

C-E.18 Equine Emergency Care (A)

Credits: 10 (100 hours)

Provider: Veterinary Postgraduate Unit – School of Veterinary Science

Aim of the Module

This module aims to develop an in-depth knowledge of the underlying theory and the ability to practically apply this knowledge to the diagnosis and management of common equine emergencies involving the musculoskeletal, nervous, respiratory, and ocular systems, and the management of acute wounds and trauma.

Learning Outcomes

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

1. Critically evaluate the differential diagnosis and pathophysiology, of common emergency conditions involving the musculoskeletal, nervous, and respiratory systems, ophthalmic emergencies, and acute wounds and trauma of the horse, and apply this knowledge in the diagnostic evaluation and treatment of clinical cases;
2. Synthesise and apply appropriate approaches and protocols to the emergency treatment of equine patients incorporating evidence from the diagnostic database and scientific literature as well as the ability to appropriately adapt to client, animal, environmental, and practice factors;
3. Critically apply clinical reasoning skills and evidence-based medicine in the diagnostic approach and emergency management of diseases relevant to the topics covered;
4. Critically appraise the literature relevant to clinical cases in the topics covered, and how the literature can be used to inform practice;
5. Critically reflect on the appropriate case for onward referral.

Module Structure

The syllabus will be divided into 5 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: Lamé horse

- Assessment of acute lameness
- Fractures
- Synovial sepsis
- Laminitis
- Acute muscular disease
- Miscellaneous conditions

Study Unit 2: Recumbent Horse and Acute neurological disease

- The trapped horse
- Collapse
- Acute neurological disease

- Casualty Management including at public events

Study Unit 3: Dyspnoeic Horse

- Approach to respiratory emergencies
- Upper respiratory tract emergencies
- Lower respiratory tract emergencies

Study Unit 4: Wounds and Trauma

- Wound assessment and management
- Common traumatic injuries

Study Unit 5: Ocular trauma and the painful eye

- The painful eye
- Ocular trauma

Assessment Strategy

- 1 x Journal article critique and presentation (10%)
- 2 x 1500 word reflective case reports related to the subject matter of the relevant study unit (60%)
- 1 x 1500 word protocol or guideline related to the subject matter of the relevant study unit (30%)

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.