

REF. NO.	C –ZM.5
TITLE:	ZOOLOGICAL MEDICINE REPTILE
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 reptile 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 reptile 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

### BIOLOGY

Species commonly seen and their classification

Knowledge of evolutionary relationships of reptiles.

Ecology, population and conservation biology

Knowledge of the biology, population dynamics, status and distribution in the wild of the commonly seen reptiles and be familiar with conservation issues concerning them.

Anatomy and physiology

Knowledge of the diversity in anatomy and physiology within Chelonia, Sauria, Ophidia and Crocodilia.

Behaviour

Knowledge of normal behaviour of commonly seen reptiles.

### HUSBANDRY

Housing, management and restraint

Knowledge of important aspects of housing, restraint (physical and chemical) and breeding management.

Nutrition

Knowledge of feeding and nutritional requirements  
Clinical conditions which arise from deficiencies/excesses.

Legislation

Knowledge of legislation relevant to keeping reptiles e.g. Dangerous Wild Animals Act.

### DISEASE

Common infectious and non-infectious diseases, diagnoses and treatments:-

Snakes

Lizards

Turtles and tortoises

Crocodiles

Post-mortem techniques and clinical pathology

Post mortem

Basic technique for diagnostic post mortem in reptiles

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

Zoonoses

An appreciation of the significant zoonotic conditions carried by reptiles

Knowledge of the routes of transmission and safe practice to prevent zoonotic spread

**ANAESTHESIA**

Anaesthesia and monitoring relevant to reptiles

Pre-anaesthetic procedures and assessment of the patient

Induction techniques

Maintenance of anaesthesia, circuits used, methods of intubation

Monitoring of anaesthetic depth

Recovery and post-anaesthetic management

Knowledge of how differences in anatomy and physiology affect anaesthesia

Surgical procedures including:-

Knowledge of technique and rationale behind neutering.

Knowledge of limb and shell fracture repair

Knowledge of urogenital and intestinal prolapses, causes and treatments

Knowledge of dystocia – causes and treatments

Abscesses and their treatments