

Aquatic Veterinary Board Certification & Specialisation Programs



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<http://www.anzcvs.org.au>

(<http://TheFishVet.com.au>)

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Medicine, Bucharest, Romania

Presentation Objectives

Using the ANZCVS Member & Fellow Programs:

- Compare & contrast different programs for advanced training, recognition and credentialing **highly advanced knowledge, skills, experience (KSEs)** in aquatic veterinary medicine (equivalent to Board Certification).
- Stimulate workshop discussion for establishing global networks for expanding & harmonising advanced aquatic veterinary credentialing.



Need for Advanced Training & KSEs in Aquatic Vet Medicine

Out with the adage of

- “There’s not much known about fish”.
 - Significant specialised knowledge and technology is available.
- “Veterinarians know nothing about fish.”
 - Veterinarians interested in this field need to be fast-tracked, or risk the whole profession being left behind.



Existing Programs

- American College of Zoological Medicine - Board Certification in Zoological Medicine
 - 1st author ≥ 5 refereed papers
 - ≥6 years zoo medicine experience
 - ≥2 years approved post-graduate program
 - ≥1 year supervision by a Diplomate



Existing Programs

- American College of Zoological Medicine - Board Certification in Zoological Medicine
 - Qualifying exam (20% each of aquatics, avian, herpetile, mammal, wildlife)
 - In the aquatics, it is ~50% fish & ~50% aq. Mammals
- Certifying exam (100% of the chosen subgroup).
- DipACZM



Existing Programs

- Royal College of Veterinary Surgeons(UK)
- Certificate in Fish Health and Production (CFHP)
 - Total 2 awarded <1997 & none since.
 - Replaced by Modular Qualifications provided by university, accredited by RCVS (but none approached).
- Diploma in Fish Health and Production (DFHP)
 - None enrolled.
 - Phased out in favour of European Diploma.





The Australian & New Zealand College of Veterinary Scientists

AU/NZ College Objectives

- Seeks to serve the veterinary profession and reward excellence.
- Invite more international participation and global recognition of the Membership (MANZCVS) & Fellowship (FANZCVS) programs.




The Australian & New Zealand College of Veterinary Scientists

Aquatic Animal Health Chapter

- Acknowledges the diversity of species and environmental niches for the study of fish diseases.
- Purely fish, crustacea and mollusc (others around the world include marine mammals).




The Australian & New Zealand College of Veterinary Scientists

Why Choose ANZCVS?

- It is the highest level of specialised exams in fish.
- Two levels of qualification:
 - **Memberships** - no formal course work involved; self-paced study with a mentor.
 - **Fellowships** - formal training program needs to be negotiated to fulfil the requirements.




The Australian & New Zealand College of Veterinary Scientists

Membership Requirements & Recognition

- Signifies that a veterinarian demonstrates a high level of interest and competence in a given area of veterinary activity.
- Admission by examination (written and oral/practical) with a pass mark of $\geq 70\%$.
- ≥ 4 years post-graduate experience as a veterinarian & ≥ 2 years experience in the field.
- Examinations held every 2 years.




The Australian & New Zealand College of Veterinary Scientists

College Members

- Members by examination of the Aquatic Animal Health Chapter (since 2001, all veterinarians):

– Paul Hardy-Smith	– Ian Anderson
– Rob Jones	– Rachel Bowater
– Matthew Landos	– Alistair Brown
– Richmond Loh	– Richard Callinan
– Colin Johnston	– Roger Chong
– Stephen Pyecroft	– Kevin Ellard
– Frances Stephens	– Judith Handlinger
– Wendy Townsend	




The Australian & New Zealand College of Veterinary Scientists

Fellowship Requirements & Recognition

- Signifies that a veterinarian meets the prerequisites for registration as a Veterinary Specialist in Australia and/or New Zealand.
- Standards for Aquatic Animal Fellowship recently established.
- Collect a case log & sit examinations.





Summary of minimum requirements (designed by candidate, approved by College):

- Compile a credentials document.
- 96 weeks - 40h week directed training by a Fellow or fellow-equivalents.
- 600 cases (pathobiology).
- 3 primary publications.
- 7 learning objectives/streams.
- Demonstration of 'depth' as well as 'breadth' of expert knowledge.
- 8 weeks of externship learning at an institution other than those of your teaching team.
- Examination fee ~AUD\$4,000-5,000.
- Cost probably about >AUD\$25,000 all up with externships etc. costs of travel.



New Programs

- European College of Aquatic Veterinary Medicine
 - Aquatic Veterinary Board Certification
- USA
 - Board Certified Fish Veterinary Medicine



Pros & Cons of Highly Advanced Credentialing

Pros

- The learning process.
- Networking.
- Who will benefit?
 - Clients, industry, government, veterinary profession.

Cons

- Is there a demand?
- Aquatic field is too diverse.
- Who will examine?
- Who will recognise the credential?



How to get involved, contribute & networking opportunities

- World Aquatic Veterinary Medical Association.
- NOVICE (Europe).
- Aust. & NZ College of Veterinary Scientists.
- Fish Veterinary Society (UK).
- Canadian Association of Aquaculture Veterinarians.
- Eastern Aquaculture Veterinary Association.
- Association Française des Vétérinaires Aquacoles.
- Sociedad Chilena de Médicos Veterinarios Especialistas en Acuicultura.



Websites

- **Diploma in Fish Health and Production**
- <http://www.rcvs.org.uk/education/postgraduate-education-for-veterinary-surgeons/diplomas/#fish>
- **American College of Zoological Medicine**
- http://www.aczm.org/content.aspx?page_id=22&club_id=366916&module_id=49001
- **Australian & New Zealand College of Veterinary Scientists**
- http://www.ancvcs.org.au/info_assets/documents/Membership%20guidelines/Aquatic%20Health%20Guidelines%202007-f%20Reformatted%20Dec%2011.pdf



The Australian and New Zealand
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