Certifying Examination Recommended Reading List
Small Animal Surgery

The lists below are intended to help you plan your study for the ECVS Certifying Examination. The majority of questions will come from these texts but these lists are not exhaustive, and other textbooks and current references may be pertinent. Knowledge of basic and applied anatomy is assumed. Candidates may have their own preferred texts for certain areas.

The majority of questions from journals and the Veterinary Clinics of North America will be from articles that have been published in the last FOUR years. This four year period will run from 1st January up to the 31st December of the year immediately preceding the February examination. Questions may also come from older articles considered significant and essential to the knowledge of the veterinary surgeon.

Additionally, prospective candidates are reminded that they will be expected to be able to demonstrate adequate knowledge of surgically related disciplines (e.g. radiology, anaesthesiology, clinical pathology, cardiology etc) as well as associated basic sciences. Candidates should allocate time to specifically study these areas. Candidates are encouraged to develop their own system-based timetable of reading. It is useful to work whenever possible with colleagues who can provide regular opportunities for small group presentations and peer review.

Main Study Books


Veterinary Clinics of North America/Small Animal Practice.

Journals (1st January 2014 to 31 December 2017)

- Veterinary Surgery
- Veterinary and Comparative Orthopaedics and Traumatology
- Journal of American Veterinary Medical Association
- Journal of Small Animal Practice

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