VECCS Facility Certification Checklists

The following checklists are for your convenience in preparing for your application. Please refer to them prior to submitting your application to ensure an expedited process.

QUICKLINKS

MEDICAL RECORDS CHECKLIST 2
FACILITY CHECKLIST 4
FACILITY AND INPATIENT CHECKLIST 5
EMERGENCY CAPABILITIES CHECKLIST 7
IN-PATIENT SUPPORT CHECKLIST 9
TEXTBOOKS CHECKLIST 12
Medical Records Checklist:
The Medical Record must include, but not be limited to:

- Client information
  - Name
  - Address
  - Phone number

- Referring veterinarian/clinic

- Patient identification or signalment
  - Name
  - Species
  - Breed
  - Age
  - Gender, including reproductive status.
  - Color (or photograph of the patient embedded into the template, which clearly identifies the patient)
  - Patient Rabies vaccination status
  - Patient body weight

- Chief complaint

- Patient history

- Vital signs
  - Temperature
  - Heart Rate
  - Pulse Quality
  - Respiratory Rate
  - Respiratory Effort
  - Mucous Membrane Color
  - Mental Status
  - Pain score (as evaluated and expressed numerically with a recognized veterinary pain scoring scale)

- Physical exam findings

- Clinical pathology tests performed; all abnormal results definitively listed.

- Diagnostic imaging performed, and their interpretation(s)

- Assessment, diagnosis, or differential diagnosis

- Procedures performed (include all anesthetic and surgical release forms, anesthesia logs, and surgery reports)

- All drugs administered, admixed, prescribed, and dispensed, to include:
  - Name of drug
  - Dose, by weight; frequency, and length of treatment
☐ Route of administration

○ Progress notes, such as SOAPs at shift changes.

○ Additional treatment and nursing notes, including ICU flow sheets

○ Client discharge instructions, including follow up instructions

○ All entries in the medical records should identify the individuals who administered the care, and entered data, with the date and time included.
Facility Checklist

Facilities should include the following:

- ER receiving/triage area
- ICU area
- Dedicated isolation area with documented infection control plan
- Dedicated surgical preparation area for patient (not to be in surgery room) (Level I and II Required)
- Dedicated surgical room
- Radiology room that complies with federal and state radiation safety regulations
- Oxygen (ER receiving/ICU/ISO/SX/Radiology)
- Anesthetic scavenging in ICU/SX/Radiology
- Suction (ER receiving/ICU/SX)
- Equipment sterilization capability and quality control
- Emergency preparedness plan or onsite backup power supply in case of power outage (Level II and III Required)
- System in place to supply ongoing power in case of power outage (Level I Required)
- Internet access to online emergency and critical care resource information
Facility and Inpatient Checklist

Staffing Veterinarians:
- Licensed DVM on premises during operating hours
- Consultation capabilities (onsite or via internet) with a DACVR for the review of diagnostic images when needed (Level I & II required) and/or other veterinary diplomates with a special interest and experience in EM/CC
- A DACVECC employed full time and available for consultation either on site or by phone 24/7 (Level I required)
- At least one Vet on duty at all times with at least 2 years practice experience or 1 year of SA internship (Level I, required)

Continuing education provided for professional and technical staff and must allow:
- Veterinarians and veterinary technicians to comply with CE requirements for state licensure.
- Veterinary specialists to meet specialty board CE requirements to maintain certification.
- Veterinary technician specialists to meet CE requirements of their respective specialty academy to maintain certification.
- A minimum of 75% of all CE obtained (either in-person or on-line) must be RACE approved with RACE number provided.
- Staff ER/CC vets to obtain min of 28 hours of CE every 2 years in the field of emergency medicine, surgery, and/or CC medicine.
- ACVECC residents must be in compliance with requirements of their training program.
  For all credentialed technicians and non-credentialed technician assistants, a minimum of 75% of all CE obtained (either in-person or on-line) must be RACE approved with RACE number provided.
- In-house training program should be provided for all techs to assure teamwork and familiarity with current procedures.
- Upon completion of in-house training program, non-credentialed techs should obtain a min of 10 hours of EM/CC CE every 2 years.
- CE for non-credentialed Techs can be obtained from college/technical program, local, state, or national CE events or in-house CE.
- Comprehensive, written training and CE program to include: Journal Club, Morbidity & Mortality rounds, wet labs (Level I Required)

Staffing Sufficient staff must be available to provide expedient patient care and allow:
- Processing of multiple patients concurrently
- Performance of a wide range of life-saving procedures to include, but not limited to, CPR and emergency surgery.
- Ability to call in additional staff as needed.
- Provision of timely and appropriate in-hospital patient care
- Appropriate and timely consultation with veterinary specialists
- At least two certified technicians employed full time (Level I Required)
- At least one Veterinary Technician Specialist (Emergency and Critical Care) (Level I, required)

Communications: Please confirm any of the following things your practice does:
- Updated list of vets with after-hours contact number and indicates if they are willing to be contacted (Highly recommended)
- Effective communications with primary care veterinarian maintained.
☐ A copy of the case summary including discharge instructions given to the clients at the time of patient discharge.

