

Program for the Assessment of Veterinary Education Equivalence (PAVE) Practice Exam (Sample)

Study Guide



Everything you need from our exam experts!

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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

- 1. Aspergillus infections in birds are known to cause which type of lesion?**
 - A. Hemorrhagic spots**
 - B. Necrotic or white nodules**
 - C. Cysts**
 - D. Abscesses**
- 2. What class of drug does ketamine belong to?**
 - A. Opioid**
 - B. Barbiturate**
 - C. Dissociative**
 - D. Local anesthetic**
- 3. What immediate action should be taken if a dog becomes apneic after sedation?**
 - A. Monitor closely**
 - B. Administer oxygen**
 - C. Intubate and ventilate**
 - D. Administer reversal agent**
- 4. What is the most likely cause of a pruritic cow?**
 - A. Rabies**
 - B. Pseudorabies**
 - C. Foot and mouth disease**
 - D. Bovine leukemia virus**
- 5. What type of lesions are caused by Feline Infectious Peritonitis (FIP)?**
 - A. Necrotizing lesions**
 - B. Suppurative, granulomatous, modified transudate**
 - C. Hemorrhagic lesions**
 - D. Cystic lesions**

- 6. If a horse presents with a laceration on its leg and has a stiff gait, what disease might be suspected?**
- A. Tetanus**
 - B. Strangles**
 - C. Laminitis**
 - D. Navicular disease**
- 7. Which clinical sign is indicative of acorn toxicity?**
- A. Vomiting**
 - B. Diarrhea**
 - C. Perirenal edema**
 - D. Sensitivity to light**
- 8. Which dog breed is known to have congenital tracheal hypoplasia?**
- A. Beagle**
 - B. English bulldog**
 - C. German shepherd**
 - D. Dalmatian**
- 9. When observing a dairy cow with a right-sided abdominal curve that produces a ping sound, what condition do you suspect?**
- A. Left Displacement Abomasum**
 - B. Right Displacement Abomasum**
 - C. Gastric Dilatation Volvulus**
 - D. Abomasal Ulceration**
- 10. What is the primary purpose of treatment for adenocarcinoma in the nasal cavity of dogs?**
- A. A. Cure the cancer**
 - B. B. Manage symptoms**
 - C. C. Minimize recurrence**
 - D. D. Improve quality of life**

Answers

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

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Explanations

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1. Aspergillus infections in birds are known to cause which type of lesion?

- A. Hemorrhagic spots**
- B. Necrotic or white nodules**
- C. Cysts**
- D. Abscesses**

Aspergillus infections in birds primarily lead to the formation of necrotic or white nodules, which are characteristic lesions associated with this disease. Aspergillus species, especially *Aspergillus fumigatus*, can colonize various tissues and body cavities in birds, resulting in granulomatous inflammation. The body attempts to contain the infection, leading to the formation of these nodular lesions. These nodules may appear white or creamy and often have necrotic areas due to the tissue destruction caused by the fungal invasion. In birds, such lesions can be observed in organs such as the lungs, air sacs, and other tissues, contributing to respiratory distress and other clinical signs. In contrast, although hemorrhagic spots, cysts, and abscesses can be associated with other infections or conditions, they are not specifically indicative of Aspergillus infections in avian species. Hemorrhagic spots are more commonly observed in conditions associated with trauma or systemic diseases impacting hemostasis. Cysts are generally not a primary lesion associated with fungal infections like those caused by Aspergillus, and abscesses typically indicate a bacterial infection rather than a fungal one. Thus, the formation of necrotic or white nodules is a key

2. What class of drug does ketamine belong to?

- A. Opioid**
- B. Barbiturate**
- C. Dissociative**
- D. Local anesthetic**

Ketamine is classified as a dissociative anesthetic. This group of drugs is unique in that they induce a trance-like state that provides pain relief, sedation, and amnesia while allowing the patient to maintain some degree of consciousness. Ketamine works primarily by antagonizing the NMDA (N-methyl-D-aspartate) receptor in the brain, which is involved in pain perception and memory processes. Its dissociative properties make it particularly effective in certain medical situations, such as emergency medicine and pediatric anesthesia, where rapid onset and preservation of airway reflexes are desirable. Ketamine has a distinct mechanism of action compared to opioids, barbiturates, and local anesthetics, which operate through different pathways in the central nervous system or are used primarily for different aspects of anesthesia and pain management.

