

C-SAM.9 Small Animal Medicine (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

To develop the depth and breadth of the candidate's knowledge and understanding of disorders of the gastrointestinal and urogenital systems affecting dogs and cats including pathophysiology, clinical signs, diagnostic approach and rational therapy including the application of the principles of clinical nutrition and critical care.

Learning Outcomes

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

1. critically evaluate the pathophysiology of conditions of the gastrointestinal and urogenital systems and principles and apply this knowledge in the diagnostic evaluation and treatment of clinical cases;
2. critically evaluate the principles and application of clinical nutrition, including alterations in dietary requirements in the diseased state and dietary management;
3. apply the principles of critical care to general practice, including fluid therapy, respiratory support and intensive care monitoring;
4. apply clinical reasoning skills and evidence-based medicine in the diagnostic approach and management of diseases relevant to the topics covered;
5. critically appraise the literature relevant to clinical cases in the topics covered and how the literature can be used to inform practice;
6. 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: This unit will cover gastrointestinal disorders in the dog and cat. The focus is on the diagnostic approach; in particular the integration of clinical examination and further diagnostic testing (laboratory work, radiography, ultrasonography, endoscopy and biopsy) in establishing a diagnosis.

Study Unit 2: This unit will cover urogenital disorders in the dog and cat. The focus is on the diagnostic approach, clinical reasoning process, evidence-based medicine and management of cases. This will include long term monitoring and preventative therapies.

Study Unit 3: This unit will cover critical care medicine. The focus is on recognition and initial management of emergency patients including respiratory support and fluid therapy.

Intensive care options and monitoring techniques will be covered including the integration of laboratory testing, ongoing clinical assessment and imaging techniques. The management of the common poisons of the dog and cat are included.

Study Unit 4: This unit will cover life stage and life style nutrition and how these requirements are altered in various disease states. The focus is on the need to identify altered requirements, deliver them effectively and monitor the success of treatment plans. Enteral feeding techniques, their indications and applications are included.

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 short oral presentation of the critique (15 minutes) (10%)**
Hosted by a staff member online synchronously using MS Teams. Students present their critique to 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.