

## C-VDI.2 Small Animal Diagnostic Imaging - Orthopaedics

**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 small animal orthopaedic diagnostic imaging as part of their overall investigation of a case in a practice environment;
2. enable the candidate to critically evaluate their own standards of practice and develop strategies for continuous improvement in the future.

### Learning Outcomes

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

1. critically apply the principles of radiological and ultrasonographic interpretation to the evaluation of small animal orthopaedic cases;
2. apply clinical reasoning skills and evidence-based medicine to diagnostic techniques as part of the overall investigation of small animal orthopaedic cases;
3. critically appraise current diagnostic imaging techniques and reflect on personal development to improve technique;
4. critically appraise the literature relevant to clinical cases in the topics covered and how the literature can be used to inform practice.

### Module Structure

The syllabus will be divided into 4 study units, each containing 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 The head

Normal radiographic anatomy of the skull, jaw and teeth.

Recognising and interpreting the diagnostic radiological features of the more commonly encountered clinical conditions of the skull, jaw and teeth.

The indications and application of advanced imaging modalities in the evaluation of conditions involving the head.

#### Study Unit 2 Axial skeleton and Central Nervous System

Normal radiographic anatomy of the vertebrae, brain and spinal cord.

Recognising and interpreting the diagnostic radiological features of the more commonly encountered clinical conditions of the axial skeleton and central nervous system. The indications and application of contrast media and advanced imaging modalities in the evaluation of conditions involving the vertebrae and CNS.

### **Study Unit 3 The forelimb**

Normal radiographic anatomy of the forelimb.

Recognising and interpreting the diagnostic radiological features of the more commonly encountered clinical conditions affecting the bones and joints of the forelimb.

### **Study Unit 4 The hindlimb**

Normal radiographic anatomy of the hindlimb.

Recognising and interpreting the diagnostic radiological features of the more commonly encountered clinical conditions affecting the bones and joints of the hindlimb.

## **Assessment Strategy**

- **2 x 1500-word reflective case reports (60%)**  
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 1-hour open book examination (30%)**  
Based around clinical scenarios/cases, relevant to the module study units.
- **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 – 50 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.