☐ The medical record/report faxed or electronically sent to the primary care veterinarian within 12 hours of a patient’s discharge.
Emergency Capabilities Checklist

Diagnose and manage life-threatening emergencies including:

- Cardiovascular, respiratory, metabolic, gastrointestinal, urogenital, neurologic and environmental
- Hematologic, hemorrhagic, toxicologic and coagulopathic problems

Perform procedures to address life-threatening problems including, but not limited to:

- Cardiopulmonary resuscitation
- Placement and maintenance of thoracostomy tubes
- Emergency tracheostomy and tracheostomy tube care
- Blood product administration
- Oxygen supplementation
- Assisted ventilation.

Perform emergency surgery including but not limited to:

- Surgical hemostasis, wound debridement, and application of wound dressings
- Stabilization of musculoskeletal injuries
- Aseptic thoracic and abdominal surgery

Treat circulatory shock using:

- Crystalloid fluids
- Colloid fluids
- Blood products
- Vasoactive drugs

Allow accurate delivery of fluids using:

- Calibrated burettes
- Infusion pumps

Administer analgesic therapy and anesthetic agents including but not limited to:

- Pure agonist opioids
- Pure mu agonist opioids
- Non-steroidal anti-inflammatory medication (Level I, required)
- Alpha-2 agonists
- Injectable and inhalation anesthetics
- Reversal agents for opiates and alpha-2 agonists and benzodiazepines
- Sedative medication

Provide intraoperative monitoring to include, but not limited to:

- Body temperature
- Electrocardiography
- Blood pressure
- Capnography
- Pulse oximetry

Proficiency and resources (equipment and staff training) to:

- Ultrasonographically detect life-threatening clinical problems including fluid in the thoracic, pericardial, & peritoneal spaces
- Evaluate and stabilize any small mammal, avian, and reptile (“exotic”) animals kept as pets (Level 1 Required)
- Provide volume- or pressure-cycled mechanical ventilation (Level I Required)
- Perform invasive blood pressure monitoring (Level I Required)
Perform endoscopy and bronchoscopy (Level I Required)
Perform diagnostic abdominal ultrasound and echocardiography (Level I Required)
In-Patient Support Checklist

Anesthesia:
- ☐ Warming support (FA, CWB, or HD)
- ☐ Logs/Records
- ☐ Anesthesia ventilator
- ☐ Ambubag(s) x 2
- ☐ Ambient warming unit/machine
- ☐ Oxygen drop downs in triage, radiology, anesthesia prep, surgery room, isolation
- ☐ Anesthesia scavenge in triage, radiology, specialties/endoscopy, anesthesia prep, surgery room

Small animal blood products:
- ☐ Blood typing capability (canine and feline)
- ☐ Canine fresh frozen plasma
- ☐ Feline fresh frozen (Level I & II Required)
- ☐ Canine packed red blood cells and/or whole blood (Level I and II Required)
- ☐ Feline type A packed red blood cells (Level I and II Required)
- ☐ Feline type B packed red blood cells or readily available donor (Recommended)
- ☐ Available screened canine and feline donors (onsite or local blood bank with 24 hour service) in lieu of packed (Level III Required)

Fluid Therapy:
- ☐ Crystalloids: Replacement (both types are required), 0.9% Saline AND isotonic buffered (Plasmalyte-A, Normosol-R)
- ☐ Crystalloids: Maintenance (eg. Plasma-Lyte 56, Normosol-M, 0.45% NaCl, 0.45% NaCl / 2.5% dextrose) (Level I & II Required)
- ☐ Crystalloids: Carrier (D5W) 0.9% saline
- ☐ Synthetic colloids
- ☐ Fluid pumps
- ☐ Syringe pumps
- ☐ Calibrated burettes
- ☐ Intravenous catheter: Peripheral
- ☐ Hypertonic saline, lipid solution 20% and intraosseous catheters
- ☐ Intravenous catheter: Central (Level I & II Required)

Nutritional:
- ☐ Esophagostomy tube feeding (Level I & II Required)
- ☐ Naso-esophageal or naso-gastric tube feeding
- ☐ Partial parenteral nutrition (Procalamine or Aminosyn) capability (Level I & II Required)
- ☐ Total parenteral nutrition capability (Level I Required) (proof of distributor or capability to provide)

