Exam questions

If submitting exam questions for the diploma, please take into consideration the following information.

The examination consists of three parts:

Multiple choice questions
Short answer questions
Case-based questions

MCQs
- Must consist of one correct answer and three distractors i.e 4 possible answers

- The question must pass the 'cover-up test' meaning the question should be answerable from the stem alone without the requirement of the answers.

E.g.
Which cranial nerves are associated with the middle ear?

NOT

The following nerves are associated with the middle ear...

- Avoid using negatives within the stem

- Provide a reference for every question (preferably something from the reading list within 5 years)

SAQ

This exam aims to test the broad basic knowledge of the candidates such as anatomy, embryology, physiology, pharmacology, pathology (infectious, metabolic, toxic), seminology.

Questions are 20 marks and therefore consider writing a whole question or part of a question which you think will easily match with other questions on a topic. Single questions on something very niche are difficult to use in the exam.

As we are also stopping the single part exams on electrophysiology, pathology and imaging some questions on basic principles of these modalities may be asked.

For example, a short question on the anatomy of the ear could be matched to a short question on BAERs building an overall question of 20 marks.

Case-based questions

Candidates will sit two papers of five questions each consisting of 20 marks. The idea is to amalgamate the previous parts to test interpretation of videos, images, electrodiagnostics and pathology. The more information sent about a case the better, however it is not necessary for all the data from tests to be sent. For example, one person could send very good images of a discospondylitis case which could be matched with someone else's video. It would be useful however if a description of the case is sent with any material:

e.g. MNCV study from a 5 year old dog with suspected polyneuropathy
       Histopathology of a motor nerve including pathology report

If you wish to build an entire case question please note that this will be a no-return exam so it is possible to give the answer in subsequent parts of the question.

e.g.
i. Describe the neurological abnormalities in the exam and give the most likely localisation.
ii. You decide the dog has a peripheral neuropathy, what investigations would you recommend.

iii. Below is the EMG and MNC study of the dog. Describe the abnormalities and give an interpretation of your findings.

iv. From the pathology shown in the image below, explain why this dog has a reduced conduction velocity.

Please contact examcom@ECVN.org with any questions.