RESIDENCY IN EQUINE MEDICINE

Louisiana State University

School of Veterinary Medicine

Department of Veterinary Clinical Sciences

Veterinary Teaching Hospital

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RESIDENCY PROGRAM
IN
EQUINE MEDICINE

Louisiana State University
School of Veterinary Medicine
Department of Veterinary Clinical Sciences
Veterinary Teaching Hospital

1.0 INTRODUCTION

1.1 The equine medicine residency at Louisiana State University, School of Veterinary Medicine is designed to provide three years of post-DVM training in equine medicine. The residency will fulfill the training requirements and partially fulfill the requirements for examination (certification) of the American College of Veterinary Internal Medicine. The training program will utilize faculty of the Department of Veterinary Clinical Sciences (VCS) and other participating departments as mentors. Clinical facilities of the Veterinary Teaching Hospital (VTH) will be the primary training location.

2.0 OBJECTIVES

2.1 To provide advanced training and clinical problem solving and diagnostic and therapeutic techniques in equine medicine.

2.2 To provide didactic and tutorial teaching experience.

2.3 To satisfy the requirements for examination by the American College of Veterinary Internal Medicine Large Animal (ACVIMLA).

2.4 To provide experience in scientific and clinical case presentation through the seminar and house officer rounds program.

2.5 To provide experience in the preparation of scientific articles for publication and/or presentation.

2.6 To provide experience in designing and conducting a clinical research project.

2.7 To provide an opportunity to complete a Master's degree and to participate in graduate level courses that support and strengthen the clinical training program.

3.0 PREREQUISITES

3.1 Candidate must have a DVM or equivalent degree.

3.2 Candidate must have satisfactorily completed at least one year large animal internship or equivalent post graduate veterinary experience.

3.3 Candidates must have successfully completed the National Board Examination or its equivalent and a State Board examination or its equivalent.

3.4 If candidates plan to pursue a Master of Science Degree, they should have successfully completed the GRE and be acceptable for admission into the Graduate School.

3.5 Candidates should have the goal of board certification by the American College of Veterinary Internal Medicine LA.

4.0 FACULTY MENTOR

4.1 The Resident will be assigned a faculty mentor who has diplomate status in the specialty field. Responsibilities of the mentor include direction and coordination of the clinical program, provide advise toward research, publications, and preparation for Specialty Board examinations and general counseling.

5.0 HOUSE OFFICER ROUNDS AND SEMINAR PROGRAM

5.1 The House Officer Rounds are designed to provide the resident the opportunity to receive and present interesting, unusual, or difficult clinical case material utilizing a problem oriented approach to professional colleagues. The resident will participate with the other VCS house officers on a rotating basis and will make 2 presentations during each year of the program. Residents have the option to present 1 case report and 1 seminar or to do two seminars each year (see seminar description below).

5.2 The House Officer Seminar series is designed to provide the resident with the opportunity to research and present scientific information to professional colleagues.

5.3 One seminar will be prepared and given in each year of the residency. The option to do two seminars instead of a case report and a seminar is possible.

5.4 It is encouraged that the resident strive to choose topics and produce a manuscript for publication based on the seminar topic.

5.5 One seminar topic will relate to original research conducted by the resident.

5.6 Attendance: The resident is required to attend and participate in the following: VMED 7001 (VCS Seminar), Grand Rounds, House Officer Rounds, and other seminars that are requirements of the resident's home department and/or section.

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5.7 VCS HO Rounds/Seminar Policy

5.7.1 HO attendance at all HO Rounds/Seminar sessions is required. HO attendance is required at only those rounds and seminars designated as VCS HO Rounds/Seminar sessions and that others occurring in the same time slot are not required by the House Officer Committee.

5.7.2 Attendance will be taken at the beginning of each session.

5.7.3 HO will be required to present an additional seminar if they have more than one unexcused absence or come late to the seminar more than twice (unexcused) during the program year. All absences must be accounted for by completing a HO Leave Request Form and submitting it to the HOC chair.

