Rural Mixed Practice Intramural (UVTHC) - Overview

Introduction

The Rural Mixed Practice Intramural Rotation builds upon the skills, knowledge and attitudes veterinary interns should have developed throughout the entire BVSc course. RMP Intramural is designed to contribute to the veterinary interns' understanding and experience of mixed practice prior to graduation. The RMP Intramural Rotation as well as being an induction to the profession, is an opportunity to ensure you are able to demonstrate a satisfactory standard with respect to the graduate attributes relevant to mixed veterinary practice. The goal of the RMP Intramural Rotation is to provide the veterinary intern with an opportunity to gain understanding of veterinary practice through participation in the daily activities of various services mixed veterinary practice provides. It will also allow veterinary interns to join in professional activities including case rounds and staff rounds. The UVTHC is a group practice where the different services interact and work together.

Learning Experiences and Learning Outcomes

The goal for this rotation is to provide a scenario for learning activities and give veterinary interns another opportunity to gain and demonstrate, in conjunction with prior learning experiences, a satisfactory standard with respect to graduate attributes applicable to mixed veterinary practice. Part of the learning activities will be participation in the daily activities of the UVTHC and veterinary interns will be included as much as possible in the clinical activities. Other learning activities include discussing cases and related issues with staff, participating in case rounds and staff rounds, as well as preparing and presenting case reports and oral presentations based on clinical cases seen during the rotation. In order to benefit most from the learning opportunities veterinary interns need to be committed to the clinic and hence be available in the clinic for hours similar to full time employees of the UVTHC.

Rural Mixed Practice Intramural (UVTHC) - Anaesthesia Service Rotation

Students may undertake a two or four week rotation

Co-ordinator: Dr Christina Dart – Associate Professor and Head of Anaesthesia Services

Aims and Objectives and Learning outcomes

The objective of the anaesthesia rotation is to provide an opportunity for acquiring knowledge, applying knowledge and developing skills all being essential and relevant for “best practice” of anaesthesia and pain management in a variety of animal species. The aims of the rotation is not only to provide opportunities for developing practical skills and knowledge but also proficiency in more generic skills including problem solving, decision making, communication, professionalism and humanistic values including empathy towards animals in their care.

Learning Outcomes

The learning outcomes of the anaesthesia rotation build on material delivered in the pre-clinical anaesthesia course and based on the learning objectives of this rotation it is anticipated that veterinary students at the conclusion of the rotation can demonstrate to have advanced their knowledge and developed skills to a level as described below:

Knowledge:

1. Solid understanding of the principles and administration of routine anaesthetic techniques in companion animals and to a lesser extent those that apply to camelids and ruminants.
2. Solid understanding of routine techniques used for sedation of companion animals.
3. Understanding of the principle of providing appropriate peri- and post-operative analgesia in companion animals, camelids and ruminants.
4. Understanding of the principle of postoperative critical care in companion animals.

Application of knowledge and skills:
1. Perform a physical examination on a patient prior to anaesthesia.
2. Decide if additional information to that gained from a physical examination is necessary for the optimal pre-anaesthetic 'work-up' of a patient.
3. Determine whether a patient requires pre-anaesthetic stabilisation and/or treatment to optimise anaesthetic outcome.
4. Devise an anaesthetic plan including:
   a. Appropriate drug selection
   b. Correct dose calculation
   c. Appropriate method of drug administration
   d. Necessary fluid therapy (if required)
   e. Other supportive care (maintenance of body temperature, padding, positioning)
   f. Choice and application of suitable monitoring equipment
   g. Appropriate peri-operative and post-operative analgesia
5. Perform the procedure of intravenous catheterisation in dogs, cats and horses.
6. Place an endotracheal tube in dogs and cats.
7. Correctly use the basic equipment used for administration of volatile anaesthetics/oxygen in cats, dogs and horses.
8. Apply techniques for the manual assessment of anaesthetic depth.
9. Correctly use commonly used monitoring aids and acknowledge their usefulness and limitations.
10. Describe the basic pharmacology of routinely used anaesthetic drugs.

