C-E.16 Basic Equine Practice Part 2

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.

Alimentary

Candidates should be aware of the following syndromes, their differentials, how to investigate in an efficient and economic way, possible treatments and prognosis.

- Dysmastication / Quidding
- Choke
- Dysphagia
- Diarrhoea
- Colic (medical and indications for referral)
- Endotoxaemia
- Weight Loss (INVESTIGATION)
- Abdominal distension
- Parasitism
- Peritonitis
- Alimentary and peritoneal neoplasia

Hepatic

Candidates should be aware of the major differentials and signs. They should be able to perform a liver biopsy and have a good understanding of the relevant blood biochemistry.

- Icterus
- Weight loss
- Abdominal distension
- Ventral oedema
- Ascites

Respiratory

Candidates should be aware of the major differentials for the following syndromes:

- The coughing horse
- Acute obstructive pulmonary disorders
- Sinus disorders
- Guttural pouch disorders
- Lower airway disease. COPD, SPAOPD, IAD
- Epistaxis

- Pharyngeal distortions
- Abnormal respiratory noises and their causes e.g. ILHP

Candidates should be familiar with auscultation and palpation techniques, tracheal and bronchial lavage, pleurocentesis, trephination of the sinuses, and use of rebreathing bag.

Cardiovascular, blood, lymphatic

Candidates should be familiar with the following syndromes:
Heart murmurs and arrhythmias (commoner ones and their significance).

- Anaemia
- Oedema
- Vasculitis
- Aorto-iliac thrombosis
- Vascular catastrophes
- Lymphangitis
- Cellulitis
- Autoimmune disorders
- Clotting problems
- Lymphosarcomas
- Immunodeficiency syndromes

Clinical Neurology

The candidates should have some knowledge of the following:

- The Cranial nerves
- Seizures
- Hepatoencephalopathy
- Syncope
- Trauma
- Wobblers
- Tetanus / Botulism
- Cauda Equina syndrome
- Equine motor neurone disease
- GRASS SICKNESS

Ophthalmology

The candidates should be able to identify and treat the following:

- Corneal ulcers
- Equine recurrent uveitis
- Glaucoma
- Keratitis
- The painful eye
- The ‘white’ eye
- Central blindness
- Individual disorders of ocular structures including the eyelids and nasolacrimal
- duct

Special techniques such as placement of sub palpebral lavage systems and

auriculopalpebral blocks.

Endocrinology

Knowledge of physiology / function of the endocrine system:

- Equine Cushing's disease & various tests
- Metabolic syndrome

Repro Medicine / surgery AI

Broad knowledge of equine reproductive physiology and infectious diseases:

- Mare. Caslick's operation, management of perineal lacerations.
- Stallion. Various castration techniques and their complications. The rig.
- AI – outline of procedures for both frozen and chilled semen.
- Understanding of the methods for semen collection from a stallion. How to train a stallion for semen collection.
- Collection of swabs according to the HBLB guidelines.
- Knowledge of common venereal diseases. CEM, EIA, EVA, Herpes etc.
- Parturition. The normal and abnormal foaling including foetotomy and caesarean section. Neonatal assessment.
- Ultrasound examination of the uterus / ovaries and detection of pregnancy.

Urinary tract

The candidate should be able to investigation the following syndromes as well as having an understanding of the normal anatomy:

- Polydypsia / polyurea
- Ruptured bladder in the foal
- Chronic / acute renal failure / disease
- Cystitis / urolithiasis
- Haematuria / pigmenturia
- Dysuria
- Urinary incontinence

Dermatology

The candidate should be able to investigation the following syndromes as well as having an understanding of the normal anatomy:

- Pruritis
- Nodular skin disease
- Scaling and flaking
- Moist dermatitis
- Parasitic diseases
- Neoplastic diseases

Aim of the Module

The aim of this module is to develop basic undergraduate knowledge and practice experience involving the approach to and management of equine diseases affecting the gastrointestinal, hepatobiliary, respiratory, cardiovascular, haemolymphatic, neuromuscular, endocrine, ophthalmological, urogenital, and integumentary systems.

Learning Outcomes

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

1. demonstrate an in depth understanding of clinical disease syndromes associated with diseases affecting the gastrointestinal, hepatobiliary, respiratory, cardiovascular, haemolymphatic, neuromuscular, endocrine, ophthalmological, urogenital, and integumentary body systems;
2. demonstrate a critical awareness of the diagnostic approach and management of diseases affecting the gastrointestinal, hepatobiliary, respiratory, cardiovascular, haemolymphatic, neuromuscular, endocrine, ophthalmological, urogenital, and integumentary body systems;
3. demonstrate the ability to utilise a sound clinical reasoning process, incorporating evidence from the diagnostic database and scientific literature as well the ability to appropriately adapt to client, animal and practice factors;
4. demonstrate the ability to select and carry out appropriate diagnostic and treatment procedures involving the gastrointestinal, hepatobiliary, respiratory, cardiovascular, haemolymphatic, neuromuscular, endocrine, ophthalmological, urogenital, and integumentary body systems, taking into consideration practical, financial and professional ethical factors;
5. critically appraise literature relevant to clinical cases in the body systems covered and discuss how the literature can be used to inform practice;
6. review and critically reflect on their clinical work, including identifying potential clinical audit points translating to new protocols or measureable outcomes;
7. demonstrate the ability to recognise the appropriate case for onward referral.

Module Structure

The syllabus will be divided into 5 study units covering the diagnostic approach and management of diseases in horses affecting 10 different body systems, with the focus on the diagnostic approach, clinical reasoning process and evidence based medicine. In each body system, a problem based or clinical syndrome based approach will also be utilised. The body systems in the syllabus include the gastrointestinal, hepatobiliary, respiratory, cardiovascular, haemolymphatic, neuromuscular, endocrine, ophthalmological, urogenital, and integumentary systems.

Assessment Strategy

3 x reflective case reports (1500 words each), 1 x open book short answer 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.