

***Samples McCurnin's Clinical Textbook for
Veterinary Technicians and Nurses 11th edition
Samples Test Bank***

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Test Bank - Chapter 01

Q1: NAVTA stands for

- A. National Association of Veterinarian Technical Academy.
- B. North American Veterinary Technology Association.
- C. National Association of Veterinary Technicians of America. (Correct)**
- D. North American Veterinary Technician Association.

Rationale: The National Association of Veterinary Technicians of America is NAVTA.

Q2: Presently in the field of veterinary technology which is not true?

- A. Salaries vary depending on the field of interest and the level of experience.
- B. Widespread shortages of veterinary technicians have been reported.
- C. In 2021, the median salary for veterinary technicians nationwide was \$36,850.
- D. Technicians working in less populated states earn more, on average, than those working in less populated states. (Correct)**

Rationale: Presently, widespread shortages of veterinary technicians have been reported, and graduates of veterinary technology programs are finding ample job opportunities. Although job opportunities are plentiful, salaries vary depending on the field of interest and the level of experience. For example, in May 2021 the US Bureau of Labor Statistics reported that the median wage for veterinary technicians and technologists nationwide was \$36,850 per year. However, level of experience, location of work, and field of interest have an impact on income potential. Veterinary technicians living in states where there is a higher density of veterinary practices earn more than technicians living in less populated states.

Q3: A controlled substance is a drug or chemical

- A. not used in veterinary medicine.
- B. whose manufacture, possession, or use is regulated by government. (Correct)**
- C. that is categorized into specific classes or schedules based on their cost.
- D. that can be prescribed by veterinary technicians.

Rationale: A controlled substance is a drug or chemical whose manufacture, possession, or use is regulated by the government. In veterinary medicine, controlled substances are used daily. Federal and state legislation, such as the federal and state-controlled substance acts, establish limitations and guidelines for the possession, use, storage, exportation, and production of specific drugs. Controlled drugs are categorized into specific classes or schedules based on the drugs' capacity for addiction. In the United States, the Drug Enforcement Agency (DEA) has been empowered by Congress to enforce federal regulation of controlled substances. Controlled substance logbooks, used in many veterinary practices, are required by governmental regulatory agencies and legislation to document the distribution and use of controlled substances. State controlled substance acts frequently apply to all drugs and devices, not just those drugs that are on the state or Federal Controlled Substances lists. Veterinarians may only prescribe drugs for their animal patients, with whom they have a veterinarian-client-patient relationship. They may not prescribe (or

dispense from their own pharmacy) drugs for themselves or others. No state permits veterinary technicians to prescribe drugs.

Q4: The Animal Welfare Act (AWA)

A. requires that minimum standards of care and treatment be provided for all warm-blooded animals.

B. includes mice, rats, and birds, which represent approximately 90% of animals used in research and higher education. (Correct)

C. excludes animals transported commercially, as well as those exhibited to the public.

D. is an international law.

Rationale: In the United States, the Animal Welfare Act (AWA) requires that minimum standards of care and treatment be provided for some warm-blooded animals bred for commercial sale, used in research and higher education, transported commercially, and exhibited to the public. The AWA does not apply to mice, rats, or birds, which represent approximately 90% of animals used in research and higher education.

Q5: Because the practice of veterinary technology is regulated by each state or province, which of the following is incorrect?

A. One state may issue a license, whereas another may issue a certificate.

B. Granting of a license by a state board implies that the board has reviewed and approved the qualifications of the individual to practice.

C. Granting of a certificate implies that an entity other than a state board has reviewed and approved the qualifications of the individual to practice and has certified that the person is competent to practice.