5.7.4 Excused absences include the following: illness, annual leave, attendance or participation in a continuing education program, presentation of a student lecture, scheduled out-rotation or special service requirements per request of advisor. All other absences are unexcused unless deemed excusable by the HO advisor.

5.8 Equine House Officer Rounds. The resident will participate in weekly equine house officer rounds either as the presenter or in attendance (Wednesday from 8:15 to 9 AM), and other scheduled conferences of the Equine Section. Residents and interns will be responsible for presenting rounds every 4 to 6 weeks with the following format options:

5.8.1 Research rounds – (recommended format for at least 1 presentation per year)

5.8.2 Complicated case

5.8.3 Morbidity/mortality case presentation – or “what went wrong here?” presentation of a complicated case in which discovered different ways to manage the case.

5.8.4 Journal club format – review of 5 to 7 scientific articles from recent refereed journals of veterinary surgery, medicine, or other pertinent disciplines.

5.9 Supportive Large Animal Medicine Training

5.9.1 Veterinary Scientific Journal Review: Large Animal Medicine (VCS 7210) is a journal review of the equine and food animal medicine literature offered by the medicine faculty and open to all house officers and VCS graduate students.

5.9.2 Special Topics in VCS: Large Animal Medicine (VCS 7003): Courses centered on more intensive learning in specific disciplines of Large Animal Medicine are available. Participation in a special

topics course in food animal medicine before the Certifying Examination is encouraged.

6.0 TEACHING PROGRAM

6.1 Throughout the program residents will be viewed as role models by both interns and professional students. They should always present themselves in a professional manner.

6.2 The resident will participate in clinical instruction and in the evaluation of Phase II veterinary students assigned to the section.

6.3 The resident will participate in preclinical didactic lecture and laboratory instruction as assigned by his/her mentor.

7.0 BOARD CERTIFICATION

7.1 An important credential in veterinary medicine is board certification in a specialty area. One of the objectives of the program is to prepare the resident for certification by the American College of Veterinary Internal Medicine.

7.2 In order to qualify for examination the resident should refer to the published requirements of the college.

7.3 It is solely the responsibility of the resident to submit any material and fees required by the college for registration for board examinations.

8.0 CLINICAL PROGRAM

8.1 Year I Resident's Program

8.1.1 The resident will be assigned for 10 of 12 blocks with the Equine Medicine service. Cases will be assigned to the resident from both the general and referral practices at the discretion of the faculty member. The major responsibility of the Resident will be to function as an equine internist in the VTH with direct supervision and guidance from faculty in the diagnosis, treatment, and care of equine medicine cases. The resident's rotation schedule will parallel that of the Phase II professional curriculum (12 blocks per year; 4 to 6 weeks/block).

8.1.2 One off-clinic block will be provided for scholarly activity - research, preparation of seminars and house officer rounds, ACVIM case reports, grant proposals, publications, etc.

8.1.3 One elective clinical blocks will be allowed during the first year of the residency (for example food animal, cardiology, ophthalmology, oncology, radiology, clinical pathology, etc.).

8.1.4 The resident will participate in house officer rounds, ward rounds, journal club, special topic conferences, seminars, and other scheduled conferences of the VTH. He/She will attend other scheduled seminars in the SVM as time permits.

8.1.5 The resident will present 1 seminar on a topic of interest to the resident (to faculty and house officers) and 1 house-officer rounds case.

8.1.6 The resident may attend a major professional meeting at some point during the 3 year program with the advice and approval of his/her faculty mentor. Expenses will be paid by the resident. The meeting must be scheduled during a non-clinical block.

8.1.7 The resident is encouraged to attend and participate in continuing education meetings sponsored by the SVM or by local and regional veterinary organizations.

8.1.8 The resident must register with the specialty college. This must be done within 90 days of beginning the residency program. (see the General Information Guide at www.acvim.org).

8.1.9 It is recommended that the resident keep a log of cases seen that will assist with selection of material for case reports for the Credentials process (see the General Information Guide at www.acvim.org).

8.1.10 The resident is encouraged to prepare a research proposal; review it with his/her faculty mentor, and submit it for funding consideration.

