

Veterinary Emergency Group (VEG) Initial 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

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- 1. Which term means itchy?**
 - A. Pruritic**
 - B. Purulent**
 - C. Renal**
 - D. Rhinorrhea**

- 2. What term describes elevated kidney values?**
 - A. Azotemia**
 - B. Cardiomegaly**
 - C. Cystocentesis**
 - D. Dyspnea**

- 3. PTA stands for which phrase?**
 - A. prior to arrival**
 - B. per Os**
 - C. pulmonary thromboembolism**
 - D. oxygen saturation**

- 4. The abbreviation pt refers to which word?**
 - A. patient**
 - B. prior to arrival**
 - C. pulmonary thromboembolism**
 - D. physical exam**

- 5. Which term means low sugar in the blood?**
 - A. Hyperglycemia**
 - B. Hypoxia**
 - C. Hypoglycemia**
 - D. Hematemesis**

- 6. The abbreviation BP represents which vital sign?**
 - A. Breath rate**
 - B. Blood phosphorus**
 - C. Blood pressure**
 - D. Bone pressure**

- 7. Which term means decreased blood sugar?**
- A. Hypoglycemia**
 - B. Hypertension**
 - C. Hypoxia**
 - D. Hyperglycemia**
- 8. US/AUS refers to which imaging modalities?**
- A. Upper airway radiographs**
 - B. Ultrasonography assessment**
 - C. Ultrasound imaging**
 - D. Ultrasound or abdominal ultrasound**
- 9. In a clinical assessment, TPR is commonly recorded as part of the patient's vital signs. What does TPR stand for?**
- A. Temperature, pressure and respiration**
 - B. Tissue perfusion rate**
 - C. Temperature, pulse and respiration (vital signs)**
 - D. Temperature, pulse and reaction**
- 10. What does RDVM stand for?**
- A. Regular or routine doctor of veterinary medicine of primary care veterinarian**
 - B. Rural doctor of veterinary medicine**
 - C. Remote doctor of veterinary medicine**
 - D. Registered doctor of veterinary medicine**

Answers

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

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Explanations

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1. Which term means itchy?

- A. Pruritic**
- B. Purulent**
- C. Renal**
- D. Rhinorrhea**

The term for itchy is pruritic. It describes skin that causes an urge to scratch and is commonly used in veterinary notes to label itchy or irritated skin, such as a pruritic rash or a dog with pruritic dermatitis. The word comes from pruritus, the noun for itch, and the suffix -ic turns it into an adjective meaning “pertaining to itching.” Purulent means containing pus, often describing discharge or tissue characteristic of infection. Renal relates to the kidneys. Rhinorrhea means nasal discharge.

2. What term describes elevated kidney values?

- A. Azotemia**
- B. Cardiomegaly**
- C. Cystocentesis**
- D. Dyspnea**

Azotemia describes elevated nitrogenous waste in the blood, typically shown by high BUN and creatinine, which signals reduced kidney filtration or function. This is why it’s the best term for elevated kidney values. It can arise from different mechanisms—pre-renal (often dehydration or low blood flow), renal (intrinsic kidney disease), or post-renal (urinary tract obstruction). The other terms refer to a heart enlargement (cardiomegaly), a procedure to obtain a urine sample (cystocentesis), and breathing difficulty (dyspnea), none of which describe increased kidney waste in the blood.

3. PTA stands for which phrase?

- A. prior to arrival**
- B. per Os**
- C. pulmonary thromboembolism**
- D. oxygen saturation**

Understanding common medical acronyms used in emergency settings helps you quickly grasp what information is being conveyed. PTA stands for prior to arrival, a shorthand used to indicate data or condition reported before the patient reached the ER. This is why it’s the best answer: prior to arrival is the only option that matches the letters PTA as a recognizable acronym in medical communication. The other terms use different standard abbreviations—per Os is a Latin shorthand meaning by mouth (usually PO), pulmonary thromboembolism is typically abbreviated PE or PTE, and oxygen saturation is written as SpO₂ or SaO₂. So the intended meaning of PTA in this context is pre-arrival information.

4. The abbreviation pt refers to which word?

- A. patient**
- B. prior to arrival**
- C. pulmonary thromboembolism**
- D. physical exam**

In medical shorthand, "pt" is used to stand for the person receiving care—the patient. It's a quick, universally understood way to reference the individual in notes, orders, and progress updates. For example, writing "pt presents with vomiting" communicates that the patient is the one who has vomiting, without spelling out the word. This is the best fit because the other phrases are typically abbreviated differently in clinical notes: "prior to arrival" is usually PTA or similar, not pt; "pulmonary thromboembolism" is written as PTE or PE, not pt; and "physical exam" is commonly abbreviated as PE, which can also mean pulmonary embolism and thus is not the intended meaning of pt. So the only option that consistently matches the abbreviation pt is patient.