D. Once certified, technicians do not need to check with the state's board before beginning practice to ensure that they have obtained the proper authorization to practice. (Correct)

Rationale: Because the practice of veterinary technology is regulated by each state or province, some variety is noted in the terminology used to designate an individual whom the board has authorized to practice. This variety can be confusing because one state may issue a license, whereas another may issue a certificate. Granting of a license by a state board implies that the board has reviewed and approved the qualifications of the individual to practice. Granting of a certificate implies that some other entity has reviewed and approved the qualifications of the individual to practice and has certified that the person is competent to practice. Some states issue a license but call a technician certified (e.g., in Pennsylvania, technicians' qualifications are reviewed by the board, and the board issues a license bestowing the title certified veterinary technician). Some jurisdictions "register" rather than license technicians. The term registered implies that neither the board nor an independent entity has reviewed and approved the qualifications of the technician to practice; however, to lawfully practice veterinary technology, the individual must register and provide information to the board. Some boards that refer to registration do review and approve the qualifications of technicians. Technicians should check with the state's board before beginning practice to ensure that they have obtained the proper authorization to practice.

Q6: If a veterinary technician violates the state's practice act or regulations of the profession's governing body, the penalty can include

A. loss of licensure, monetary penalties (fines), or other discipline. (Correct)

B. no punishment since veterinary technicians are not covered by practice acts.

C. those outlined in a standard practice act adopted by every state.

D. None are correct.

Rationale: If a veterinary technician violates the state's practice act or regulations of the profession's governing body, the penalty can include loss of licensure, monetary penalties (fines), or other discipline, such as additional continuing education courses. Because practice acts vary from one jurisdiction to another, every veterinary technician must be sure to understand the laws that govern the practice of veterinary technology in the state or province in which the technician plans to practice.

Q7: According to the Saunders Comprehensive Veterinary Dictionary, the "Rules or principles that govern right conduct" are known as professional _____.

A. laws

B. responsibilities

C. rights

D. ethics (Correct)

Rationale: Veterinary professional ethics involves what is right and wrong for both the patient and the client. Veterinary technicians are required to operate under a strict moral foundation of ethical practices in their daily work. While ethical considerations can be complicated matters, their contemplation must take place to adequately fulfill the oath each American veterinary technician takes.

Q8: In some states, veterinary technicians can extract teeth, whereas in other states, this is considered surgery and cannot be performed by a veterinary technician. To determine if this is a task that you can perform in your state you should

A. ask your supervisor.

B. know that veterinary technicians can perform any task they were taught in school.

C. consult the appropriate practice act in your state. (Correct)

D. never extract teeth during a dental cleaning.

Rationale: The practice act in most states includes a definition of the practice of veterinary medicine and veterinary technology, although in some states it has been left to the state board to define the practice of veterinary technology. The definition of the practice is important because it informs veterinarians and technicians of the practices they may engage in and lists the specific clinical activities that unlicensed persons should not perform.

Q9: Which of the following is not yet a NAVTA-recognized area of specialty for veterinary technicians?

A. Anesthesia and Analgesia

- B. Emergency and Critical Care
- C. Oncology Medicine (Correct)**
- D. Internal Medicine

Rationale: NAVTA-recognized areas of specialty for veterinary technicians are as follows: The Academy of Veterinary Emergency and Critical Care Technicians The Academy of Veterinary Dental Technicians The Academy of Internal Medicine Veterinary Technicians The Academy of Veterinary Technicians in Anesthesia and Analgesia The Academy of Laboratory Animal Veterinary Technicians and Nurses The Academy of Veterinary Behavior Technicians The Academy of Veterinary Clinical Pathology Technicians The Academy of Veterinary Technicians in Clinical Practice The Academy of Dermatology Veterinary Technicians The Academy of Equine Veterinary Nursing Technicians The Academy of Physical Rehabilitation Veterinary Technicians The Academy of Veterinary Nutrition Technicians The Academy of Veterinary Ophthalmic Technicians The Academy of Veterinary Surgical Technicians The Academy of Veterinary Zoological Medicine Technicians The Academy of Veterinary Technicians in Diagnostic Imaging

Q10: College programs designed to train veterinary technicians are accredited by

- A. the USDA.
- B. the FDA.
- C. the AVMA and the CVMA. (Correct)**
- D. the AALAS.

Rationale: In the United States and Canada, college programs designed to train veterinary technicians are accredited by the American Veterinary Medical Association (AVMA) and by the Canadian Veterinary Medical Association (CVMA), respectively.

Q11: The current rate of attrition from the field of veterinary technology

- A. is very low.
- B. is very high. (Correct)**
- C. is not a problem because there are more technicians than available jobs.
- D. has no bearing on the financial viability of the practice.

