



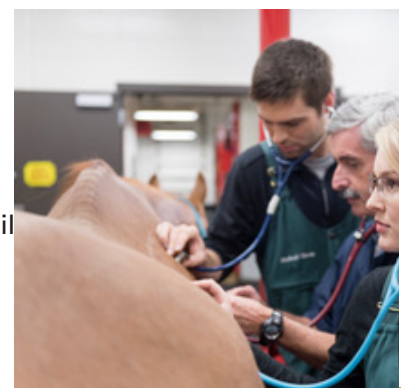
International Council for  
**Veterinary  
Assessment**



# NAVLE<sup>®</sup> Competency Domains



The NAVLE is developed through a collaboration of the International Council for Veterinary Assessment and the National Board of Medical Examiners<sup>®</sup>



*NAVLE Competency Domains* provides an outline of competencies assessed on the NAVLE.

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# NAVLE Practice Analysis Competency Domains

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## **Communications**

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# Clinical Practice

## Data Gathering and Interpretation

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- Create or update medical records
- Develop a differential diagnosis
- Formulate a diagnostic plan
- Formulate possible differential diagnoses
- Interpret cytologic specimens
- Interpret diagnostic images (e.g., ECG, endoscopy, ultrasound, x-ray)
- Interpret findings from laboratory tests (e.g., urine, blood, tissue)
- Interpret findings from physical examination
- Interpret findings from postmortem specimen
- Interpret principles of pathophysiology and mechanism of action
- Interpret results of system-specific examination (e.g., ophthalmic, cardiovascular, musculoskeletal, dental)
- Investigate possible exposure of companion animal to toxin
- Investigate possible exposure of food or game animal to toxin
- Observe or interpret an animal's mental status and other aspects of behavior
- Obtain animal health history from client
- Obtain diagnostic images (e.g., ultrasound, x-ray)
- Obtain specimens or samples for laboratory studies (e.g., urine, blood, tissue)
- Perform general physical examination
- Perform postmortem examination to determine cause of death
- Perform standard diagnostic tests on samples (e.g., urine, blood, tissue)
- Perform system-specific examination (e.g., ophthalmic, cardiovascular, musculoskeletal dental)
- Prioritize need for diagnostic procedures considering available resources

- Read and interpret production records or farm-based computer reports to understand herd-level health parameters
- Review animal medical records to determine health status

## Health Maintenance and Problem Management

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- Administer a biological or pharmacological agent other than anesthesia, including blood, vaccinations, drugs, and medications
- Administer general anesthesia
- Administer local anesthesia
- Apply a splint, cast or other stabilization device
- Care for wounds or surgical incisions (e.g., suture, dress)
- Determine prognosis
- Establish a rehabilitation plan
- Establish a treatment plan
- Evaluate a treatment outcome
- Formulate or evaluate a behavior modification plan
- Formulate patient/herd/population management and treatment plans (e.g., stall rest, medication, raising curtains in a pig barn, testing feed)
- Perform common therapeutic/surgical procedures (e.g., tissue biopsy, wound drainage)
- Perform major surgical procedures (e.g., abdominal, orthopedic)
- Prescribe a biological or pharmacological agent
- Refer clients to veterinary specialists for further diagnostic studies or treatment
- Synthesize multiple sources of diagnostic information, including local disease prevalence, to determine diagnosis
- Treat minor injuries or trauma (e.g., abrasions, laceration, eye wound)

# Communications



## Communications with Veterinary and Other Professionals

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- Build relationships with junior colleagues or new graduates
- Consult with other veterinarians or veterinary specialists regarding animal care
- Delegate delivery of veterinary care and services to associates or staff
- Deliver verbal case summaries to other veterinarians or members of the health care team
- Describe disaster preparedness plan to coworkers
- Engage regulatory bodies to improve standards of practice or to address other professional issues
- Explain results of research to non-veterinary health workers (e.g., staff, other agencies)
- Guide the work of associates or other staff in the delivery of veterinary services
- Mentor and supervise veterinary and veterinary technician students
- Respond to unprofessional or unethical behavior in others
- Train staff in animal health and care
- Write a case summary for use by other veterinarians or members of the health care team