3. What immediate action should be taken if a dog becomes apneic after sedation?

- A. Monitor closely**
- B. Administer oxygen**
- C. Intubate and ventilate**
- D. Administer reversal agent**

When a dog becomes apneic after sedation, the most critical and immediate action is to intubate and ventilate. Apnea indicates a cessation of breathing, which can lead to severe hypoxia and potential damage to vital organs if not addressed promptly. Intubation ensures that the airway is secured and allows for effective ventilation, which is essential to restore oxygen levels in the blood. By controlling the ventilation, the veterinary professional can manually provide the necessary breaths, supporting the dog's respiratory function until the sedative effects wear off or the underlying cause of the apnea is addressed. Other interventions, while important, do not provide the same immediate control over the situation. For example, monitoring closely may offer insights into the animal's condition but does not provide any therapeutic action to restore breathing. Administering oxygen can help in cases of hypoxia but does not solve the issue of apnea. Likewise, using a reversal agent may be appropriate if the sedative is known and can be reversed, but this would not be an immediate solution since reversal agents can take time to take effect. Therefore, intubation and ventilation are the best immediate responses to manage the critical situation of apneic breathing in an anesthetized or sedated dog.

4. What is the most likely cause of a pruritic cow?

- A. Rabies**
- B. Pseudorabies**
- C. Foot and mouth disease**
- D. Bovine leukemia virus**

The most likely cause of pruritus in a cow is pseudorabies, which is a viral disease caused by the pseudorabies virus (PRV). This disease is known to affect swine primarily but can also infect cattle, particularly when they are in close proximity to infected pigs. One of the hallmark signs of pseudorabies in cattle is severe itching or pruritus, which can lead to aggressive behavior as the animal tries to relieve the discomfort. Pseudorabies can lead to neurological symptoms, respiratory issues, and, in some cases, death in affected animals. The pruritus results from the virus's impact on the nervous system, which drives the cow to exhibit this behavior as a reaction to the irritation caused by the infection. Additionally, the presence of pruritus associated with pseudorabies can distinguish it from other diseases, such as foot and mouth disease, which is more characterized by lesions and not primarily itching. While conditions like rabies and bovine leukemia virus exist, they typically present with different clinical signs, such as neurological dysfunction in the case of rabies or lymphosarcoma in the case of bovine leukemia. Therefore, pseudorabies stands out as the most probable cause of pruritus in

5. What type of lesions are caused by Feline Infectious Peritonitis (FIP)?

- A. Necrotizing lesions**
- B. Suppurative, granulomatous, modified transudate**
- C. Hemorrhagic lesions**
- D. Cystic lesions**

Feline Infectious Peritonitis (FIP) is characterized by a complex pathological process, primarily involving immune-mediated responses to the feline coronavirus. The disease typically results in a form of vasculitis that leads to the presence of effusive (wet) or noneffusive (dry) forms of FIP, both of which display specific types of lesions. In the case of effusive FIP, the resultant lesions often consist of suppurative and granulomatous inflammation, combined with the accumulation of modified transudate in body cavities. Granulomas are aggregates of macrophages and are typically surrounded by a rim of lymphocytes, which signifies a chronic immune response. This immune-mediated reaction contributes to the characteristic fluid accumulation and necrotic tissue that can be observed in affected animals. In contrast, the other types of lesions described in the other options do not accurately represent the pathology observed with FIP. For instance, necrotizing lesions may be associated with other infectious diseases but not specifically FIP. Hemorrhagic lesions are not typical of FIP pathology; instead, they are more indicative of other conditions such as trauma or certain viral infections. Cystic lesions similarly do not have a connection with FIP and suggest different underlying processes.

6. If a horse presents with a laceration on its leg and has a stiff gait, what disease might be suspected?

- A. Tetanus**
- B. Strangles**
- C. Laminitis**
- D. Navicular disease**

The suspicion of tetanus in a horse with a laceration and a stiff gait is highly plausible due to the characteristic symptoms associated with this disease. Tetanus, caused by the bacterium *Clostridium tetani*, often results from wounds or lacerations that allow the bacteria to enter the body. The toxin produced by this bacterium leads to muscle stiffness and spasms, which can manifest as a stiff gait. In horses, the clinical signs of tetanus include a distinct stiff posture, difficulty in movement, and often a heightened sensitivity to stimuli, which aligns with the observations in this case. The presence of a leg laceration further supports the likelihood of tetanus since it provides a potential entry point for the bacteria. In contrast, the other conditions listed do not typically present in the same way with the tight association between a recent laceration and a stiff gait caused by the neurotoxin. For example, strangles primarily affects the respiratory system with throat swelling and is not directly linked to stiffness in gait. Laminitis is characterized by pain and shifting weight due to hoof distress rather than stiffness. Navicular disease involves chronic lameness and pain but not the acute stiffness or muscle spasms typical of tetanus. Thus

