C-VD.1 Veterinary Dermatology Core

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 and practically apply knowledge of the structure and function of the skin, and how this is altered in disease states, to dermatological cases.

Learning Outcomes

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

1. systematically apply the principles of skin anatomy, histology and physiology to clinical dermatology cases;
2. apply clinical reasoning skills and evidence-based medicine to diagnostic testing in the investigation of dermatological conditions;
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, preceded by an introductory week, 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: Structure and function
This unit will cover the anatomy and histology of the skin and epidermal appendages. The focus is on the interaction between structure and function and how this can be altered during disease processes.

Study Unit 2: Physiology
This unit will cover physiology relevant to dermatological structures. The focus will be on normal defence mechanisms and how these are altered in disease states.

Study Unit 3: Clinical Pathology
This unit will cover pathology relevant to the diagnosis of dermatological conditions. The focus will be on critical analysis of procedures, the diagnostic accuracy and limitations of any diagnostic procedure.

Assessment Strategy

- **1 x 1500-word reflective case report (30%)**
  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.
- **2 x 1-hour open book examinations (60%)**
  Based around clinical scenarios/cases, relevant to the module study units.
- **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.