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

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

- Demonstrate thorough understanding of the anatomical, physiological, immunological and pathological processes involved in thoracic disease, including the relationships between the cardiovascular and respiratory systems and the overall health status of the patient.
- Show familiarity with principles and practical application of equine exercise physiology.
- Demonstrate understanding of the biology of micro-organisms and parasites that are associated with equine cardiovascular and respiratory diseases and be able to apply this knowledge to pathogenesis and methods of diagnosis, treatment and control.
- Show thorough familiarity with the clinical presentation, diagnosis, treatment and prevention of diseases of the equine upper and lower respiratory tract, heart, blood vessels and pleural cavity.
- Demonstrate understanding and promote concepts of a problem-orientated approach in horses of all age groups presenting with reduced exercise tolerance, respiratory noise, nasal discharge, epistaxis, coughing, respiratory distress, cardiac murmurs, cardiac arrhythmias, fainting, collapse, haemorrhage, peripheral oedema and vascular lesions.
- Demonstrate understanding and promote concepts of preventive health care relating to the equine area, including consideration of disease control regulations of the Jockey Club and other regulatory bodies in the equestrian industry.
- Review and constructively criticise current literature in the subject area, to enable them to determine its relevance to their current practice.
- Utilise their understanding of Evidence Based Medicine and Decision Analysis to develop practical diagnostic and treatment protocols for their patients.
- Use available resources and communicate with owners in such a way as to achieve optimum results in their practice circumstances in relation to cardiovascular cases.
- Review the outcomes of at least part of their clinical work, using the process of clinical audit to improve performance.
- Recognise when a case is truly unusual, and become familiar with the information resources available to enable them to deal with such cases.
- Recognise when a case is beyond their personal or practice capabilities, and provide an effective channel of referral.
Aim of the Module

The aims of this module are to increase your depth of knowledge of disease and disorders involving the cardiovascular and respiratory systems and their management, including preventive health strategies.

Learning Outcomes

By the end of this module successful candidates will be able to demonstrate:

1. in-depth understanding of the anatomical, physiological, immunological and pathological processes involved in thoracic disease, including the relationships between the cardiovascular and respiratory systems and the overall health status of the patient;
2. in-depth understanding of the principles and practical application of equine exercise physiology;
3. an ability to systematically evaluate the interrelationship between biology of microorganisms and parasites and equine cardiovascular and respiratory diseases;
4. application of the principles of equine cardiovascular and respiratory diseases to the practice situation in the synthesis of appropriate protocols for diagnosis, treatment and control of for different types of equine cardiovascular and respiratory diseases;
5. clinical reasoning skills and the use of evidence based medicine in the decision making process of diagnostic approach and management of cases of the equine upper and lower respiratory tract and pleural cavity;
6. competence in application of a problem-orientated approach in horses of all age groups presenting with reduced exercise tolerance, respiratory noise, nasal discharge, epistaxis, coughing, respiratory distress;
7. demonstrate competence in application of a problem-orientated approach in horses of all age groups presenting with cardiac murmurs, cardiac arrhythmias, fainting, collapse, haemorrhage, peripheral oedema and vascular lesions;
8. the ability to critically appraise literature relevant to the respiratory and cardiovascular systems and discuss how the literature can be used to inform practice;
9. the ability to critically review and reflect on your clinical work, including identifying potential clinical audit points translating to new protocols or measurable outcomes;
10. the ability to independently research and critically review the literature to provide evidence to support current or revised protocols for diagnosis or management of equine cardiovascular or respiratory disease;
11. competence in application of preventive health care relating to the equine area, including consideration of disease control regulations of regulatory bodies in the equestrian industry.

Module Structure

This module is divided into 4 Study Units as outlined below.

Study Unit 1 Principles of cardiovascular and respiratory disease

- Demonstrate in-depth understanding of the anatomical, physiological, immunological and pathological processes involved in thoracic disease, including the relationships between the cardiovascular and respiratory systems and the overall health status of the patient.
- Demonstrate in-depth understanding of the principles and practical application of equine exercise physiology.
• Apply understanding of the biology of micro-organisms and parasites that are associated with equine cardiovascular and respiratory diseases to pathogenesis and methods of diagnosis, treatment and control.

Study Unit 2 Cardiovascular Disorders

• Demonstrate a comprehensive knowledge of the clinical presentation, diagnosis, treatment and prevention of diseases of the equine cardiovascular system incorporating the processes of clinical reasoning and evidence based practice.
• Demonstrate competence in application of a problem-orientated approach in horses of all age groups presenting with cardiac murmurs, cardiac arrhythmias, fainting, collapse, haemorrhage, peripheral oedema and vascular lesions.
• Critically appraise literature relevant to the cardiovascular system and discuss how the literature can be used to inform practice.
• Review and reflect on your clinical work, including identifying potential clinical audit points translating to new protocols or measureable outcomes,
• recognising the truly unusual case and when a case is beyond your personal or practice capabilities.

Study Unit 3 Respiratory Disorders

• Demonstrate a comprehensive knowledge of the clinical presentation, diagnosis, treatment and prevention of diseases of the equine upper and lower respiratory tract and pleural cavity incorporating the processes of clinical reasoning and evidence based practice.
• Demonstrate competence in application of a problem-orientated approach in horses of all age groups presenting with reduced exercise tolerance, respiratory noise, nasal discharge, epistaxis, coughing, respiratory distress.
• Critically appraise literature relevant to the respiratory system and discuss how the literature can be used to inform practice.
• Review and reflect on your clinical work, including identifying potential clinical audit points translating to new protocols or measureable outcomes, recognising the truly unusual case and when a case is beyond your personal or practice capabilities.

Study Unit 4 Preventive Health

• Demonstrate competence in application of preventive health care relating to the equine area, including consideration of disease control regulations of the Jockey Club and other regulatory bodies in the equestrian industry.

Assessment Strategy

4 x short answer question and/or MCQ tests, 1 x reflective case/essay at the end of the module (2000 words) and 1 x journal critique/journal club presentation (pass/fail)