

REF. NO.	C –ZM.3
TITLE:	ZOOLOGICAL MEDICINE SMALL PET MAMMALS IN PRACTICE
CATEGORY AND VALUE:	C - 10 CREDITS
NOTIONAL STUDY HOURS:	100

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

ASSESSMENT STRATEGY FOR THIS MODULE

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

- A **case log** of fifty cases for this C module. These cases should not be used for any other modules the candidate may take. The log should comprise a list of cases seen, dates when the cases were seen and outcome of each case. The log is meant only to document that these cases were seen and no details will be required to put in the case log. These cases should demonstrate that the candidate has seen a reasonable number of cases in practice while studying for the module and is not relying on information gained solely from classical textbooks on the subject.
- Two Essay questions (out of a choice of 5 questions) will need to be satisfactorily completed before the full qualification is awarded. These will be set in an exam situation
- Once the essay questions have been satisfactorily completed, then candidates will attend a PowerPoint quiz where short answers to the 'spots' will be required.

MODULE CONTENT

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

- Thoroughly understand the husbandry, common diseases seen, post-mortem techniques, anaesthesia and monitoring relevant to small mammal species.
- Review and constructively criticise current literature on the speciality, to enable them to determine the relevance to their current practice
- Utilized their understanding of Evidence Base Medicine and Decision Analysis to develop practical approaches to dealing with small mammal species.
- Recognize when a case is truly unusual and become familiar with information resources available to enable them to deal with such cases
- Recognize when a case is beyond their personal or practice capabilities for continued testing and monitoring.

SYLLABUS CONTENT

1. Specific nutritional requirements

Requirements for small herbivores vs omnivores vs carnivores
Clinical conditions associated with deficiencies/excesses of nutrients

2. Common diseases and their treatments considered by species

Rodentia – Muridae (rats and mice)
- Cricetidae (gerbils and hamsters)
- Caviidae (chinchillas, guinea pigs and degus)
- Sciuridae (chipmunks)

Lagomorpha - Domestic rabbit

Carnivora - Domestic ferret

Marsupials - Sugar gliders and opossums

3. Post-mortem techniques and clinical pathology

Post mortem Basic technique for diagnostic post mortem in small mammals
Samples required for a diagnosis to be achieved

Clinical Pathology Significant differences in haematology and biochemistry from other domestic species to be understood
Knowledge of what samples should be taken in order for a diagnosis to be made

4. Zoonoses

An appreciation of the significant zoonotic conditions carried by small pet mammals
Knowledge of the routes of transmission and safe practice to prevent zoonotic spread

5. Anaesthesia and monitoring relevant to species

Pre-anaesthetic procedures and assessment of the patient to be followed
Pre-anaesthetic medications used
Induction techniques
Maintenance of anaesthesia, circuits used, methods of intubation
Monitoring of anaesthetic depth
Cardiopulmonary resuscitation techniques

6. Surgical procedures

Knowledge of the technique and rationale behind routine neutering procedures
Knowledge of dental surgery, particularly in small herbivores with open rooted cheek teeth
Understanding the basic principles of fracture repair, external fixation vs internal