8.1.11 The resident should begin planning and working on a publication that will be suitable for the credentials for taking the ACVIM examination (see the GIG).

8.1.12 The resident may, with the approval of the resident's advisor and the medicine faculty, participate in clinically relevant graduate courses. Course work must not interfere with the clinical and instructional responsibilities of the resident.

8.1.13 The resident will participate in the primary equine in-house and ambulatory emergency duty rotation with other house officers.

8.1.14 If the resident plans to pursue a Master of Science degree, the resident must enroll in the Graduate School and schedule courses as directed by his/her Graduate Committee. No more than 6 credit hours may be taken during any one semester or summer session.

8.2 Year II and Year III Resident's Program

8.2.1 The resident will be assigned for 16 of 24 blocks with the Equine Medicine service.

8.2.2 The resident will be assigned 6 off-clinic blocks to be utilized for scholarly activity including research, preparation of seminars and house officer rounds, publications, thesis (if applicable) case reports, examination study, etc. during Year II/Year III.

8.2.3 Two elective clinical blocks during Year II/Year III are available for approved elective clinical rotations including but not limited to: food animal, cardiology, oncology, ophthalmology, radiology, clinical pathology, etc.

8.2.4 The resident will participate in house officer rounds, ward rounds, journal club, special topic conferences, seminars, and other scheduled conferences of the VTH. He/She will attend other scheduled seminars in the SVM as time permits.

8.2.5 The resident will present 1 seminar on a topic of interest to the resident (to faculty and house officers) and 1 house-officer rounds case per year.

8.2.6 The resident should consider manuscript preparation for the resident program requirement and for ACVIM credential requirements. Topic considerations should be discussed with his/her mentor prior to working on the manuscript. (see the GIG).

8.2.7 It is recommended that the resident keep a log of cases seen that will assist with selection of material for case reports for the Credentials process (see the General Information Guide at www.acvim.org).

8.2.8 The resident is encouraged to prepare a research proposal; review it with his/her faculty mentor, and submit it for funding consideration.

8.2.9 The resident may, with the approval of the resident's advisor and the medicine faculty, participate in clinically relevant graduate courses. Course work must not interfere with the clinical and instructional responsibilities of the resident.

8.2.10 The resident will participate in the primary equine in-house and ambulatory emergency duty rotation with other house officers.

8.2.11 The resident should register to take the General Examination of the ACVIM by October 1 of the year preceding the examination.

8.2.12 The resident should complete and submit the credentials packet before July 1 of the year preceding the examination.

8.2.13 The resident should register to take the Specialty Examination for the ACVIM Large Animal Internal Medicine by October 1 of the year preceding the examination.

8.2.14 ACVIM Case Reports may be submitted in the winter and fall as part of the ACVIMLA Credential requirements. (see the GIG)

8.2.15 The resident will begin or continue the research project if funding has been obtained.

8.2.16 The resident is required to give at least 1 hour of didactic instruction in courses offered to veterinary students per year.

8.2.17 The resident will submit one paper suitable for publication to their mentor and the House Officer Chair by March 1 of Year III including a letter from the faculty mentor attesting to the suitability of the manuscript. Topic considerations should be discussed with his/her mentor prior to working on the manuscript. The ACVIM GIG should be examined to assure suitability for Credentials requirements.

9.0 RESEARCH PROJECT

9.1 The Department of Veterinary Clinical Sciences requires its residents to participate in scholarly activity such as basic, applied or clinical research. To that end the resident is required to:

9.1.1 Design a research project to address a specific question or problem in the discipline.

9.1.2 Write a research grant proposal that may be used to seek funding for the project.

9.1.3 Conduct the research according to the experimental design.

9.1.4 Analyze and report the results of the project.

9.1.5 Publication of these results in a refereed journal is strongly encouraged.

10.0 GRADUATE PROGRAM

10.1 The graduate academic program is considered to be an important adjunct to the residency program. Enrollment will produce a more balanced educational experience, which will prepare the resident for an academic career as a member of the clinical faculty of a school or college of veterinary medicine. The graduate program is not required, but is encouraged.

