

## C-E.6 Equine Lameness (A)

**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 in-depth understanding of equine orthopaedic conditions from the diagnostic approach to the principles of treatment.

### Learning Outcomes

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

1. critically evaluate the approach to, pathophysiology and treatment of orthopaedic diseases including joint, tendon and bone disease, conditions of the neck, back and pelvis and neuromuscular system in adult horses;
2. apply clinical reasoning skills and evidence-based medicine in the diagnostic approach and management of diseases relevant to the topic covered;
3. critically appraise the literature relevant to clinical cases in the topics covered and how the literature can be used to inform practice;
4. critically reflect on the appropriate case for onward referral.

### Module Structure

The syllabus will be divided into 3 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: Pathophysiology of joint, tendon and bone disease in adult horses

##### Joint disease

- Pathophysiology (osteoarthritis and synovial infections)
- Principles of treatment (including anti-inflammatory medications and their detection)

##### Tendons

- Pathophysiology degenerative, traumatic, infectious conditions
- Principles of treatment

##### Bones

- Principles of bone healing, bone adaptation
- Pathophysiology of disease/fracture/osseous infections
- Emergency treatment of fractures

- Including principles of fracture repair casting, splinting and general principles behind internal fixation techniques
- Orthopaedic conditions of the head, including the temporomandibular joint and fractures of the upper / lower jaws and face

### **Study Unit 2: Diagnostic Approach to orthopaedic disease in adult horses**

- Lameness diagnostic techniques including regional and intra-synovial analgesia, laboratory methods and gait analysis
- Imaging techniques

### **Study Unit 3: Orthopaedic disorders involving the back, neck and pelvis and neuromuscular system**

Neck, back and pelvis

- Knowledge of basic conditions affecting these areas
- Physiotherapy and its role in veterinary practice

Muscle disease in horses

- Metabolic, traumatic, DOMS etc.

Neurological disease

- Neurological examination
- Peripheral neuropathies

This module will also incorporate the generic skills of evidence-based medicine, clinical reasoning, literature review and critique, communication, clinical audit and reflection.

### **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.