## Communication with Clients

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- Advise client on health maintenance for herd, flock or individual pet (e.g., husbandry, production management, public health, wellness exams)
- Advise client regarding appropriate and inappropriate pharmacy compounding
- Discuss euthanasia with client
- Discuss strategies with producer or client to reduce antibiotic resistance and/or antibiotic residues
- Discuss the limits of legal extra-label drug use with client
- Ensure that client understands the effects of prescribed pharmaceuticals, including chemotherapeutics (e.g., withdrawal time, side effects)
- Explain diagnosis and prognosis to clients using lay terminology
- Explain research results to client, describing its implications for animal care
- Help clients differentiate trustworthy from unreliable information (e.g., from Internet or advertisements) to support the care of their animals
- Inform client of bad news (e.g., animal terminal illness, show animal that can't be bred)
- Instruct clients on how to obtain diagnostic information from an animal's home environment (e.g., sleeping respiratory rate, stool or urine samples)
- Instruct clients on methods for isolating and quarantining diseased animals
- Negotiate payment plan with a client
- Obtain informed consent from client
- Provide instruction regarding food safety practices
- Provide verbal instructions to client regarding follow-up care (e.g., medications, wound care, environmental enrichment)
- Recommend management options to clients that are consistent with their cultural norms and personal values
- Refer client for grief counseling
- Talk with client to clarify concerns and expectations regarding type and level of care

- Teach client about preventive care (e.g., nutrition, behavior, dental, vaccines, parasites)
- Use appropriate communication techniques (e.g., open-ended inquiry, empathy)
- Write a summary of animal care instructions for a client

# **Professionalism, Practice Management, and Wellness**

## Veterinary Practice Management

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- Apply appropriate animal restraint
- Describe workings of benefit plan (e.g., retirement, health insurance) to staff
- Develop a budget for own practice or employer
- Develop standard operating procedures (e.g., procedures manual for practice or work environment)
- Evaluate and purchase major medical equipment
- Evaluate and purchase office/practice management software
- Evaluate new medications, products, or treatment procedures to determine suitability for own practice
- Negotiate work or practice arrangements (e.g., compensation, work schedule) with colleagues
- Prepare or update employee handbook
- Purchase expendable supplies (e.g., pharmaceuticals, dressing)
- Review practice management data, including business and financial records
- Supervise paraprofessional or technical support staff

## Professional Development and Lifelong Learning

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- Attend a professional development seminar or workshop
- Attend training on emerging technologies in veterinary medicine
- Conduct oneself in a professional, ethical, and legal manner
- Consult reference materials (e.g., journals, online databases, other) to help formulate diagnosis or treatment options
- Encourage veterinarian and support staff wellness
- Exchange new scientific or technical information with other health professionals
- Give a talk at a professional meeting
- Participate in activities of local, national, or international professional association (e.g., state veterinarian association)
- Participate in online professional development activity
- Participate in or conduct an investigation to test a new procedure (e.g., diagnostic, nutritional, medication, surgical)
- Participate in professional development activities (e.g., continuing education, board certification)
- Read a journal article for professional development

# **Preventive Medicine and Animal Welfare**

## Animal Welfare Issues and Concerns

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- Certify that animals or animal products meet certain standards (e.g., living conditions, sanitation, health or disease status)
- Conduct or oversee an animal welfare audit
- Conduct periodic/annual examinations on client animals and discuss vaccination, deworming, diet, exercise, and other wellness considerations
- Explain to client the components of an animal welfare audit
- Identify and take action on animal welfare problems
- Verify that diseased or infected animals have been managed according to professional or governmental guidelines
- Work with community groups or regulatory bodies to address the ethical treatment, health, and welfare of animals



## Environmental Health and Safety

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- Apply isolation or quarantine and/or disinfection measures to own work environment as a means of disease prevention/control
- Ensure proper disposal of biomedical waste
- Evaluate animal environments to identify possible epidemiological problems and public health concerns
- Inform client or community about effective methods for managing animal or human waste
- Inspect practice environment (e.g., clinic, vehicle) to ensure that it is safe and accessible
- Instruct client about methods to humanely terminate diseased animals and dispose of infected carcasses
- Instruct staff, colleagues, or others about proper technique for disposal of biomedical waste
- Monitor workplace to verify that it complies with hazardous materials requirements

## Veterinary Public Health

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- Apply isolation or quarantine procedures as a means of disease prevention and control
- Collaborate or consult with clients, health professionals, government agencies, or community groups on public health issues such as food safety and zoonotic disease
- Conduct a community education workshop on some topic related to animal or human health
- Consult with community stakeholders about animal population control
- Discuss animal care options with an immunocompromised owner
- Formulate a patient/herd management and/or treatment plan for public health and/or zoonotic disease cases or concerns
- Inform clients or community about prevention and treatment of zoonotic organism exposure
- Inspect food to ensure consumer safety
- Investigate a disease outbreak
- Participate in disease control or eradication program
- Participate in epidemiologic inquiry of a reportable disease by collecting, handling, or transporting specimens/samples
- Report a transboundary or zoonotic disease to state, regional, or national agency

## Veterinary Epidemiology and Biostatistics

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- Apply the fundamentals of epidemiology and/or biostatistics
- Interpret biostatistical or epidemiologic principles or problems
- Investigate epidemiologic problems