Rationale: The profession of veterinary technology has a high rate of attrition. Attrition from the profession is a critical part of the current technician shortage problem. Because employee attrition is extremely costly to practices, both fiscally and in terms of the morale and efficiency of the veterinary health care team, improved staff management and retention of veterinary technicians is particularly important to the fiscal health of veterinary practices.

Q12: On graduation from a Veterinary Technology program, students must take and pass the VTNE. Which of the following statements regarding the VTNE is the most accurate?

- A. The VTNE is the Veterinary Technician National Examination. (Correct)**
- B. Students are not required to take the VTNE to become certified or licensed in most states and Canada.
- C. Once the VTNE has been passed, technicians can perform any task a veterinarian can do.
- D. All are true.

Rationale: After completing the requirements to graduate from a program of veterinary technology, students prepare to take the Veterinary Technician National Examination (VTNE), which is required in most states and provinces.

Q13: Veterinary technicians are often charged with obtaining patient information. Which of the following is subjective data?

- A. Heart rate and pulse rate
- B. Blood work including serum chemistries and CBC
- C. Body temperature

D. Observations about the patient's mentation (Correct)

Rationale: Objective data include measurable patient information such as vital signs (heart rate, respiratory rate, blood pressure, and body temperature) and laboratory results (complete blood count [CBC] and serum chemistry analysis). Examples of subjective data include observations about the patient's mentation, hydration status, and appetite level.

Q14: Which is not one of the three categories into which a patient evaluation falls?

- A. Actual physical and psychologic problems of the patient
- B. Risk of or potential for problems
- C. Risks related to the owner

D. Potential ability of owner to pay for care (Correct)

Rationale: The potential ability of the owner to pay for patient care is not one of the three categories of patient evaluation. Patient evaluations fall into one of three categories: 1. Evaluations that relate to actual physical and psychologic problems of the patient, such as "hypovolemia," "abnormal eating behavior," and "fear." 2. Evaluations that relate to the risk of or potential for problems in the future, such as "risk for infection" and "risk of aspiration." 3. Evaluations that relate to the owner (also called the client), such as "client knowledge deficit" and "noncompliant owner."

Q15: Which of these is considered the most critical foundation issue and should always be addressed first?

A. Oxygenation (Correct)

- B. Bleeding
- C. Pain
- D. Head injury

Rationale: The most critical problems are considered foundation issues because if they are not addressed first, the animal may not live. The most important issues relate to oxygenation.

Q16: It is widely accepted and has been proposed by both the American Veterinary Medical Association (AVMA) and the American Association of Veterinary State Boards (AAVSB) that only veterinarians may do the following: prescribe, diagnose, or perform surgery. In addition, which other task is recommended for veterinarians only?

- A. Client education
- B. Prognosis (Correct)**
- C. IV catheter placement
- D. Bandaging

Rationale: It is widely accepted and has been proposed by both the American Veterinary Medical Association (AVMA) and the American Association of Veterinary State Boards (AAVSB) that only veterinarians may do the following: prescribe, diagnose, prognose, or perform surgery.

Q17: It is important that the veterinary technician, when completing veterinary medical records, enter the notation _____ for each treatment, drug, medication, or appliance ordered by the veterinarian.

- A. "per os"
- B. "as ordered" (Correct)**
- C. "b.i.d."
- D. Veterinary technicians do not write in medical records.

Rationale: It is important that the veterinary technician, when completing veterinary medical records, enter the notation "as ordered" for each treatment, drug, medication, or appliance ordered by the veterinarian.

Q18: The veterinary technician's role in the pharmacy may include all the following except

- A. interpreting the prescription language.
- B. dispensing the medication to the pet owner.
- C. ensuring that the pharmacy is well stocked.
- D. prescribing medication. (Correct)**

Rationale: The veterinary technician interprets the prescription language, then fills and dispenses the medication to the pet owner, along with instructions for its use. In addition, veterinary technicians are often responsible for ensuring that the pharmacy is well stocked, that expired drugs are discarded, and that controlled substances are handled appropriately. Veterinary technicians do not prescribe medication.

