

C-SAM.4 Feline Medicine (A)

Credits: 10 (100 hours)

Provider: Veterinary Postgraduate Unit – Institute of Veterinary Science

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 (echocardiography, radiology, ultrasonography, blood pressure measurement, cardiac blood tests)
- Diagnosis of congenital and acquired heart disease
- Management of congenital disease, cardiomyopathy, cardiac failure
- Investigation and management of hypertension and hypotension.

2 RESPIRATORY DISORDERS

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

3 HAEMOPOIETIC DISORDERS

- Clinical evaluation of the haemopoietic and immune systems
- Principles and applications of diagnostic aids (bone marrow biopsy, clotting tests, immunological testing)
- Diagnosis and management of the common disorders (including haemopoietic neoplasms and infectious diseases)

While infectious diseases are a core part of the syllabus of C-SAM.6, the candidate may refer to infectious diseases related to the cardiovascular, respiratory and haemopoietic body systems in their cases.

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 haemopoietic disorders 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, respiratory and haematopoietic systems of the cat and demonstrate a thorough and logical diagnostic approach to their investigation and treatment;
2. 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;
3. critically evaluate the literature relevant to the topics covered and discuss how the literature can be used to inform practice;
4. demonstrate the ability for critical reflection on their clinical work, including identifying potential clinical audit points translating to new protocols or measurable outcomes;
5. 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 2: Haemopoietic. This study unit will cover the evaluation of haemopoietic and immune systems and the diagnosis and management of the common haemopoietic disorders of cats.

Assessment Strategy

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

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.