UNIVERSITY OF
LIVERPOOL

C-EBVM.1 Evidence Based Veterinary Medicine

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 module aims to develop students' understanding of the theory and practice of evidence based veterinary medicine, including its advantages and limitations.

It also aims to enable students to apply this understanding to their own particular area of practice in order to improve the quality of decision making and ultimately the quality of veterinary healthcare.

Learning Outcomes

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

1. transform current and relevant veterinary clinical and practice problems into answerable scientific questions;
2. systematically search the literature for the best evidence with which to support decision-making in veterinary practice;
3. critically appraise the validity and usefulness of various types of research studies relating to chosen areas of veterinary practice;
4. apply new evidence into clinical practice by synthesising new protocols for the improvement of veterinary healthcare;
5. critically reflect on the application and implantation of evidence-based approaches in a specified area of veterinary practice.

Module Structure

According to the RCVS, safeguarding the welfare of animals committed to veterinary care and safeguarding the wider public interest is dependent on veterinary practitioners grounding their decisions on sound, objective and up-to-date evidence.

Appropriate use of evidence is a fundamental component of Clinical Governance, the approach to maintaining and improving quality of care which emphasises patient safety, clinical effectiveness and patient & client experience and which forms part of the professional responsibilities of all UK veterinary surgeons.

This CertAVP module in Evidence Based Veterinary Medicine (EBVM) is aimed not just at clinicians wishing to learn more about evidence-based approaches to the care of individual patients but also to veterinary surgeons required to make decisions about the care of animal populations and the wider provision of veterinary healthcare. It is intended to provide candidates with the tools needed to make evidence-based decisions in veterinary practice

and to encourage them to think critically about the wider regulatory and developmental implications of EBVM.

This module is based around five key steps:

1. Converting information needs into answerable questions
2. Searching for evidence
3. Critically appraising the quality and applicability of research
4. Application to practice and implementation
5. Evaluating (assessing) performance

Students may undertake the module from any practice perspective (such as clinical, population heath, healthcare management and animal health policy) and be assessed accordingly.

The module is available online with all applicable resources and readings embedded within the module pages. All of the guidance is available online.

Assessment Strategy

- **1 x 2000-word knowledge summary (50%)**
  A critically appraised topic on a clinically relevant topic
- **1 x 1500-word clinical protocol (35%)**
  Reflection on the knowledge summary and development of a clinical protocol
- **1 x journal critique/journal club presentation (15%)**
  Synchronous oral presentation to the group

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.