10.2 Requirements for admission to the LSU Graduate School are given in the current catalog under “Requirements for Advanced Degrees”. The resident

should apply for admission to the Graduate School at the time of acceptance to the residency.

10.3 All MS graduate students must complete a minimum of 30 credit hours of graduate courses, a final examination and a thesis. Course requirements include:

10.3.1 A minimum of 12 hours of graduate work must be at the 7000 level or greater.

10.3.2 A minimum of 10 hours of course credit must be from VCS courses

10.3.3 A minimum of 6 hours of research/thesis credit must be completed (only 6 hours counted towards degree)

10.3.4 A maximum of 4 hours of seminar (VCS 7001) may be applied toward the MS degree

10.3.5 A maximum 8 hours of special topics (VCS 7003) may be applied toward the MS degree

10.3.6 A minimum of 8 hours of non-VCS courses

10.4 The resident shall choose a major advisor. The resident and major advisor are responsible for the selection of a graduate committee (usually 3 members) by January of the first year.

11.0 ADDITIONAL OBJECTIVES

12.0 EVALUATION AND REAPPOINTMENT

12.1 An evaluation will be provided by the block mentor at the end of each assigned block though the E*Value software. A summary evaluation will be made quarterly by the faculty in conjunction with the resident's advisor. The evaluation covers:

12.1.1 Professional ability; to include theoretical knowledge and application of that knowledge, clinical skills, tutorial skills, and scholarly activity.

12.1.2 Hospital services; to include communication skills, patient care, medical record quality, emergency duty quality, and adherence to VTH protocol.

12.1.3 Personal characteristics; to include responsibility, initiative, interaction with faculty, staff and students, deportment and leadership.

12.2 The resident and mentor will meet on a quarterly basis to discuss progress and block evaluations

12.3 At any time in the resident's program, and at the latest in March of each year, the House Office Committee will review all evaluations to date. Following that review, the committee will make a recommendation to the Head of the Department of Veterinary Clinical Sciences to:

12.3.1 Continue the appointment until the next review

12.3.2 Award a certificate upon satisfactory completion of the program.

12.3.3 Not to reappoint the resident, with a minimum of 30 days notice of termination. At the discretion of the House Officer Committee and in consultation with the resident's service, guidelines can be formulated that if met, may allow the resident to be re-instated at the end of the specified period.

12.4 All House Officers are required to complete an annual evaluation of their program with suggestions for improvement before continuation or completion of their program is granted.

13.0 HOUSE OFFICER COMMITTEE

13.1 The Committee is comprised of a representative of each House Officer program. It is responsible for the year-end review of each house officer's progress. This review is based on block evaluations received throughout the course of the program. The Committee grants recommendation for reappointment or a certificate to those who successfully complete the program.

13.2 All House Officers are required to complete an annual evaluation of their program with suggestions for improvement before continuation or completion of their program is granted

14.0 EMPLOYMENT AND BENEFITS

14.1 Louisiana State University classifies interns and residents as University employees. As such, they (and their eligible dependents) qualify for the Louisiana State University Baton Rouge health insurance and benefits. The School of Veterinary Medicine provides malpractice insurance coverage. The salary (not a stipend) is published in the Directory of Internships and Residencies as published by the American Association of Veterinary Clinicians (www.virmp.org). Salary is payable in monthly increments via direct deposit. Retirement contributions are required and withheld from each paycheck. No social security tax is withheld. Federal and state income tax is withheld. The employee may be eligible to petition the IRS for exemption from federal tax on part of his/her salary.

14.2 The Veterinary Teaching Hospital operates year round. House officers will share emergency duty with other house officers within their specialty. House Officers will also share evening, weekend and holiday duty on a

scheduled basis.