7. Which clinical sign is indicative of acorn toxicity?

- A. Vomiting**
- B. Diarrhea**
- C. Perirenal edema**
- D. Sensitivity to light**

Acorn toxicity, primarily associated with the ingestion of acorns by livestock such as cattle and sheep, leads to specific clinical signs due to the presence of tannins and other compounds in the acorns that can cause kidney damage. One of the hallmark signs of this toxicity is perirenal edema, which refers to the accumulation of fluid around the kidneys. This condition occurs as a result of the direct nephrotoxic effects of acorn ingestion, leading to kidney inflammation, damage, and subsequent fluid retention in the perirenal space. While vomiting, diarrhea, and sensitivity to light can also be associated with other forms of toxicity or gastrointestinal disturbances, they are not specifically indicative of acorn toxicity. Perirenal edema distinctly reflects the renal compromise that occurs as a consequence of acorn consumption, making it the most relevant clinical sign in this context. Understanding this helps in the diagnosis and management of acorn toxicity in affected animals.

8. Which dog breed is known to have congenital tracheal hypoplasia?

- A. Beagle**
- B. English bulldog**
- C. German shepherd**
- D. Dalmatian**

Congenital tracheal hypoplasia is a condition characterized by the underdevelopment or narrowing of the trachea, which can lead to respiratory difficulties. The English bulldog is notably associated with this congenital condition due to its brachycephalic facial structure, which predisposes it to various airway abnormalities, including tracheal hypoplasia. This breed's unique anatomy can result in a flattened trachea and other associated respiratory problems, making them particularly vulnerable to this condition. In addition to tracheal hypoplasia, English bulldogs may experience other respiratory issues linked to their conformation, such as brachycephalic obstructive airway syndrome. While other breeds may have respiratory issues as well, the English bulldog has a specifically recognized predisposition to congenital tracheal hypoplasia, distinguishing it from the other breeds listed.

9. When observing a dairy cow with a right-sided abdominal curve that produces a ping sound, what condition do you suspect?

A. Left Displacement Abomasum

B. Right Displacement Abomasum

C. Gastric Dilatation Volvulus

D. Abomasal Ulceration

When observing a dairy cow with a right-sided abdominal curve that produces a ping sound, the condition you suspect is likely a Right Displacement Abomasum (RDA). In this condition, the abomasum, which is the fourth stomach compartment in ruminants, displaces towards the right side of the abdomen and can become trapped. The characteristic "ping" sound occurs due to the presence of gas and a fluid interface created when the displaced abomasum is percussed. The right-sided curve signifies that the abomasum is filled with gas or fluid and has moved to an abnormal position. This is crucial, as a left-sided displacement would typically be silent or produce different sounds, emphasizing the importance of recognizing the specific side affected and the associated clinical signs. The RDA can lead to serious complications, including torsion of the abomasum, which can be life-threatening if not addressed properly. Understanding the connection between the clinical signs and the underlying pathology is key for diagnosis and subsequent management.

10. What is the primary purpose of treatment for adenocarcinoma in the nasal cavity of dogs?

A. A. Cure the cancer

B. B. Manage symptoms

C. C. Minimize recurrence

D. D. Improve quality of life

In dogs with nasal adenocarcinoma, treatment is usually palliative rather than curative. These tumors are often locally invasive and difficult to completely eradicate with available therapies, so achieving a permanent cure is uncommon. Because of that, the primary aim of therapy is to relieve the animal's clinical signs and preserve comfort and daily functioning. Treatments like radiation or debulking can reduce nasal discharge, obstruction, facial pain, and difficulty breathing, which can translate into better appetite, energy, and quality of life. While reducing recurrence or extending survival can occur, they are not guaranteed outcomes and are not the main focus in many cases. The overarching goal is to maximize the dog's comfort and well-being, which is why improving quality of life is the best answer.

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.

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

<https://pavevetedequivalence.examzify.com>

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