- A. Dental disease**
  - B. Diabetes mellitus**
  - C. Hip dysplasia**
  - D. Skin cancer**
- 7. What is a practical approach to palliative care for a senior dog with a poor prognosis?**
- A. Focus on diagnostic testing to pursue potential cures.**
  - B. Early surgical intervention.**
  - C. Prioritize aggressive life-prolonging treatments with little emphasis on comfort.**
  - D. Focus on comfort, pain control, nutrition and hydration support, environmental enrichment, and honest caregiver planning for humane endpoints.**
- 8. During a senior wellness exam, which parameter helps detect hypertension related to renal disease?**
- A. Urinalysis alone.**
  - B. Blood pressure measurement.**
  - C. Body temperature.**
  - D. Dental score.**
- 9. Which statement accurately describes aging effects on immune function in dogs?**
- A. It increases immune function**
  - B. It decreases immune function**
  - C. It has no effect**
  - D. It fluctuates unpredictably**
- 10. Which statement is true about how aging dogs should be managed in terms of disease risk?**
- A. All aging dogs have subclinical disease.**
  - B. Aging dogs do not require routine monitoring.**
  - C. Age alone is sufficient to diagnose disease.**
  - D. Senior status indicates age, not necessarily disease.**

## **Answers**

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1. A
2. C
3. A
4. B
5. B
6. A
7. D
8. B
9. B
10. D

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## **Explanations**

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**1. What is the primary clinical effect of Resveratrol in CCDS supplements?**

**A. It protects neurons from toxic substances and lessens Abeta in the brain.**

**B. Increases appetite**

**C. Raises blood glucose levels**

**D. Causes hair loss**

Resveratrol in CCDS supplements is best described by its neuroprotective and anti-amyloid actions. As an antioxidant, it helps shield brain neurons from oxidative stress and inflammatory damage, which supports cognitive function. It also has potential to reduce amyloid beta accumulation in the brain, addressing a key pathological feature of cognitive decline. This combination—protecting neurons and lowering Abeta—directly targets the brain changes underlying CCDS, making it the primary clinically relevant effect. The other options (increased appetite, raised blood glucose, hair loss) don't reflect the main actions associated with resveratrol in this context.

**2. Which non-pharmacologic strategy is commonly recommended in Cognitive Dysfunction Syndrome (CADES) management?**

**A. Aggressive chemotherapy**

**B. Surgical intervention**

**C. Environmental enrichment and caregiver routines**

**D. High-protein diet alone**

Providing a stimulating environment and maintaining a predictable caregiver routine are key non-pharmacologic strategies in canine cognitive dysfunction management. CADES progresses with disorientation and anxiety, so keeping the brain active through mental and physical enrichment helps slow decline and preserves quality of life. Environmental enrichment includes interactive toys, scent work, puzzle feeders, safe home exploration, and regular exercise, which provide cognitive engagement and physical activity. A consistent daily schedule with regular feeding times, walks, and structured activities reduces confusion and helps the dog anticipate what comes next, lowering stress. This approach is preferred because it directly targets the behavior and cognition aspects of the condition and is safe to implement at home. In contrast, aggressive medical or surgical interventions aren't applicable to this condition, and relying on diet alone won't address the cognitive and behavioral symptoms as effectively.

**3. Why are Medium Chain Triglycerides (MCTs) included in diets like Purina Neurocare for senior dogs?**

- A. They provide ketone bodies as an alternative energy source for the brain**
- B. They increase slow-release carbohydrates**
- C. They reduce protein requirements**
- D. They block amyloid formation**

Medium chain triglycerides are included because they provide ketone bodies that the brain can use as an energy source when aging-related brain metabolism slows down. As dogs get older, the brain may not use glucose as efficiently, so supplying an alternative fuel helps neurons keep functioning. MCTs are rapidly digested and sent to the liver, where they're converted into ketones like beta-hydroxybutyrate and acetoacetate. These ketones circulate to the brain, cross into brain tissue, and supply energy to brain cells, which can support cognitive function and overall brain health. The other ideas aren't the main reason: MCTs don't primarily increase slow-release carbohydrates, they don't reduce protein needs (protein should remain adequate for aging dogs), and blocking amyloid formation isn't the established mechanism here.

**4. Which property explains why SDMA is a more sensitive marker for GFR than creatinine?**

- A. It is influenced by hydration status**
- B. It is not influenced by muscle mass or diet**
- C. It requires less testing**
- D. It correlates with liver enzymes**

A biomarker's usefulness for detecting reduced kidney function depends on how much non-kidney factors influence its blood level. Creatinine is tied to muscle mass and diet because it comes from muscle metabolism; a dog with more muscle or a high-protein diet can have higher creatinine even if kidney function is normal, while a frail or malnourished dog can have a deceptively low creatinine despite impaired GFR. SDMA, on the other hand, is produced at a relatively constant rate and is cleared mainly by the kidneys, with much less variation due to muscle mass or diet. Because its level tracks GFR more directly and with less confounding from body composition or protein intake, SDMA rises earlier as kidney function declines, making it a more sensitive marker for detecting reduced GFR than creatinine. The other options don't fit this reason: hydration status can affect many blood solute concentrations but isn't the reason SDMA is more sensitive; requiring less testing speaks to practicality rather than sensitivity; and a correlation with liver enzymes would imply a different organ association altogether, not kidney filtration.

