C-E.7 Equine Lameness (B)

Credits: 10 (100 hours)

Provider: Veterinary Postgraduate Unit – School of Veterinary Science

RCVS Content Covered

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

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

- Demonstrate a thorough understanding of the conditions affecting the foal and growing animal, their diagnosis and treatment.
- Show a good knowledge of conditions affecting the foot, distal limb, carpus, forearm and elbow, and shoulder.
- Show a similar degree of knowledge of conditions of the hock, gaskin, stifle and hip.
- 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 orthopaedic 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 aim of this module is to develop in-depth understanding of diagnosis, treatment and management of specific equine orthopaedic conditions affecting the growing animal, foot, distal limb and upper limb.

Learning Outcomes

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

1. demonstrate a thorough understanding of developmental orthopaedic problems in the growing foal;
2. demonstrate a thorough understanding of orthopaedic disorders involving the foot, distal and upper limbs incorporating recent research evidence into their clinical approach;
3. critically evaluate different approaches to treatment of orthopaedic disorders and reflect upon 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 personal or practice capabilities.

**Module Structure**

This module has been divided into 5 study units:

**Study Unit 1 Orthopaedic disorders of the foal/ growing animals**

This study unit will cover developmental orthopaedic disease and lameness including osteochondrosis, osseous cyst-like lesions, physitis, angular limb deformities, flexural limb deformities and cervical stenotic myelopathy.

**Study Unit 2 The foot and farriery**

This study unit will cover normal anatomy, examination, diagnostic techniques, farriery and conditions of the foot including palmar foot pain, trauma to the sole and wall, laminitis, and disorders of the distal phalanx and distal interphalangeal joint.

**Study Unit 3 The metacarpals/tarsals and phalanges**

Orthopaedic conditions of the metacarpus/metatarsus, metacarpophalangeal/metatarsophalangeal joints, proximal sesamoid bones, proximal phalanx and proximal interphalangeal joint will be covered.

**Study Unit 4 The upper forelimb and carpus**

Anatomical, diagnostic and clinical conditions including various orthopaedic conditions of the carpus and upper limb will be covered.

**Study Unit 5 The upper hindlimb and tarsus**

Anatomical, diagnostic and clinical conditions including various orthopaedic conditions of the tarsus and upper hindlimb will be covered.

**Assessment Strategy**

4 x short answer question and/or MCQ tests, 1 x reflective case/essay at the end of the module (2000 words), 1 x journal critique/journal club presentation (pass/fail) and a portfolio of 10 cases.

**Please note:** Some of the cases presented in your case portfolio may require you to have performed certain procedures or techniques under the supervision of a veterinary surgeon with a suitable postgraduate qualification.