

## C-VDI.3 Small Animal Diagnostic Imaging – Soft Tissue

**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 aims of this module are:

1. to develop a logical, systematic and reasoned approach to small animal soft tissue diagnostic imaging as part of their overall investigation of a case in a practice environment;
2. to 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. apply the principles of radiological and ultrasonographic interpretation to the evaluation of clinical problems in small animal soft tissue cases;
2. critically select and apply appropriate diagnostic techniques as part of the overall investigation of a case;
3. critically reflect on personal development of diagnostic imaging techniques;
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 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 Abdomen and gastrointestinal system

Normal radiographic and ultrasound anatomy of the abdomen and gastrointestinal tract. Recognising and interpreting the diagnostic radiological features of the more commonly encountered clinical conditions affecting the abdominal cavity, including liver, pancreas, spleen, pharynx, oesophagus and gastrointestinal tract. The indications and application of contrast media and advanced imaging modalities in the evaluation of abdominal disease.

#### Study Unit 2 Urogenital system

Normal radiographic and ultrasound anatomy of the urogenital system. Recognising and interpreting the diagnostic radiological features of the more commonly encountered clinical conditions affecting the kidneys, ureters, bladder, and the male and female genital organs.

The indications and application of contrast media and advanced imaging modalities in the evaluation of conditions involving the urogenital system.

### **Study Unit 3 Cardiovascular system**

Normal radiographic anatomy of the cardiovascular system. Recognising and interpreting the diagnostic radiological features of the more commonly encountered clinical conditions affecting the heart and blood vessels. The indications and fundamentals of echocardiography.

### **Study Unit 4 Respiratory system**

Normal radiographic anatomy of the respiratory system. Recognising and interpreting the diagnostic radiological features of the more commonly encountered clinical conditions affecting the trachea, pleural cavity and thoracic wall, mediastinum, diaphragm and lungs.

## **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 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 – 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.