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| REF. NO. | C-VD.4 |
| TITLE: | EQUINE DERMATOLOGY |
| CATEGORY AND VALUE: | C - 10 CREDITS |
| NOTIONAL STUDY HOURS: | 100 |

Candidates working towards the designated Certificate in Advanced Veterinary Practice (Veterinary Dermatology) will need to complete the A-Professional Key Skills module, the B-Clinical Key Skills module, the B-Small Animal Practice module and three of the four C-Veterinary Dermatology modules. Upon completion of the all the necessary modules, a further synoptic oral assessment will also be required.

LEARNING OUTCOMES AND ASSESSMENT STRATEGY FOR THIS MODULE

Please refer to the General Guidance and Assessment for all Modules document.

MODULE CONTENT

At the end of the module, candidates would be expected to have knowledge of the following subjects:

Embryological development. Anatomy, physiology and histology of normal skin and appendages. Response of the skin to insult

1. Basic understanding of the basic embryology, structure and function of the skin
 - a. Epidermis
 - Structure
 - Melanocytes and skin pigmentation
 - b. Dermo-epidermal junction
 - c. Dermis
 - d. Subcutis
 - e. Adnexae
 - Hair follicles and hair growth cycle
 - Atrichial and epitrichial glands
 - Sebaceous glands
 - f. Structure and function of the hoof
2. Basic understanding of the innate and adaptive arms of the skin immune system
3. Appreciation of how the above factors relate to clinical disease

General approach to the equine dermatology case

1. The candidate must be able to demonstrate the ability to take and interpret a full dermatology history
2. General clinical examination including the physical examination of the skin
 - a. Understanding of the presentations of the clinical signs
 - b. Concept of primary and secondary lesions
 - c. Description of lesions (morphology)
 - d. Ability to relate lesions to the differential diagnosis

Diagnostic tests

1. Laboratory and other diagnostic techniques
 - a. Examination for parasites
 - b. Cytology
 - Bacterial and fungal examinations
 - c. Bacterial and fungal cultural techniques
 - d. Intradermal and ELISA testing
 - e. Indications for and techniques of skin biopsy. Interpretation of a histopathology report

Therapeutics

1. Legal aspects-cascade system/food producing animals/knowledge of withdrawal times for drugs (Jockey Club rules)
2. Principles of therapy, including routes and vehicles for administration of drugs
3. Actions and uses and potential side effects of general therapeutic groupings including:
 - a. Antibacterial agents
 - b. Demonstrate appropriate use of antibacterials in horses
 - Implications of resistance
 - c. Antiviral agents
 - d. Antifungal agents
 - e. Antiparasitic agents
 - f. Glucocorticoids
 - g. Other anti-inflammatory and immunomodulatory agents
 - h. Allergen specific immunotherapy
 - i. Hydrotherapy
 - j. Keratolytics and keratoplastics
 - k. Cytotoxic agents
 - l. Vitamins
 - m. Minerals

Problem orientated approach to equine skin disease

For each of the following presentations, the candidate should be able to:

1. Using the history and clinical signs, construct a logical differential diagnosis
2. Plan an approach to diagnosis using diagnostic tests in a logical and focussed manner
3. Show thorough familiarity with the clinical presentations and therapeutic options of the following common skin presentations affecting horses.
 - Pruritus
 - Alopecia
 - Pigmentary disorders
 - Crusting and scaling
 - Erosive and ulcerative diseases
 - Cutaneous swelling, nodules and tumours
 - Pastern dermatitis
 - Disorders of the foot
 - Management of dermatophytosis in a yard

4. In addition, candidates would also be expected to:
 - Understand and promote concepts of preventative health care relating to the speciality.
 - Review and constructively criticise current literature on the speciality, 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 dermatological 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.
5. Recognise when a case is beyond their personal or practice capabilities, and provide an effective channel of referral.