Students are expected to participate in the daily activities of the anaesthesia service both in the large and small animals clinic. Appropriate attire for working around large and small animals as well in surgical theatres is requires as are stethoscope, pen, thermometer and watch.

Clinical commitments permitting rounds and tutorials will be held

During the anaesthesia rotation students have the opportunity to participate in the Camden Desex Clinic where they will provide the anaesthesia for dogs and cats that have been re-homed through a local pound and are neutered prior to being released to their new owners. In addition to anaesthesia students will care for the animals from the time of admission to discharge which includes pre-operative assessment, planning and administration of appropriate anaesthesia and pain management, and post-operative care. As such participation in the Camden Desex Clinic provides a opportunity for students to engage in the holistic management of the surgical patient.

Rural Mixed Practice Intramural (UVTHC) - Equine Service Rotation

Students may undertake a two or four week rotation

Co-ordinator - Dr Christine Smith – Senior Registrar in Equine Surgery and Head of

The Equine Service at the UVTHC provides a 24 hour service and veterinary interns will be expected to participate in all facets of the clinic activities – i.e. treatment of inpatients and outpatients, ambulatory service, intensive care treatments and emergency duty. Each veterinary intern will be assigned hospitalized cases while on the Equine Service and will be responsible for treatments of these animals. Intensive care may be required for some cases throughout the day and night. Interns are expected to commence duty each day NO LATER than 7:30am. The day 'concludes' when the last case is completed, and when afternoon rounds and afternoon treatments are finished. There are no fixed times for afternoon rounds, but they are usually held immediately before or after afternoon treatments.

Learning Outcomes

Learning Outcomes for this service rotation are designed to build on Learning Outcomes for Horse Medicine and Surgery achieved in Year 4. By the end of the rotation it is anticipated that veterinary interns should:

1. Be able to take a detailed case history, perform a thorough physical examination, and formulate a diagnostic and treatment plan for some common medical and surgical conditions affecting horses.
2. Be familiar with the daily clinical monitoring of hospitalized medical and surgical patients.
3. Be able to complete and maintain an accurate medical record.
4. Have a detailed knowledge and understanding of clinical anatomy of the horse, especially as it pertains to common disorders seen in equine practice.
5. Be able to perform basic equine technical procedures including intravenous, intramuscular and subcutaneous injections; and administration of oral medications.
6. Be able to recognise lameness and identify the affected leg using physical examination, gait analysis, palpation, flexion tests and the use of hoof testers. Be familiar with the common lower limb diagnostic nerve blocks.
7. Be familiar with the radiographic techniques, common radiographic views and radiological findings associated with common conditions causing lameness.
8. Be familiar with the indications for the use of ultrasonography in lameness evaluation and be familiar with the ultrasonographic anatomy of the distal limb.
9. Be able to interpret routine haematology, biochemistry and urinalysis results; and correctly identify common clinicopathologic abnormalities in equine medical and surgical patients.
10. Understand the basic principles of antimicrobial and analgesic therapies including indications, dose rates and routes of administration.
11. Be familiar with methods of restraint including the dose, actions and routes of administration of common sedatives used in equine practice.
12. Understand how to perform some of the common procedures carried out in equine practice (e.g. wound management and suturing, castration, dentistry, colic work-up, ophthalmic examination).
13. Have basic clinical knowledge and problem solving skills related to common problems encountered in equine practice; such as lameness, wound management, colic, weight loss, diarrhoea, poor performance, upper and lower respiratory tract disease, ocular disease, skin disease, and cardiovascular disease.
14. Be familiar with the indications for euthanasia and how to carry out euthanasia using an appropriate technique.
15. Develop an acceptable professional code of conduct fitting with a veterinary professional including adequate dress code, behaviour, and communication skills with clients and colleagues.

Due to the availability of suitable case material we cannot guarantee that all veterinary interns will be exposed to opportunities to fulfill all of the above learning objectives during the rotation.