Q19: In the operating room, the veterinary technician may assume all the following duties except

- A. acting as the circulating nurse.
- B. assisting during a particularly challenging operation.
- C. performing surgery. (Correct)**
- D. ensuring that all surgical equipment is clean, sterile, and ready to use.

Rationale: The operating room (OR) technician, or the circulating nurse, positions the patient on the operating table and completes the final surgical scrub. Instruments, equipment, and materials needed by the surgeon are made available. The technician retrieves any additional materials requested during the procedure, adjusts surgery lights, tilts the surgery table, and, in general, does whatever is necessary to support the surgeon. In some practices, the technician acts simultaneously as anesthetist and circulating nurse. Occasionally, technicians are asked to assist

during a particularly challenging operation and must be skilled in proper sterile techniques, including gloving and gowning. After the procedure has been performed, the technician washes and dries the surgical instruments and reorganizes them into surgical packs for sterilization. The technician may also perform the duties of the postoperative care nurse for the recovering patient.

Q20: Throughout the patient's clinic visit or hospitalization, the veterinary technician frequently assesses and reassesses the patient's status. The technician should alert the veterinarian to any

- A. changes in pain level of the animal.
- B. surgical complications, such as bleeding.
- C. changes in mentation.

D. All are correct. (Correct)

Rationale: Throughout the patient's clinic or hospital stay, the veterinary technician assesses and reassesses patient status, develops new evaluations, and adjusts the technician nursing plan. During these periodic patient assessments, the veterinary technician is keenly aware of pain levels experienced by the patient and ensures that appropriate pain management is provided as per order from the veterinarian.

Q21: In addition to salary, many employers of veterinary technicians provide benefits to their employees. Which of the following is true regarding these benefits?

- A. Smaller companies are often better positioned to provide benefits than larger ones.
- B. Retirement plans should not be considered a primary benefit offered to technicians.
- C. Health care coverage is too expensive to provide in a clinical setting, so it is never offered.

D. The cost of continuing education and professional membership fees may be fully or partially reimbursed by an employer. (Correct)

Rationale: In addition to salary compensation, many employers offer a range of benefits, including health insurance, retirement plans, and allowances for continuing education (CE) and professional association membership fees.

Q22: According to the AVMA, which of the following is a true statement?

- A. The best run clinics use veterinarians to complete most of their animal-centered tasks.
- B. Technicians are best utilized as receptionists in the clinical setting.

C. Technicians should be involved in as many animal-related tasks as possible. (Correct)

- D. Technicians are an expense to a clinic and their presence is hard to justify economically.

Rationale: In well-managed practices, veterinary technicians perform all duties associated with the care and treatment of animal patients except those tasks that can only be legally performed by a veterinarian.

Q23: Which is the committee that accredits veterinary technician programs in the United States?

- A. CVMA

B. CVTEA (Correct)

- C. USDA
- D. VTPAC

Rationale: Programs in the United States are accredited by the Committee on Veterinary Technician Education and Activities (CVTEA), which is under the auspices of the AVMA. Programs in Canada are accredited by the Animal Health Technology/Veterinary Technician Program Accreditation Committee (AHT/VTPAC), which is under the auspices of the CVMA. When a program is accredited, it must meet 11 essential criteria for curricula, faculty, facility, and admissions requirements.

Q24: Which of the following is not a domain that is covered on the VTNE?

- A. Dentistry
- B. Diagnostic Imaging
- C. Pain Management
- D. Surgical Techniques (Correct)**

Rationale: While there is a Surgical Nursing Domain on the VTNE, the practice of surgery is delegated to licensed veterinarians. It is important for technicians to have a firm understanding of surgical procedures and have a strong working relationship with veterinary surgeons; however, the actual practice of surgery by veterinary technicians is not allowed.

Q25: What is the purpose of the 20 new questions that are added annually to the VTNE?

