Certifying Examination Recommended Reading List
(valid from 2020 exam)
Small Animal Surgery

A broad reading list does not mean that everything needs to be known in equal detail but allows the questions to be more clinically relevant.

All books and journals are listed in alphabetical order.

Textbooks for Small Animal Surgery Candidates


Knowledge of basic and applied Anatomy (including surgical approaches) and Physiology is assumed. Guidance for revision on these topics include the following textbooks:

1. Cunningham’s Textbook of Veterinary Physiology Elsevier (5th Ed), 2012

The following list of textbooks is a useful source of information to increase the understanding and depth of knowledge of the candidate, but would not be considered essential reading. Candidates should use these sources to broaden their understanding of the pathophysiology and management of cases that they see throughout their residency training.

4. Kirk’s Current Veterinary Therapy - last 2-3 most recent editions.
6. Lumb and Jones Veterinary Anaesthesia and Analgesia, Wiley (5th Ed), 2015

Journals for Small Animal Surgery Candidates (last 5 years)

1. Journal of American Veterinary Medical Association
2. Journal of Small Animal Practice
3. Journal of the American Animal Hospital Association
4. The Veterinary Journal
5. Veterinary Comparative Orthopedics and Traumatology
6. Veterinary Surgery

The majority of questions come from the literature published within the last five years. Questions may also come from older articles if they are considered significant and essential to the application of veterinary surgery.

This list of journals is not intended to be a compulsory reading list, but candidates should be encouraged to select publications within these journals that apply to investigation, diagnosis and management of surgical conditions.

March 2019