### ROYAL COLLEGE OF VETERINARY SURGEONS

# STATUTORY EXAMINATION FOR MEMBERSHIP

# The horse

PAPER 1 3 hours Day Month Year

This examination question paper is in two sections – Section A and Section B. Each section carries 50% of the total marks available for this examination paper and candidates are advised to allocate their time accordingly.

Within questions percentages in brackets are used to indicate what proportion of the marks for that question has been allocated to a particular part or sub-section of the question.

Candidates should answer **THREE** questions from Section A and should attempt **ALL** questions in Section B.

Candidates should start each answer on a new answer sheet and write the question number in the margin of each sheet used.

SECTION A (answer either (a) or (b) from each of the 3 pairs of questions)

- 1(a) The owner of an extensive riding stable complex calls you in to see a 4-year-old mare with complete anorexia, depression, a purulent nasal discharge, a severe pharyngitis/laryngitis, and enlarged lymph nodes in the throat region. You suspect *Streptococcus equi* infection (Strangles).
  - Describe firstly your approach to diagnosis and treatment of this case (50%).
  - Outline your advice to the owner of the riding stables concerning the control and prevention of *S. equi* infection (50%).

#### OR

- 1(b) An owner telephones to report that a horse has trodden on a 2-inch nail.
  - How may the consequences of such an injury vary? (40%)
  - Describe in detail how you would assess and treat the horse if the site of entry of the nail was found to be through the frog (60%)
- 2(a) A 10-year-old mare is presented to you in oestrus in May, having been served at both the seasons that she has had that year.
  - Describe the examinations you would carry out on the mare (40%).
  - Give **two** explanations for this situation (20%).
  - Select **one** of these two causes and discuss your likely findings (40%).

#### OR

2(b) Describe and discuss the complications which may arise from the castration of a mature horse (70%)

What measures would you take to minimise the possibility of the complications which you describe? (30%)

3(a) What relevance does the anatomy of the guttural pouches (external-auditory diverticuli) of the horse have to the pathophysiology, diagnosis, and treatment of guttural pouch mycosis and empyema? (100%)

#### OR

- 3(b) A 20-year-old gelding, that had been in colic for 15 hours, undergoes surgery to relieve a strangulating obstruction of 20 feet of distal jejunum and proximal ileum by resection and side-to-side jejunocaecal anastomosis.
  - What post-operative complications would you anticipate might develop, and why? (50%)
  - How would you recognise and manage them (50%)

## **SECTION B** (answer **all** questions)

- 1. List the metabolic consequences of rupture of the bladder in a 3-day-old thoroughbred foal (40%).
  - How may they influence the prognosis? (20%)
  - What steps would you take to correct them before embarking on surgery? (40%)
- 2. Using a simple diagram, briefly annotate the features which you might find on direct visual inspection, and with the aid of an ophthalmoscope, in a case of equine anterior uveitis.
- 3. You are called to examine a racehorse which has pulled up lame during a training gallop, and shows warm swelling at the caudal aspect of the metacarpus. How would you evaluate such a swelling (50%), and briefly comment on treatments, which might be used for the most likely causes of such a swelling (50%).
- 4. Write a concise account of the clinical signs (35%), diagnosis (35%), and treatment (30%) of ragwort (*Senecio jacobea*) poisoning in the horse.
- 5. Write **very concise** notes on the cause (20%), clinical signs (20%), diagnosis (20%), treatment (20%), and prevention (20%) of Equine Influenza.
- 6. Briefly outline why the risks of general anaesthesia in the horse are so much higher than for other domesticated species (50%). List the measures which should be taken to minimise the peri-operative fatality rate (50%).
- 7. Identify the potential radiation hazards which may arise during radiography of the horse's head (60%) and indicate how they may be avoided (40%).
- 8. List the various methods of pregnancy diagnosis in the mare, and the times at which they are most appropriately used.
- 9. List the clinical signs that might lead you to suspect Grass Sickness in an 8-year-old mare (50%). If a presumptive diagnosis of Grass Sickness is made, briefly outline the advice you would give to the owner of the mare (50%).
- 10. Describe briefly your recommendations for the winter feeding of a 600-kg horse being ridden hard three times weekly throughout this period.