

**LIST OF PRACTICAL PROCEDURES  
SAVC REGISTRATION EXAMINATION - 2026  
VETERINARY PHYSIOTHERAPISTS**

**SMALL ANIMALS**

| <b>Small Animals - Panel 1</b>   |                            |               |
|----------------------------------|----------------------------|---------------|
| Station 1                        | Orthopaedic assessment     | [10 %]        |
| Station 2                        | Neurological assessment    | [10 %]        |
| Station 3                        | Laser and TENS/EMS therapy | [10 %]        |
| Station 4                        | Active Exercise therapy    | [10 %]        |
| Station 5                        | Hydrotherapy               | [10 %]        |
| <b>Full Clinical Examination</b> |                            | <b>[50 %]</b> |
| <b>Total</b>                     |                            |               |

\* ALL stations have to be completed and passed before gaining access to the full clinical examination.

**Small Animal Practical Assessment Stations – Examination Outline – Examination Structure**

This component of the small animal practical examination will include 5 stations that test different aspects of the veterinary physiotherapy assessment and treatment. There will be an orthopaedic assessment station, a neurological assessment station, an electrotherapy station, an active exercise station and the hydrotherapy station. These stations have to be completed and passed before gaining access to the full clinical examination.

**1. Orthopaedic Assessment**

The applicant will be asked to perform 3 different evaluation components, examples as listed in the questions below.

**2. Neurological Assessment**

The applicant will be asked to perform 3 techniques related to a small animal neurological examination. They must be able to demonstrate and interpret the technique correctly, as well as discuss what is being tested.

List of techniques include - FL reflexes; HL reflexes; CP tests; Functional tests such as hopping, hemiwalking etc; Cranial nerve testing.

**3. Laser & TENS Therapy**

The applicant will be asked to demonstrate the application of 3 electrotherapy modalities for a given scenario. They need to be able to use the machine, choose the correct settings, and apply it to the dog. Questions surrounding the modality can be asked during their stations.

#### 4. Active Exercise Therapy

The applicant will be asked to demonstrate specific exercises related to a case. They need to justify their choice of exercise and demonstrate the exercise correctly. They need to be able to discuss the goals and progression of the exercise, as well as interpret the dog's ability to do the exercise.

#### 5. Hydrotherapy

This station would be run in the same way as the hydrotherapy examinations that have already been completed. The rubrics and information for that are available.

### Small Animal Clinical Assessment – Examination Structure

#### EXAMINATION COMPONENTS/SKILLS

1. Safety, Handling & Animal Welfare
2. Static Conformation & Posture Assessment
3. Gait Assessment
4. Musculoskeletal
5. Neurological Examination (if appropriate to case)
6. Integrated Case Reasoning & Case Presentation
7. Treatment Planning and Demonstration
  - Evaluation of Intervention Success
8. Communication
9. Theory Integration

#### EQUINES

| Equines - Panel 2                |                            |               |
|----------------------------------|----------------------------|---------------|
|                                  |                            |               |
| Station 1                        | Orthopaedic assessment     | [10 %]        |
| Station 2                        | Neurological assessment    | [10 %]        |
| Station 3                        | Laser and TENS/EMS therapy | [10 %]        |
| Station 4                        | Active Exercise therapy    | [10 %]        |
| Station 5                        | Kinesiotape station        | [10 %]        |
| <b>Full Clinical Examination</b> |                            | <b>[50 %]</b> |
| <b>Total</b>                     |                            | <b>Marks</b>  |

\* ALL stations have to be completed and passed before gaining access to the full clinical examination.

## **Equines Assessment Stations – Examination Outline - Examination Structure**

This component of the equine practical examination will include 5 stations that test different aspects of the veterinary physiotherapy assessment and treatment. There will be an orthopaedic assessment station, a neurological assessment station, an electrotherapy station, kinesiotopeing and an active exercise station. These stations have to be completed and passed before gaining access to the full clinical examination.

### **1. Orthopaedic Assessment and Manual Therapy**

The applicant will be asked to perform 3 different evaluation or treatment techniques, examples as listed in the questions below.

### **2. Neurological Assessment**

The applicant will be asked to perform 3 techniques related to an equine neurological examination. They must be able to demonstrate and interpret the technique correctly, as well as discuss what is being tested.

### **3. Electrotherapy**

The applicant will be asked to demonstrate the application of 3 electrotherapy modalities for a given scenario. They need to be able to use the machine, choose the correct settings, and apply it to the horse. Questions surrounding the modality can be asked during their stations.

### **4. Active Exercise Therapy**

The applicant will be asked to demonstrate specific exercises related to a case. They need to justify their choice of exercise and demonstrate the exercise correctly. They need to be able to discuss the goals and progression of the exercise, as well as interpret the horse's ability to do the exercise.

### **5. Kinesiology taping**

The applicant will be asked to demonstrate specific taping techniques/applications that are indicated for a specific case.

## **Equines Clinical Assessment – Examination Structure**

### **EXAMINATION COMPONENTS/SKILLS**

1. Safety, Handling & Animal Welfare
3. Static Conformation & Posture Assessment
4. Gait Assessment
5. Musculoskeletal
6. Neurological Examination (if appropriate to case)
7. Integrated Case Reasoning & Case Presentation
8. Treatment Planning and Demonstration
  - Evaluation of Intervention Success
9. Communication
10. Theory Integration

[VC/6/2/EXAMS/Doc E – VET PHYSIOS: MAR 2026]