14.3 The University offers accrual of annual time off following either the University accrual rate (14 hours/month with a maximum accumulation of 176 hours) or the Civil Service Schedule rate (8 hours/month with no maximum accumulation). Sick time off accrual is 8 hours/month. All time off, except for illness and emergencies, should be requested and approved 30 days in advance. Time off requests must be entered into Workday (via the employee's MyLSU account) by the employee and approved by the supervisor before time off will be granted. Annual time off will be granted on an individual basis taking into account the reason for the requested absence and the needs of the service and hospital. Annual time off for personal business is to be taken during elective or research blocks. Emergency absence such as for illness or a death in the immediate family should be brought to the attention of the clinician to whom the House Officer is assigned as soon as the House Officer learns that he/she will be absent. The official request should be entered into Workday upon the House Officer's return. Except in unusual circumstances, approval will not be granted for time off during the final month of the program.

14.4 Reappointment to the second and third years of the residency program is contingent upon satisfactory completion of the previous year's requirements.

15.0 APPLICATIONS

15.1 Candidates may apply for the Residency in Equine Internal Medicine by completing:

15.1.1 A standard residency application through www.virmp.org.

15.1.2 A statement of residency objectives and subsequent career goals.

15.1.3 Official academic transcripts.

15.1.4 Three letters of reference from individuals currently familiar with the applicant's professional status.

15.1.5 A curriculum vitae.

15.1.6 A GRE score less than five years old if admission to graduate school is sought.

16.0 APPENDICES

16.1 HOUSE OFFICER ROUNDS EVALUATION FORM

House Officer: _____Date: _____

Evaluator: _____

	Evaluation **E=Excellent** **G=Good** **N=Needs Improvement**	**Comments**
Case Selection		
Complexity of case		
Appropriate follow-up		
Content		
Format of presentation		
Discussion		
Conclusions		
Use of problem-oriented approach		
Delivery		
Clarity of speech		
Rate of delivery		
Effectiveness of Visual Presentation		
Use of visual aids		
Body language and enthusiasm		
Questions handled appropriately		

Additional Comments: _____

_____

_____

_____

16.2 VCS SEMINAR EVALUATION FORM

Presenter:_____ **Date:**_____

Audience:_____

Title/Topic:_____

Evaluation Criteria:

	Points	Evaluation
Definition of subject: introduction, importance, clinical significance	**0-5**	
Organization	**0-10**	
Quality of material	**0-10**	
Presence: speaking ability		
Clarity	**0-10**	
Rate of delivery	**0-10**	
Enthusiasm, expressiveness	**0-10**	
Support Materials		
Handouts, manuscript	**0-15**	
Visual aids	**0-5**	
Appropriate Summary	**0-5**	
Presentation consistent with audience level	**0-10**	
Questions/discussion handled appropriately	**0-10**	
	Total	

Comments:

_____

_____

_____

Evaluator: _____

16.3 HOUSE OFFICER LEAVE REQUEST

HOUSE OFFICER LEAVE REQUEST

I am requesting leave approval for the following dates and reasons:

1. To attend the meeting listed below.

   _____

2. To attend to personal activities (illness, family emergency, vacation).

   _____

3. To attend to official activities (out rotations, special circumstance requirements).

   _____

INTERN/RESIDENT:_____ Date:_____
Print Sign

ADVISOR: _____ Date: _____
Print Sign

BLOCK MENTOR: _____ Date: _____
Print Sign

CHAIR HOC: _____ Date: _____
Print Sign

16.4 HOUSE OFFICER BLOCK EVALUATION FORM (E-Value)

House Officer Evaluation Form in E-Value	Needs Improvement	Satisfactory	Good	Excellent	Not Applicable
Professional Ability					
Theoretical Knowledge					
Knowledge Application					
Skills					
Patient Care					
Thoroughness					
Individual Characteristics					
Communication with clinicians					
Communication with students					
Communication with staff					
Independent study & initiative					
Awareness of current literature					
Contribution to student education					
Performance under stress					
Ability to accept criticism					
Organizational skills					
Ability to work in a team					
Reliability					
Motivation					
Attendance at seminars & rounds					
Presentation at seminars & rounds					
Ability to make independent decisions					
Hospital Service					
Completion of duties					
Quality of work					
Emergency services duty					
Communication with veterinarians					
Client communication					
Referral letters & record keeping					
Acceptance of service & case responsibility					
Adherence to VTH protocol					
Strengths:					
Areas for Improvement:					