

<b>Ref. No.</b>	<b>C-VD.3</b>
<b>Title:</b>	<b>Small Animal Dermatology (B)</b>
<b>Category and Value:</b>	<b>C - 10 credits</b>
<b>Notional Study Hours:</b>	<b>100</b>

### **Aim**

The aim of this module is to develop a logical, systematic and reasoned approach to the management of dermatological diseases commonly seen in practice, including a systematic understanding of disease, owner and patient factors relevant to each patient and incorporating them into a treatment plan. In undertaking the module, candidates will also develop their skills in critical evaluation of their own clinical practice and show self-direction in developing strategies for continuous improvement in the future.

### **Learning Outcomes**

By the end of the module, successful candidates should be able to:

- critically reflect on the importance of establishing a diagnosis and identifying perpetuating factors and concurrent diseases when managing dermatological diseases in companion animals;
- demonstrate in-depth knowledge of the management options for a variety of dermatological conditions;
- demonstrate critical awareness of pharmacology of medications used for therapy of dermatological diseases and issues surrounding antimicrobial use in companion animals including methods to minimise the development of antimicrobial resistance;
- demonstrate a systematic understanding of the importance of disease factors, owner factors and patients factors in the management of dermatological conditions;
- demonstrate clinical reasoning and evidence based practice in the management of dermatological conditions;
- critically evaluate clinical work to improve outcomes;
- review and constructively criticise current literature in the subject area.

### **Module Content**

#### **1. Principles of Therapy**

This will cover the principles of therapy of dermatological diseases in companion animals

This will include the importance of establishing a diagnosis and identifying perpetuating factors and concurrent diseases.

The focus is on the basic mechanism of action and clinical utility of the following classes of drugs as applied in disorders of the skin including the mode of action of the drugs used, their potential side-effects and the more common drug incompatibilities and interactions.

- Antibiotics, systemic and topical (and understand the importance of antimicrobial resistance)
- Parasiticides
- Antifungals
- Anti-pruritic, anti-inflammatory and immune-modulatory drugs in common use
- Allergen-specific immunotherapy
- Topical and hydro-therapy:
  - Shampoos: cleansing, anti-seborrhoeic, anti-microbial
  - Sprays, creams, emulsions, ointments, lotions, gels, emollients and moisturisers
- Topical antimicrobial agents

## 2. Management of Specific Conditions

This will cover therapy of specific conditions including:

- parasitic diseases
- dermatophytosis
- Malassezia dermatitis
- pyoderma
- otitis externa and otitis media
- neoplastic skin conditions
- allergic and immune-mediated diseases of the skin
- eosinophilic diseases
- anal sac disease
- nutrient-responsive dermatoses including:
  - deficiency of fatty acids, protein or specific vitamins or minerals;
  - zinc responsive dermatosis;

## Suggested Assessment Strategy

1. Short essay questions (500 words) at the end of study units 1 and 2 (1 hour duration);
2. A MCQ test at the end of the module (1 hour duration);
3. A written and/or oral critique of an original research paper in the veterinary literature relevant to a topic within this module;
4. Portfolio of cases (20 case log book)
5. A reflective case report of 2000 words focussing on the diagnostic approach to a dermatological case relevant to a topic within this module.