

Reference Number	C-E.14
Module Title	Equine Dental Surgery
Category and Value	C – 10 credits
Study Hours	100

Introduction

This module will cover the underlying theory and a practical approach to equine dental surgery. It is aimed at practicing equine veterinarians.

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 equine dental surgery.

Learning Outcomes

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

1. systematically apply in-depth knowledge of the surgical anatomy of the equine oral cavity and associated structures to patient evaluation and surgical treatment planning;
2. synthesise appropriate protocols for surgical treatment of the equine oral cavity and associated structures;
3. apply sound clinical reasoning in the approach to dental problems, incorporating evidence from the diagnostic database and scientific literature as well as 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, recognising the truly unusual case and when a case is beyond personal or practice capabilities

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

Module Content

Basic surgical skills

- Principles of wound healing.
- Prevention of infection and spread of infection.
- Concepts of contamination and infection of traumatic wounds.
- Responsible use of antibiotics in Equine Dentistry.
- Analgesia, local and regional head anaesthesia

Dental extractions

- Knowledge of the principles, indications and techniques for exodontia including complications and post-operative management.
- An understanding of more advanced surgical techniques for dental extraction and an appreciation of when to refer cases to a centre of surgical excellence.
- Endodontic treatment and infundibular restoration

Oral/Facial Trauma and neoplasia

- Principles for repair of the commoner fracture configurations by wiring.
- Management of horses with facial trauma – including emergency tracheostomy.
- Repairing wounds to the lips and cheeks.
- Common tumours of the oral cavity and head region

Other Disorders possibly related to dental disease

- The thin wasting horse
- The headshaker
- Unilateral nasal discharge
- Clinical audit: Evaluation of the success / failure of dental treatments.
- Development of a scientific evidence base for Equine Dentistry.

Assessment Strategy

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