

C-E.2 Equine Cardiovascular and Respiratory Disease

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 aims of this module are to develop knowledge/skills of disease and disorders involving the cardiovascular and respiratory systems in horses and their management, including preventive health strategies.

Learning Outcomes

By the end of this module successful candidates will be able to:

1. using case-based examples, systematically apply the principles of equine cardiovascular and respiratory physiology and disease to the practice situation incorporating clinical reasoning skills and evidence based veterinary medicine;
2. synthesise appropriate protocols for diagnosis, treatment and control of different types of equine cardiovascular and respiratory diseases;
3. critically appraise literature relevant to the respiratory and cardiovascular systems and explain how the literature can be used to inform practice;
4. critically review and reflect on your clinical work, including identifying potential clinical audit points translating to new protocols or measurable outcomes.

Module Structure

The syllabus will be divided into 4 study units, each containing 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: Principles of cardiovascular and respiratory disease

Anatomical, physiological, immunological and pathological processes involved in thoracic disease, including the relationships between the cardiovascular and respiratory systems and the overall health status of the patient.

The principles and practical application of equine exercise physiology.

Study Unit 2: Cardiovascular Disorders

Clinical presentation, diagnosis, treatment and prevention of diseases of the equine cardiovascular system.

Using a problem-orientated approach in horses of all age groups presenting with cardiac murmurs, cardiac arrhythmias, fainting, collapse, haemorrhage, peripheral oedema and vascular lesions.

Study Unit 3: Respiratory Disorders

The clinical presentation, diagnosis, treatment and prevention of diseases of the equine upper and lower respiratory tract and pleural cavity.

Use of a problem-orientated approach in horses of all age groups presenting with reduced exercise tolerance, respiratory noise, nasal discharge, epistaxis, coughing, respiratory distress.

Study Unit 4: Infectious respiratory disease and Preventive Health

Preventive health care relating to the equine area, including consideration of disease control regulations of the Jockey Club and other regulatory bodies in the equestrian industry.

The biology of micro-organisms and parasites that are associated with equine cardiovascular and respiratory diseases to pathogenesis and methods of diagnosis, treatment and control.

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 group discussion (10%)**
Hosted by a staff member online synchronously using MS Teams. 2-4 students critique the same paper, and then discuss their critiques and any variations with 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.