

REF. NO.	C – E.14
TITLE:	EQUINE DENTISTRY – EQUINE DENTAL SURGERY
VALUE:	10 CREDITS
NOTIONAL STUDY HOURS:	100

GENERAL GUIDANCE NOTES

The following applies to all C modules.

Before embarking on this, or other modules, candidates must fulfil the following criteria:

- a) Be a member of RCVS, or hold a registrable degree.
- b) Have at least 1 year's postgraduate experience working as a veterinary surgeon
- c) Be enrolled with RCVS if intending to take the Certificate in Advanced Veterinary Practice (enrolment will be valid for 10 years)
- d) It is also recommended that candidates who graduated after 2007 will have already declared themselves competent in their 'Year One Competencies', by completing the Professional Development Phase (PDP) before enrolling for any modules.

PREPARING FOR A C MODULE

Before embarking on any module, candidates are advised to plan a structured programme of continuing professional development to help them achieve their objectives. Involvement in 'learning sets' and networks of other candidates working towards the same or similar modules is encouraged; this could be a service provided by CPD providers, or could be initiated by the candidates themselves on a less formal basis. RCVS considers that candidates will need advisers/mentors to support them through the programme. Candidates are free to choose their own advisers/mentors, or they may wish to enrol on a course offered by a university or by other CPD providers, where tutorial or supervisor support is available.

GUIDANCE FOR THIS MODULE

This module can be taken as a 'stand alone' option or as part of a structured course of study aimed at obtaining the Cert AVP Equine Dentistry. The other designated modules are C-E.12 Equine Dental Theory, and C-E.13 Equine Dental Care, Diagnosis and Treatment.

All candidates will normally have completed the A module, Professional Key skills, and at least one of the B modules, before undertaking a C module, although candidates can choose to work through modules in a different order if they wish.

CPD providers may offer the module as a self-standing course or may wish to combine it with others as part of a longer study programme.

Whichever order modules are tackled, compliance with best practice for all the topics covered by module A-PKS.1 will be expected whenever these are appropriate in C modules. For example, awareness of, and compliance with, all relevant legislation, welfare and ethical principles, will be required throughout.

LEARNING OBJECTIVES

The objective of this foundation module is to promote a scientific, evidence based approach to equine dentistry, and to help candidates develop both practical and theoretical skills in the field.

At the end of this module, candidates should:

- have developed a thorough knowledge of the anatomy and physiology of the Equine oral cavity and associated structures and feel competent to treat the commoner dental abnormalities found in the horse.
- should be familiar with more advanced dental techniques such as oral dental extraction and repulsion and the management of the commoner jaw fractures.
- be able to apply dental skills in a holistic manner to aid in the investigation of complex clinical syndromes such as the thin wasting horse, the unilateral nasal discharge or a 'head shaker'.
- be able to take a well balanced approach to equine dentistry
- be able to readily identify cases requiring referral to a specialist institution or practitioner.

ASSESSMENT STRATEGY FOR THIS MODULE

It is suggested that this module could be assessed by the following methods:

- A short case presentation of 8 interesting dental cases not more than 4 to involve extractions. *Each case should not be more than 500 words, with no more than 4 references to be given. One selected case (of the eight) should be of 1500 words; this report should carry a more in-depth discussion and may contain any number of references. The cases should demonstrate how the candidate has developed his clinical skills during the whole course of study.*
- A 10 question short answer written examination.

MODULE CONTENT

Basic Surgical Skills

- A sound knowledge of the principles of wound healing.
- Prevention of infection and spread of infection.

- Concepts of contamination and infection of traumatic wounds.
- Responsible use of antibiotics in Equine Dentistry.
- Analgesia.

Dental extractions

Candidates should be able to show knowledge of the principles and indications of techniques for dental removal including complications and post-operative management: Practical expertise in them is not expected.

- Safely and competent extraction of vestigial premolars (wolf teeth) and deciduous premolar caps when indicated.
- Principles and application of oral dental extraction when applied to incisors canines and cheek teeth, including correct usage and selection of extraction instruments
- Nerve blocks for oral extraction.
- Continuous infusion sedation techniques.
- A knowledge of the sites for trephination of the skull for both repulsion of teeth and investigation of sinus disease.
- An understanding of more advanced surgical techniques for dental extraction and an appreciation of when to refer cases to a centre of surgical excellence.

Fractured jaws and other Oral / Facial Trauma..

Candidates should be able to demonstrate an understanding of

- principles for repair of the commoner fracture configurations by wiring.
- Management of horses with facial trauma – including emergency tracheostomy.
- Repairing wounds to the lips and cheeks.

Endodontic Therapy.

- Candidates should understand the basic principles of endodontic therapy. They are NOT expected to be able to perform these techniques.

Neoplasias

Candidates should be able to demonstrate an understanding of:

- common neoplastic conditions
- Sarcoids

- squamous cell carcinoma
- dental tumours.

Investigating the thin wasting horse.

Candidates should

- be able to consider and manage dental disease in the context of the horse's overall health and concurrent diseases.
- Be aware of the potential differential diagnosis and the various appropriate routes of clinical investigation.

The head shaker.

Head Shaking is a complex clinical entity in which dental pathology can play a significant role. Candidates should:

- Be aware of the extensive possible differentials.
- Be able to undertake a logical investigation.

The Unilateral Nasal Discharge.

Candidates should be able to appreciate the significance of the unilateral nasal discharge and be able to conduct a thorough examination to determine the aetiology.

- Differential diagnosis – primary or secondary to dental disease.
- Ethmoidal haematoma, mycotic sinusitis, guttural pouch disease and malignancy.
- Means of investigation to include radiography and endoscopy.
- Creation of a frontal flap and other trephine sites.

Clinical Audit.

- Evaluation of the success / failure of dental treatments.
- Development of a scientific evidence base for Equine Dentistry.