

C-E.17 Basic Equine Practice Part 3

Credits: 10 (100 hours)

Provider: Veterinary Postgraduate Unit – School of Veterinary Science

RCVS Content Covered

Click [here](#) to view the module content as outlined by the RCVS.

Aim of the Module

The aim of this module is to develop basic undergraduate knowledge and practice experience involving the approach to and management of equine diseases affecting the musculoskeletal system and neonatal foals as well as to develop knowledge and experience relevant to the areas of equine toxicology, therapeutics and surgery relevant to equine practice.

Learning Outcomes

At the end of the module, candidates should be able to:

1. critically evaluate the clinical disease syndromes and the approach to diseases affecting the musculoskeletal system and neonatal foal and apply this knowledge in the diagnostic evaluation and treatment of clinical cases;
2. critically evaluate common neoplastic disorders affecting the horse, including their investigation, management and prognosis;
3. critically evaluate the principles of basic equine surgery and peri-operative care so as to minimise surgical infection, time to wound healing and post-operative complications;
4. critically evaluate the pharmacology and use of the major drug groups, and their applicability to the various body systems, and the legal and ethical aspects of drug use;
5. critically investigate toxicological problems in equine practice;
6. apply clinical reasoning skills and evidence-based medicine in the diagnostic approach and management of diseases relevant to the topics covered;
7. critically appraise the literature relevant to clinical cases in the topics covered, and how the literature can be used to inform practice;
8. critically reflect on the appropriate case for onward referral.

Module Structure

The syllabus will be divided into 5 study units, preceded by an introductory week, each containing basic lecture and reading material supported by weekly interactions in the form of asynchronous case-based discussions, other discussions and/or synchronous journal clubs/literature critiques.

Study Unit 1 will cover the diagnostic approach and management of diseases in horses affecting the musculoskeletal system and neonatal foals respectively. The focus is on the

diagnostic approach, clinical reasoning process and evidence-based medicine. In both units, a problem based or clinical syndrome-based approach will also be utilised.

Study Unit 2 Equine Neoplastic Conditions

This unit will cover the diagnosis, pathophysiology, prognosis and therapeutic options for common neoplastic disorders affecting the horse.

Study Unit 3 Equine Toxicology

This unit will cover the clinical syndromes of common toxicological problems encountered in equine practice and discuss the forensic investigation of suspected toxicological problems in equine practice.

Study Unit 4 Therapeutics

This unit will discuss the pharmacological principles behind commonly used drugs and other therapeutic protocols used in equine medicine, and their applicability to the various body systems. Legal and ethical aspects of drug use will also be covered.

Study Unit 5 Principles of equine surgery

This unit will cover the principles of equine surgery including selection and use of appropriate surgical instruments and suturing techniques as well as peri-operative care so as to minimise surgical infection, time to wound healing and post-operative complications.

Assessment Strategy

- **2 x 1500-word reflective case reports (60%)**
On a topic related to the relevant study units, students are required to reflect on their own practice, using evidence-based veterinary medicine to inform their reflection. Reflective case reports are written following the format of published case reports in the veterinary literature. The case report component of the assessment must be passed for successful completion of the module, and is non-compensatory with other assessments, however there is compensation between case reports. Case reports are also submitted to a discussion board for critique and discussion by/with peers. A proportion of marks for this assessment are also allocated to this discussion element.
- **1 x 1-hour open book examination (30%)**
Based around clinical scenarios/cases, relevant to the module study units.
- **1 x written journal critique (not more than 500 words) and short oral presentation of the critique (15 minutes) (10%)**
Hosted by a staff member online synchronously using MS Teams. Students present their critique to the group, and the tutor and the students then hold a discussion of all papers. These are assessed on the submitted critique as well as the discussion.
- **1 x case log – 10 cases (pass/fail)**
The case log assessment is designed to assist the candidate in developing a solid foundation for everyday equine practice and demonstrate the necessary knowledge and skill base in the clinical setting.

Assessments are submitted sequentially with feedback being given between assessments to aid in the development of writing skills.

PLEASE NOTE: It is your responsibility to ensure that you have access to sufficient appropriate cases where you were the primary decision maker to produce adequate material for the module. This may not be possible with some internship positions. You must also be aware of any limitations of your facilities that may make the accumulation of appropriate cases difficult or impossible.