5. Which term means low sugar in the blood?

- A. Hyperglycemia**
- B. Hypoxia**
- C. Hypoglycemia**
- D. Hematemesis**

Low blood sugar is called hypoglycemia. The prefix hypo- means low, gly- refers to glucose (sugar), and -emia means in the blood. This term specifically describes a drop in blood glucose, unlike hyperglycemia, which means high blood sugar (hyper- = high). The other terms refer to different problems: hypoxia is too little oxygen reaching tissues, and hematemesis is vomiting blood. In practice, hypoglycemia can occur with missed meals, insulin overdose, or certain illnesses and is managed by supplying a glucose source or IV dextrose as appropriate.

6. The abbreviation BP represents which vital sign?

- A. Breath rate**
- B. Blood phosphorus**
- C. Blood pressure**
- D. Bone pressure**

Blood pressure is a vital sign that measures the force of blood against the walls of arteries and reflects how well tissues are being perfused with oxygen and nutrients. It's normally expressed as systolic over diastolic pressure (units are mmHg) and can be read with a cuff, a Doppler device, or an oscillometric monitor. In clinical practice, maintaining adequate blood pressure is crucial, especially in emergencies, because too low a pressure can indicate shock or significant blood loss, while very high pressure can point to pain, stress, or underlying disease. In veterinary patients, readings can be influenced by cuff size, limb choice, patient stress, and factors like anesthesia or medications, so it's important to interpret trends rather than a single measurement. The other terms aren't vital signs: breath rate refers to respiratory rate, blood phosphorus is a lab value, and bone pressure isn't a recognized clinical measurement.

7. Which term means decreased blood sugar?

- A. Hypoglycemia**
- B. Hypertension**
- C. Hypoxia**
- D. Hyperglycemia**

Decreased blood sugar is described by the term hypoglycemia. The prefix hypo- means below or deficient, gly- refers to glucose, and -emia means in the blood, so hypoglycemia literally means low glucose in the blood. This is different from hypertension (high blood pressure), hypoxia (low oxygen in tissues), and hyperglycemia (high blood sugar). In animals, hypoglycemia can occur from insulin overdose, prolonged fasting, certain illnesses, or liver disease, and it can cause weakness, tremors, seizures, or collapse, needing prompt glucose supplementation.

8. US/AUS refers to which imaging modalities?

- A. Upper airway radiographs**
- B. Ultrasonography assessment**
- C. Ultrasound imaging**
- D. Ultrasound or abdominal ultrasound**

US/AUS refer to ultrasound-based imaging. US is the common abbreviation for ultrasonography or ultrasound imaging, and AUS is used to denote abdominal ultrasound. So together, they indicate ultrasound modalities, including general ultrasound and specifically abdominal ultrasound. This is different from upper airway radiographs, which are radiographs, and from a generic reference to ultrasonography or ultrasound that doesn't explicitly cover abdominal ultrasound.

9. In a clinical assessment, TPR is commonly recorded as part of the patient's vital signs. What does TPR stand for?

- A. Temperature, pressure and respiration**
- B. Tissue perfusion rate**
- C. Temperature, pulse and respiration (vital signs)**
- D. Temperature, pulse and reaction**

TPR is a shorthand for three vital signs: Temperature, Pulse, and Respiration. Recording these three measures together gives a quick snapshot of a patient's thermoregulation, heart rate, and breathing status, which are foundational for assessing overall condition. The option that lists Temperature, pulse and respiration (vital signs) matches exactly this trio, making it the correct choice. The other options don't fit because they replace one of the standard components with something else: pressure is not the P in this acronym (pulse is). Tissue perfusion rate isn't a standard trio component, and reaction is not what the R stands for (it's respiration).

10. What does RDVM stand for?

- A. Regular or routine doctor of veterinary medicine of primary care veterinarian**
- B. Rural doctor of veterinary medicine**
- C. Remote doctor of veterinary medicine**
- D. Registered doctor of veterinary medicine**

RDVM stands for the Regular or routine doctor of veterinary medicine—the primary care veterinarian who handles ongoing, routine care and preventive medicine for a patient. This is the clinician who knows the animal’s history, maintains medical records, and coordinates care with specialists or after-hours/emergency providers when needed. The term isn’t about geography (rural or remote) or a credential (registered); it specifically emphasizes the role of the primary care veterinarian who regularly manages the patient’s health. In practice, you’d contact the RDVM for routine issues and for guidance when urgent or specialized care is required, allowing continuity of care across different services.

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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://veginitial.examzify.com>

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

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