

<b>Reference Number</b>	C-E.13
<b>Module Title</b>	Equine Dental Care, Diagnosis and Treatment
<b>Category and Value</b>	C – 10 credits
<b>Study Hours</b>	100

## Introduction

This module will cover the theory and a practical approach to the prevention and treatment of dental disorders in the horse.

This module is one of three C-modules covering Equine Dentistry, which can be used towards a designated Certificate in Advanced Veterinary Practice (Equine Dentistry). Candidates are advised to consult the list of available modules for the complete set of options. Upon completion of all the necessary modules, a further synoptic assessment will also be required to achieve a designated certificate.

It is recommended that candidates complete Foundations of Advanced Veterinary Practice (A-FAVP.1) and Equine Practice (B-EP.3) prior to this module, as they provide essential postgraduate training in literature critique and evidence-based medicine (required for journal clubs and assessments) and fundamental training in reflective and evidence-based writing, and clinical reasoning, required for case-based assessments.

## Aims

The aim of this module is to develop an in-depth knowledge of the underlying theory and a practical approach to prevention and treatment of dental disorders in the horse.

## Learning Outcomes

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

1. demonstrate in-depth understanding of the anatomy and physiology of the equine oral cavity and associated structures;
2. demonstrate a critical awareness of the pathological process in the equine oral cavity including dental overgrowths, dental pathology, diastema and gingival/periodontal disease;
3. demonstrate application of a sound clinical reasoning process in the approach to equine dental disease, incorporating evidence from the diagnostic database and scientific literature as well the ability to appropriately adapt to client, animal and practice factors;
4. critically appraise literature relevant to clinical cases in the topics covered and discuss how the literature can be used to inform practice;
5. demonstrate critical reflection on clinical work, recognise the truly unusual case, and when to refer a case that is beyond personal or practice capabilities.

This module will also incorporate the generic skills of evidence-based medicine, clinical reasoning, literature review and critique, communication and reflection

## **Module Content**

### **Dental overgrowths/malocclusions and their prevention**

- Review dental anatomy and physiology
- Incisors: overgrowth and developmental and acquired malocclusions
- Marked cheek teeth overgrowths resulting in malocclusions
- “Wave mouth”
- “Step Mouth”
- “Shear mouth”
- “Excessive cheek teeth transverse ridges”
- Safe use of appropriate equipment including motorised equipment where necessary

### **Diagnostic imaging**

- Effective restraint and positioning
- Projections, film type (digital), radiographic safety
- Interpretation of equine dental radiology
- Understanding value and limitations of alternative imaging techniques such as nuclear medicine, computed tomography and magnetic resonance imaging and an appreciation of the indications for referral for these techniques.

### **Dental pathology, diastema and gingival / periodontal disease**

- Infundibular Decay – as a cause of dental fracture and apical infection
- Identification of fissure fractures and “idiopathic” cheek teeth fractures.
- Pathogenesis, identification and classification of infundibular lesions
- Aetiology and signs of cheek teeth pulpar and apical infection
- Identification and significance of occlusal pulp exposure and pulp necrosis
- Pathophysiology of periodontal disease in horses and ponies including techniques facilitating its prevention and management
- Pathogenesis and correction of diastema
- Correction of malocclusions
- Exodontis

### **Dental disease in special situations**

- The Young Horse
- Geriatric Horse
- The Miniature Horse
- “Performance Dentistry”

## **Assessment Strategy**

Module providers are responsible for deciding on assessment strategies and methods, subject to accreditation by RCVS.