- A. To determine how well the candidates answer them and whether they qualify as relevant questions that can be used on future exams (Correct)**
- B. To give extra credit to applicants who answer them correctly
- C. To increase the number of scored questions each year
- D. To ensure everyone who takes the VTNE passes

Rationale: These 20 questions are not identified to the test takers, and are analyzed for appropriateness for use in subsequent tests. Since they are not scored, they are not intended to punish test takers who do not answer them correctly. If they are answered correctly by a predetermined number of test takers they may then be used as questions on future examinations.

Q26: There are five cyclically performed steps involved in a patient's hospitalization. These are collectively called the veterinary technician _____.

- A. diagnostic approach
- B. practice model (Correct)**
- C. therapeutic formulation
- D. data evaluation

Rationale: The veterinary technician practice model includes the following: gathering patient data; identification and prioritization of patient evaluations; development and implementation of plan for patient care; evaluation of the patient's response to the plan; and gathering of additional data. These steps allow for the systematic evaluation and treatment of an animal under the technician's care.

Q27: How often should a technician examine and reevaluate a patient using the veterinary technician practice model?

- A. Once a day
- B. Several times a day (Correct)**
- C. Once per hospitalization
- D. Every hour

Rationale: Typically, a patient should be examined and evaluated several times a day to determine if any adjustments must be made to the treatment plan. As the patient's status fluctuates so should the treatment parameters. Evaluations performed less frequently than this may result in missed opportunities to modify a treatment in a manner that may be beneficial to the overall health of the patient.

Q28: Why should veterinary technicians become accustomed to communicating with clients regarding their pets?

- A. Many clients feel more comfortable discussing their pets with technicians rather than with veterinarians. (Correct)**
- B. Veterinarians are too busy to talk to clients.
- C. Technicians are inherently more talkative than veterinarians.
- D. Clinics charge less for time that technicians versus veterinarians spend talking with clients.

Rationale: Clients may feel more at ease discussing issues involving their pets with technicians than with the veterinarians. Issues ranging from euthanasia to behavior modification are routinely brought up directly to the technicians on duty and thus veterinary technicians must be open and willing to serve as a source of useful information regarding all areas of veterinary medicine.

Q29: Which of the following is true concerning specialist status for veterinary technicians?

- A. There are five areas of veterinary technician specialization.
- B. It is required that the specialist is a member of the state veterinary technician association.
- C. A master's degree is required.
- D. The specialist is identified with the initials VTS. (Correct)**

Rationale: VTS (Veterinary Technician Specialist) is included after the individual's name along with the area of specialty for that technician. Currently there are 12 specialties and 6 societies in which a certified veterinary technician can become a specialist with advanced training and expertise.

Q30: What is the difference between a veterinary technician and a veterinary technologist in the United States?

- A. Veterinary technologists are trained outside of the United States.
- B. Veterinary technicians are assigned more responsibility than technologists.
- C. Veterinary technologists require more formal education than technicians. (Correct)**
- D. There is no difference, and the titles depend solely on which college the person attended.

Rationale: Veterinary technologists are required to hold a bachelor's degree from an AVMA-accredited university program. Due to their higher degree of education compared to technicians, technologists often hold positions of higher responsibility and stature than their technician counterparts.

Chapter Review Questions - Chapter 01

Q1: Which of the following would be appropriate data gathered for subjective information about a patient?

A. Patient's mentation (Correct)

B. Patient's heart rate

C. Laboratory results

D. Patient's blood pressure

Rationale: Subjective information gathered on a patient includes observable information, such as the patient's history and nonmeasurable physical examination findings such as observations of the patient's mentation, degree of edema, estimated levels of dehydration, and degree of appetite level. TOP: The Profession of Veterinary Technology and Veterinary Nursing MSC: VTNE DOMAIN: Miscellaneous

Q2: Veterinary technicians are allowed to perform a variety of tasks delegated by the veterinarian. Which of the following tasks may only be performed by a licensed veterinarian?

A. Administer medication

B. Prescribe medication (Correct)

C. Place intravenous catheters

D. Monitor anesthesia

Rationale: Veterinary technicians may perform many tasks delegated by the veterinarian; however, only a veterinarian is allowed to perform the following tasks: prescribe medication, diagnose, prognose, or perform surgery. TOP: The Profession of Veterinary Technology and Veterinary Nursing MSC: VTNE DOMAIN: Miscellaneous

Q3: Controlled substances are categorized into specific classes or schedules based on what?

