RCVS Content Covered

The following outlines the modular content as set out by the RCVS.

1 CARDIOVASCULAR DISORDERS

- Clinical evaluation of the cardiovascular system
- Principles and applications of diagnostic aids (ECG, radiology, ultrasonography)
- Diagnosis of congenital and acquired heart disease
- Management of congenital disease, cardiomyopathy, cardiac failure
- Investigation and management of hypertension.

2 RESPIRATORY DISORDERS

- Clinical evaluation of the respiratory system
- Principles and applications of diagnostic aids (radiology, endoscopy)
- Diagnosis and management of the common disorders
- Evaluation, diagnosis and management of pleural disease

3 INFECTIOUS DISEASES

- Principles of disease control
- Diagnostic and management of the common infectious diseases
- Viral infection – retroviruses, feline infectious peritonitis, feline parvovirus, feline herpes, feline calcicivirus and rabies
- Bacterial infection – Bartonella henselae, Bordetella, MRSA
- Endoparasite infections – nematodes, cestodes, protozoans
- Other diseases – chlamidophila, haemobartonella, giardia, toxoplasmosis
- Zoonotic diseases
- Imported diseases

Aim of the Module

This module aims to develop expertise in clinical decision making and reasoning skills required by advanced veterinary practitioners in the field of feline cardiorespiratory disorders and infectious disease and 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. demonstrate a systematic understanding of the clinical disease syndromes affecting the cardiovascular and respiratory systems of the cat and demonstrate a thorough and logical diagnostic approach to their investigation and treatment;
2. demonstrate a systematic understanding of the principles of disease control for infectious diseases of the cat;
3. critically evaluate the use of the major drug groups demonstrating a comprehensive understanding of their pharmacology, applicability to the various body systems, and the legal and ethical aspects of drug use, including the cascade;
4. critically evaluate the literature relevant to the topics covered and discuss how the literature can be used to inform practice;
5. demonstrate the ability for critical reflection on their clinical work, including identifying potential clinical audit points translating to new protocols or measureable outcomes;
6. demonstrate the ability to recognise the appropriate case for onward referral.

Module Structure

The module will be divided into 3 study units:

**Study Unit 1**: Cardiovascular disorders. This study unit will cover the evaluation of the cardiovascular system, the diagnosis and management of congenital and acquired cardiac disease, and the investigation and management of hypertension.

**Study Unit 2**: Respiratory disorders. This study unit will cover the evaluation of the respiratory system and the diagnosis and management of respiratory disease, including pleural disease.

**Study Unit 3**: 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.

Assessment Strategy

Portfolio of cases (20 case log book), 3 x detailed case reports (1500 words), 1 x short answer question and/or MCQ test at the end of the module and 1 x journal critique/journal club presentation (pass/fail)