

## C-ECC.3 Emergency Care (B)

**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:

1. develop a logical, systematic and reasoned approach to the initial assessment and subsequent management of emergency cases commonly seen in practice;
2. enable the candidate to critically evaluate their own standards of practice and develop strategies for continuous improvement in the future.

### Learning Outcomes

By the end of the module, successful candidates should be able to:

1. critically evaluate the underlying pathophysiologic alterations in order to undertake initial assessment of emergency patients and subsequent stabilisation and management;
2. apply clinical reasoning skills and evidence-based medicine to manage the common emergency presentations of the gastrointestinal, urogenital and endocrine systems and special senses seen in general practice including techniques for diagnosis and therapy;
3. critically appraise current approaches to emergency small animal patients and plan suitable protocols for optimising their outcomes including efficient use of staff and equipment;
4. critically appraise the literature relevant to clinical cases in the topics covered and how the literature can be used to inform practice;
5. critically reflect on the appropriate case for onward referral.

### Module Structure

The syllabus will be divided into 4 study units, 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: Principles of emergency and critical care practice

- Initial assessment of emergency patients
- Relevant pathophysiology and the alterations seen in various emergency presentations
- Stabilisation of the critical patient including medical and surgical methods
- Screening techniques and minimum database information

- Diagnostic testing and logical investigations in order to make a diagnosis

### **Study Unit 2: Approach to patients with critical illness affecting the gastrointestinal system, liver and pancreas**

- Medical and surgical management of acute dysfunctions of the gastrointestinal tract including liver and pancreas

### **Study Unit 3: Approach to patients with critical illness affecting the urogenital and reproductive systems**

- Medical and surgical management of acute dysfunctions of the urogenital and reproductive systems

### **Study Unit 4: Approach to patients with critical illness affecting the endocrine, otic, ocular and integumentary systems.**

- Medical and surgical management of acute dysfunctions of the endocrine, otic, ocular and integumentary systems.

## **Assessment Strategy**

- **3 x 1500-word reflective case reports (90%)**  
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 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 – 20 cases (pass/fail)**  
The case log assessment is designed to assist the candidate in developing a solid foundation for everyday 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.