A. The drug's level of analgesia

B. The drug's level of anesthetic achievement

C. The drug's capacity for addiction (Correct)

D. The drug's level of potential death rate

Rationale: Controlled drugs are categorized into specific classes or schedules based on the drug's capacity for addiction. TOP: Additional Laws Governing Veterinary Practice MSC: VTNE DOMAIN: Miscellaneous

Q4: What level of education is required for a veterinary technologist?

A. Certification completion

B. 2-year associate degree

C. 4-year Bachelor of Science degree in veterinary technology (Correct)

D. On-the-job training

Rationale: Veterinary technologists hold a Bachelor of Science degree in veterinary technology from a 4-year AVMA-accredited program. TOP: Terminology and the Veterinary Health Care Team MSC: VTNE DOMAIN: Miscellaneous

Q5: Who owns a patient's medical records?

A. Veterinary practice (Correct)

- B. Practice manager
- C. Owner
- D. No one; it is public record

Rationale: The medical record is a legal document owned by the veterinary practice or supervising institution. TOP: Professionalism MSC: VTNE DOMAIN: Miscellaneous

Q6: Which statement about professional communication is TRUE?

- A. The veterinary technician should never send a text message to a pet owner.
- B. Electronic communication can be used in legal proceedings. (Correct)**
- C. Funny, silly, or cutesy animal-related email addresses help put pet owners at ease.
- D. A written email is a good way to deliver bad news.

Rationale: From a legal perspective, emails could be introduced as evidence in civil and administrative proceedings against veterinarians and veterinary technicians. In some practices texting is now used to send reminders or to let a pet owner know that a pet has come out of surgery. Silly, cutesy, and animal-related email addresses, such as bunnyluvr@comcast.net or pintaday@msn.com, may not represent a professional image. Bad news is appropriately delivered on the phone or in person, not in email or text. TOP: Professionalism MSC: VTNE DOMAIN: Communication and Veterinary Professional Support Services

Q7: When did veterinary technology first have a formal university-level program for the education of animal health technicians?

A. 1960 (Correct)

- B. 1980
- C. 2000
- D. 2010

Rationale: The profession of veterinary technology began to take form in the early 1960s with the establishment of the first formal university-level program for the education of animal health technicians. TOP: History Of Veterinary Technology MSC: VTNE DOMAIN: Miscellaneous

Q8: The VTNE examination is composed of 150 multiple choice questions which cover ten primary areas or domains within the profession of veterinary technology. Which domain is covered the most on the exam?

- A. Pharmacy and pharmacology
- B. Anesthesia
- C. Animal care and nursing (Correct)**

D. Surgical nursing

Rationale: The VTNE examination covers ten primary areas or domains within the profession of veterinary technology. Animal care and nursing contains the most content at 20% of the examination. TOP: The Veterinary Technician National Examination (VTNE) MSC: VTNE DOMAIN: Miscellaneous

Q9: Who is responsible for calculating and administering preoperative anesthetic agents?

- A. Kennel assistant
- B. Veterinary assistant
- C. Veterinary technician (Correct)**
- D. Veterinarian

Rationale: The veterinary technician is responsible for preparing the patient for entry into the operating room which includes calculating and administering preoperative anesthetic agents. TOP: The Profession of Veterinary Technology and Veterinary Nursing MSC: VTNE DOMAIN: Surgical Nursing

Q10: When is the appropriate time for a technician to perform the initial skin preparation for surgery?

- A. In the examination room prior to the owner leaving
- B. Prior to entering the operating room (Correct)**
- C. Once the patient is positioned on the operating table after all monitoring devices are in place
- D. Skin preparation prior to surgery is performed by the veterinarian only to ensure the proper area is prepared for that specific operation

Rationale: The appropriate time for the technician to perform the initial skin preparation for surgery is prior to entering the operating room after the patient is anesthetized to avoid any hair or contaminants from entering the operating room. TOP: The Profession of Veterinary Technology and Veterinary Nursing MSC: VTNE DOMAIN: Surgical Nursing