Rural Mixed Practice Intramural (UVTHC) – Dermatology Service Rotation

Students may undertake a two or four week rotation

Co-ordinator - Dr Linda Vogelnest – Specialist Veterinary Dermatologist

Outline & General Requirements of the Dermatology Rotation

Interns are expected to bring standard requirements for consulting, including pen, notepad, stethoscope, penlight and thermometer, and wear appropriate attire for participating in consultations. Interns will take part in all dermatology consultations and procedures performed during the allocated dermatology days on this rotation. Other interesting/relevant samples/cases collected during this week on scheduled pathology days will also be available for review.

1. Interns are advised to read through their dermatology lecture notes prior to this rotation to maximise the value of clinical experience during this short rotation.
2. As for other consulting services, the number of cases per day and the finishing time, will vary. There are no official lunch breaks during the day, although we usually have a break in the middle of the day.
3. During this rotation interns are expected to approach each case in a professional manner. Interns will take turns as primary clinician for each consultation, collecting and collating history and clinical findings in a timely manner. Interns are encouraged to make a diagnostic and/or treatment plan based on their initial findings to present for discussion to supervising staff. Other observing interns for each case can make their own assessments, however should allow the primary clinician to have major client and animal interaction.
4. Time will be made to discuss all cases at the end of each day, or during the day when time is available.
5. Tutorials will be held during quieter times, when possible. Case studies will be available for interns to work through during quieter times

Learning Outcomes

At the conclusion of this rotation it is anticipated that veterinary interns will be able to:

1. Collect a thorough history from dermatology cases, and recognise important details.
2. Perform a detailed physical examination of skin, and accurately describe skin lesions.
3. Collate historical and physical findings to produce a prioritized list of differential diagnoses.
4. Formulate a logical and practical diagnostic approach to skin diseases.
5. Understand when different skin diagnostic tests are indicated and perform common tests to maximize their diagnostic yield, including:
a. Tape Preparations  
b. Skin Scrapings  
c. Ear Cytology Samples  
d. Impression Smears  

6. Logically collate historical and physical data with diagnostic test results to reach a firm diagnosis.  
7. Clearly understand the prognosis and therapeutic options for common skin diseases.  
8. Have a broad understanding of prognosis and therapeutic options for less common skin diseases.  

Due to the availability of suitable case material we cannot guarantee that all veterinary interns will be exposed to opportunities to fulfill all of the above learning objectives during the rotation.

The Avian, Reptile, and Exotic Pet Hospital – AREPH Service Rotation  

Students may undertake a two or four week rotation.

The Wildlife Health and Conservation Centre (WHCC) is located on the Camden Campus. The WHCC operates The Avian, Reptile, and Exotic Pet Hospital whose clients are people who have exotic pets. Wildlife patients are also seen at this hospital.

This service rotation will provide students with an unequaled opportunity to learn about the husbandry, medicine and surgery of exotic pets and wildlife. Students will also have the opportunity to learn from other faculty members and post graduate students who are actively involved in the Centre's activities. Students will be involved in taking histories on and examining patients. Students will develop differential diagnoses and diagnostic plans for their patients and will be involved in assessing the results of diagnostic tests. Students will also participate in the medical and surgical care of patients. Students may also have the opportunity to participate in field research activities.

We are seeking students with a passion for exotic animal and wildlife medicine. We do not expect that you will necessarily have an extensive background in this field, but we do expect that you will use this opportunity to learn. The day will begin when the clinic opens at 7:30 am and will end when the clinic closes at 6:30 pm. Emergency coverage, Saturday hours, and Sunday and after hour treatments will be divided evenly between the two students on the rotation.

What animals do we care for?
- Pet and aviary birds ranging from finches, canaries and other soft bills to budgerigars, cockatoos and macaws.
- Reptiles including lizards, snakes* and turtles.
- Amphibians.
- Small Mammals including ferrets, rabbits, guinea pigs, and rodents.
- Fresh and salt water fish.
- Deer and other exotic hoof stock.
- Animals in zoos and wild animal parks.

2011 Externship Program Dates  

Intake periods are indicated in yellow, followed by service rotation date options, for the intake period.

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16th February, 2011