Pharmacy:
- ☐ Activated charcoal
- ☐ Injectable mu agonist opioids with reversal agent
- ☐ Nonsteroidal anti-inflammatory agents
- ☐ Alpha-2 agonist
- ☐ Oral analgesic agents
- ☐ Injectable antibiotics (minimum: beta lactam, fluoroquinolone, aminoglycoside, metronidazole)
In-Patient Support Checklist

- Oral antibiotics
- Oral Anti-seizure medications
- Injectable Anti-seizure medications
- Injectable Antihistamine
- Injectable Corticosteroid
- Injectable Dextrose
- Oral short acting Corticosteroid
- Epinephrine
- Vasopressin
- Atropine
- Glycopyrrolate
- Calcium gluconate
- Potassium chloride
- Magnesium sulfate or magnesium chloride (Level I & II Required)
- Sodium phosphate or potassium phosphate (Level I & II Required)
- Insulin – Regular
- Lipid solution (20%)
- Injectable sedative medications
- Oral sedative medications
- Diltiazem (Level I & II Required)
- Dopamine
- Dobutamine
- Lidocaine
- Propranolol or Esmolol
- Sodium nitroprusside or hydralazine (Level I & II Required)
- Respiratory support:
  - Oxygenation (nasal/cage)
  - Ambu bag x2 /anesthetic
  - Anesthetic ventilator
  - Volume or pressure cycled ventilator (Level 1 Required)
- Monitoring:
  - Non-invasive blood pressure
  - Invasive blood pressure (Level I Required)
  - Body temperature
  - Capnometry/capnography
  - Electrocardiography
  - Pulse oximetry
  - Tonometry
  - Urinary catheter and closed collection system
- Diagnostics
  - Standard 300 Ma radiography machine
  - Digital 300 Ma radiography machine
  - Ultrasonography
  - Automatic processor (with standard radiography)
  - Endoscopy (Level I and II Required)
Bronchoscopy (Level I Required)
Laboratory equipment and testing in house:
☐ Packed cell volume
☐ Refractometric total solids
☐ CBC with manual differential reading
☐ Glucose
☐ Lactate
☐ Chemistry analyzer
☐ Electrolytes
☐ Blood gas
☐ PT Coagulation
☐ APTT Coagulation
☐ FIV/FELV antigen testing
☐ Cytology
☐ Urinalysis
☐ Fecal flotation
☐ Parvoviral antigen
Textbooks Checklist

General Physiology - an edition of ONE of the following published within the previous 10 years:
- Medical Physiology: A Cellular and Molecular Approach - Boron WF, Boulpaep EL
- Guyton and Hall Textbook of Medical Physiology - Hall JE
- Berne and Levy Principles of Physiology - Koeppen BM, Stanton BA
- Cunningham’s Textbook of Veterinary Physiology, 6th edition. - Klein BG

Veterinary Pharmacology - an edition of ONE of the following, published within the previous 15 years:
- Small Animal Clinical Pharmacology and Therapeutics, 2nd edition - Boothe DM
- Veterinary Pharmacology and Therapeutics, 10th edition. - Riviere JE, Papich MG

Veterinary Emergency and Critical Care - an edition of EACH of the following, published within the previous 10 years:
- Small Animal Critical Care Medicine - Silverstein DC, Hopper K.
- Manual of Trauma Management in the dog and Cat - Drobatz KJ, Beal MW, and Syring RS
- Monitoring and Intervention for the Critically Ill Small Animal (The Rule of 20) - Kirby R, Linklater A.

Veterinary ECC Technician Manuals - an edition of ONE of the following, published within the previous 10 years:
- Veterinary Emergency and Critical Care Manual - Mathews K
- Veterinary Emergency and Critical Care Procedures - Hackett TB, Mazzaferro EM
- Advanced Monitoring and Procedures for Small Animal Emergency and Critical Care - Burkitt-Creedon JM, Davis H.

Fluid Therapy/Acid-Base/Electrolyte Disorders - an edition of the following text published within the previous 10 years:
- Fluid, Electrolyte, and Acid-Base Disorders in Small Animal Practice, 4th edition. - DiBartola SP

General Veterinary Internal Medicine - an edition of ONE of the following, published within the previous 10 years:
- Textbook of Veterinary Internal Medicine, 8th edition. - Ettinger SJ, Feldman EC, Cole E (eds)
- Small Animal Internal Medicine, 5th edition - Nelson RW, Couto CG

Respiratory Medicine - an edition of one of the following texts:
- Clinical Canine and Feline Respiratory Medicine - Johnson LR (2010)

Veterinary Surgery - an edition of ONE of the following, published within the previous 10 years:
- Small Animal Surgery - Fossum TW
- Textbook of Veterinary Small Animal Surgery - Slatter D
- Veterinary Surgery: Small Animal Expert Consult - Johnston SA, Tobias KM