**5. By approximately what percentage does low tubular flow increase urea reabsorption?**

- A. 10%**
- B. 60%**
- C. 30%**
- D. 80%**

Low tubular flow lets urea stay in contact with the tubular epithelium longer and reduces its washout, so more urea can diffuse from the lumen into the medullary interstitium via the UT-A1/UT-A3 transporters in the inner medullary collecting ducts. This passive diffusion and recycling of urea back into the medullary interstitium increases overall urea reabsorption by about sixty percent. This greater reabsorption helps raise medullary osmolality and supports the kidney's ability to concentrate urine when water is scarce.

**6. Which of the following is a common senior dog disease identified in primary care service?**

- A. Dental disease**
- B. Diabetes mellitus**
- C. Hip dysplasia**
- D. Skin cancer**

Dental health is extremely common in senior dogs and is something primary care visits routinely uncover. As dogs age, periodontal disease becomes widespread, starting with gingivitis and tartar buildup and potentially progressing to loss of tooth support. This makes dental disease the most frequently identified problem in older dogs during routine wellness exams. Owners may notice bad breath, reluctance to eat, or facial swelling, but many cases are detected through a thorough oral exam and dental radiographs in the primary care setting. Addressing dental disease is important not only for comfort and chewing function but also because oral bacteria can enter the bloodstream and contribute to issues in the heart, kidneys, or liver. While diabetes mellitus, hip dysplasia, and skin cancer are also concerns in aging dogs, they are not as universally encountered across the senior population in everyday primary care as dental disease. Diabetes is less common than dental disease, hip dysplasia is more breed- and age-specific, and skin cancer, though important, varies widely in prevalence.

**7. What is a practical approach to palliative care for a senior dog with a poor prognosis?**

- A. Focus on diagnostic testing to pursue potential cures.**
- B. Early surgical intervention.**
- C. Prioritize aggressive life-prolonging treatments with little emphasis on comfort.**
- D. Focus on comfort, pain control, nutrition and hydration support, environmental enrichment, and honest caregiver planning for humane endpoints.**

When a senior dog has a poor prognosis, the aim is to maximize comfort and quality of life rather than pursue curative options. Palliative care centers on easing pain and distress, while supporting the dog's daily comfort and function. This includes effective pain control with appropriate medications, addressing other symptoms (such as nausea, appetite loss, or breathing difficulty), and adapting activity to what the dog tolerates. Nutrition and hydration should be maintained as long as they contribute to well-being and are feasible for the dog, offering palatable foods and careful fluid support as needed. Environmental enrichment and comfort are important: soft bedding, familiar routines, gentle handling, predictable schedules, and a stress-reduced setting all help improve mood and reduce suffering. Equally crucial are honest conversations with caregivers about goals, expectations, and when it may be kinder to shift to comfort-focused care or humane endpoints, planning ahead for decisions about end-of-life care that align with the dog's welfare and the family's values. In this approach, avoid aggressive diagnostics or treatments unlikely to meaningfully extend life or improve comfort, as they can add distress and burden without real benefit.

**8. During a senior wellness exam, which parameter helps detect hypertension related to renal disease?**

- A. Urinalysis alone.**
- B. Blood pressure measurement.**
- C. Body temperature.**
- D. Dental score.**

Measuring blood pressure is the key way to detect hypertension that may be related to kidney disease. Kidney problems can raise blood pressure through mechanisms like reduced renal perfusion triggering the renin-angiotensin-aldosterone system and fluid retention, while high blood pressure can further damage kidneys. Detecting elevated blood pressure during a senior wellness exam allows earlier management to protect both the kidneys and other organs. Urinalysis checks kidney function and damage but doesn't quantify or diagnose hypertension itself, and body temperature or dental score don't inform about blood pressure. Blood pressure is usually measured with a Doppler or oscillometric device and should be confirmed on separate visits.

**9. Which statement accurately describes aging effects on immune function in dogs?**

- A. It increases immune function**
- B. It decreases immune function**
- C. It has no effect**
- D. It fluctuates unpredictably**

Aging leads to a decline in immune competence, a process called immunosenescence. In older dogs, the thymus undergoes involution, producing fewer naive T cells and weakening cell-mediated immunity. B cell function and antibody production can also wane, so responses to vaccines and new infections may be less robust. Wound healing can be slower, and the overall risk of infections and cancer rises. While there can be some individual variation, the general trend with age is a decrease in immune function rather than an increase or no change.

**10. Which statement is true about how aging dogs should be managed in terms of disease risk?**

- A. All aging dogs have subclinical disease.**
- B. Aging dogs do not require routine monitoring.**
- C. Age alone is sufficient to diagnose disease.**
- D. Senior status indicates age, not necessarily disease.**

Being older increases the risk for disease, but age itself is not a diagnosis. The true statement is that senior status indicates age, not necessarily disease. This means management should include routine monitoring and ongoing screening to catch problems early, since some conditions can be present without obvious signs. Not all aging dogs have subclinical disease, and even healthy seniors benefit from regular checkups because early detection improves outcomes. Conversely, age alone does not diagnose disease, and healthy seniors should not be treated as diseased merely because they are older. Regular monitoring allows clinicians to tailor care to each dog's needs as they age.

## Next Steps

**Congratulations on reaching the final section of this guide. You've taken a meaningful step toward passing your certification exam and advancing your career.**

**As you continue preparing, remember that consistent practice, review, and self-reflection are key to success. Make time to revisit difficult topics, simulate exam conditions, and track your progress along the way.**

**If you need help, have suggestions, or want to share feedback, we'd love to hear from you. Reach out to our team at [hello@examzify.com](mailto:hello@examzify.com).**

**Or visit your dedicated course page for more study tools and resources:**

**<https://primarycare2seniordogcare2.examzify.com>**

**We wish you the very best on your exam journey. You've got this!**

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