

## C-SAM.6 Feline Medicine (C)

**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 expertise in clinical decision making and reasoning skills required by advanced veterinary practitioners in the field feline endocrine, haematopoietic, neurological, ophthalmological and dermatological disorders and feline clinical nutrition and oncology;
2. facilitate reflection of their own standards of practice and strategies for continuous improvement in the future.

### Learning Outcomes

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

1. critically evaluate the pathophysiology and clinical disease syndromes affecting the haematopoietic, endocrine, metabolic, neurological and neuromuscular systems of the cat and demonstrate a thorough and logical diagnostic approach to their investigation and treatment;
2. critically evaluate dermatological and ophthalmological manifestations of systemic disease of the cat;
3. critically evaluate investigation and treatment of neoplastic and infectious diseases of the cat;
4. critically evaluate the principles and application of feline clinical nutrition, including the normal dietary requirements at various stages of development, alterations in dietary requirements in the diseased state and dietary management;
5. critically appraise the literature relevant to clinical cases in the topics covered and how the literature can be used to inform practice;
6. apply clinical reasoning skills and evidence-based medicine in the diagnostic approach and management of diseases relevant to the topic covered;
7. critically reflect on the appropriate case for onward referral.

### Module Structure

The syllabus will be divided into 5 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: Endocrine and metabolic disorders**

This study unit will cover the evaluation of the endocrine system, the diagnosis and management of the common endocrine disorders of cats, including endocrine emergencies, and feline metabolic skeletal disease.

### **Study Unit 2: Neurological disorders**

This study unit will cover neuroanatomy and the evaluation of the nervous system, and the diagnosis and management of common neurological disorders of the cat.

### **Study Unit 3: Oncology**

This study unit will cover the principles of tumourogenesis and chemotherapy and the management of lymphoma in cats.

### **Study Unit 4: Infectious diseases**

This study unit will cover the principles of disease control and the diagnosis and management of common viral, bacterial, endoparasitic, zoonotic, exotic and other infectious diseases in cats.

### **Study Unit 5: Ophthalmological and dermatologic disorders**

This study unit will cover the clinical evaluation of the skin and eye, and the recognition and management of ocular and dermatological manifestations of systemic disease.

## **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.