Veterinary Anesthesia - an edition of ONE of the following published within the previous 10 years:
Textbooks Checklist

- Veterinary Anesthesia & Analgesia - McKelvey D, Hollingshead KW
- Veterinary Anesthesia and Analgesia - Grimm KA, Lamont LA, Tranquilli WJ, Green SA, Roberston SA
- Handbook of Veterinary Anesthesia - Muir WW, Hubbell JAE

Veterinary Ophthalmology – an edition of ONE of the following, published within the previous 15 years:
- Essentials of Veterinary Ophthalmology - Gelatt KN
- Slatter’s Fundamentals of Veterinary Ophthalmology, Maggs D, Miller P, Ofrí R.

Veterinary Neurology–an edition of ONE of the following, published within the previous 15 years:
- Fundamentals of Veterinary Clinical Neurology. Bagley RS
- Handbook of Veterinary Neurology - Lorenz MD, Coates J, Kent M
- BSAVA Manual of Canine and Feline Neurology - Platt S, Olby N
- Veterinary Neuroanatomy and Clinical Neurology - de Lahunta A, Glass E
- Small Animal Neurological Emergencies, Platt S, Garosi L

Veterinary Oncology–an edition published within the previous 15 years:
- Withrow and MacEwen’s Small Animal Clinical Oncology - Vail DM, Thamm DH, Liptak J.

Veterinary Cardiology–an edition of ONE of the following, published within the previous 15 years:
- Textbook of Canine and Feline Cardiology- Fox PR, Sisson D, Moise NS
- Small Animal Cardiovascular Medicine - Kittleson MD, Keinle RD
- Cardiovascular Disease in Small Animal Medicine - Ware WA
- Manual of Canine and Feline Cardiology - Smith FWK, Tilley LP, Oyama M, Sleeper MM

Veterinary Pediatrics–an edition of ONE of the following, published within the previous 15 years:
- Veterinary Pediatrics- Dogs and Cats from Birth to Six Months- Hoskins JD
- Small Animal Pediatrics, by Peterson ME, Kutzler M
- Canine Reproduction and Neonatology- Greer ML

Veterinary Avian Medicine and Surgery–an edition of ONE of the following, published within the previous 15 years:
- Avian Medicine and Surgery - Altman RB, Claub K, Dorrestein GM, Quesenberry K
- Avian Medicine and Surgery in Practice- Donely B
- Essentials of Avian Medicine and Surgery - Coles B

Veterinary Toxicology–an edition of ONE of the following, published within the previous 15 years:
- Veterinary Toxicology: Basic and Clinical Principles - Gupta RC
- Clinical Veterinary Toxicology- Plumlee KH
- Small Animal Toxicology - Peterson ME, Talcott MA
- Blackwell’s Five-Minute Veterinary Consult Clinical Companion: Small Animal Toxicology - Hovda L, Brutlag A, Poppenga R, Peterson K

Veterinary Diagnostic Imaging:
- Textbook of Veterinary Diagnostic Radiology - Thrall DE
- Focused Ultrasound Techniques for the Small Animal Practitioner, Lisciandro GR

Veterinary Clinical Pathology–an edition of ONE of the following published within the previous 15 years:
Textbooks Checklist

- Fundamentals of Veterinary Clinical Pathology - Stockham SL, Scott MA.
- Duncan and Prasse’s Veterinary Laboratory Medicine: Clinical Pathology - Latimer KS
- Small Animal Clinical Diagnosis by Laboratory Methods - Willard MD, Tvedten H
- Veterinary Hematology and Clinical Chemistry - Thrall MA, Weiser G, Allison R, Campbell T
- Specific Topic Areas of Veterinary Medicine- an edition of ALL of the following published within the previous 15 years:
  - Infectious Diseases of the Dog and Cat, 4th edition - Greene CE, Sykes J (eds)
  - Nutritional Management of Hospitalized Small Animals, Chan DL (ed)
  - Canine and Feline Gastroenterology, - Washabau RJ, Day MJ
  - Manual of Veterinary Transfusion Medicine and Blood Banking- Yagi K, Holowaychuk M
  - Ferrets, Rabbits, and Rodents- Quesenberry K, Mans C, Orcutt C, Carpenter J (ed)
  - Current Therapy in Reptile Medicine and Surgery- Mader D, Divers SJ (eds)
  - Exotic Animal Formulary - Carpenter R, Carpenter J, Marion C.
  - Clinical Veterinary Advisor-Birds and Exotic Pets - Mayer J, Donnelly TM.

Veterinary Journals- All three are required to be available
- Journal of Veterinary Emergency and Critical Care
- Journal of the American Veterinary Medical Association
- NAVTA Journal