

<b>Reference Number</b>	C-EBM.1
<b>Module Title</b>	Equine Behavioural Medicine A
<b>Category and Value</b>	C – 10 credits
<b>Study Hours</b>	100

## Introduction

This module will consider why horses behave the way they do and how to treat unwanted behaviours. Candidates will explore how stress in utero and adverse early life experiences shape the horse's neurophysiological development and subsequent adult behaviour. The module will focus on normal and abnormal stress responses and the neurophysiology that drives behaviour in horses. Candidates will consider unwanted behaviours from a causal and functional perspective. Opportunities to discuss behaviour indicators of pain, stress, range of emotions and behavioural syndromes in horses will be encouraged.

## Aims

This module is aimed at vets who want to offer a service for seeing behavioural medicine cases. It is designed to help candidates develop both practical and theoretical skills in the field. The candidate is expected to build on the foundation skills developed when undertaking the A and B modules, and to demonstrate progression towards advanced practitioner skills. The candidate will be able to evaluate their own standards of practice and develop strategies for continuous improvement in the future.

## Structure

This module is comprised of the following specific themes:

- Neuroscience
- Pain
- Stress
- Early life experiences and consequences for later life
- Understanding emotional states

## Learning Outcomes

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

1. Demonstrate a critical understanding of specialised terminology, principal theories, concepts, and principles of equine behavioural medicine.
2. Apply knowledge, skills, and understanding in using a range of professional skills, techniques and practices associated with equine behaviour medicine.

## Module Content

<b>Title and Outline</b>
Neuroscience
Pain
Stress
Early life experiences and consequences for later life
Understanding emotional states

## **Assessment Strategy**

Module providers are responsible for deciding on assessment strategies and methods, subject to accreditation by RCVS. The following general guidance applies to assessment of this module:

- Assessment will be in accordance with the general requirement for the CertAVP qualification to be benchmarked against the Quality Assurance Agency's (QAA) "M" level in the national qualifications framework.
- Assessment will support the RCVS requirement for the module to be accessible to candidates from a wide variety of veterinary backgrounds.
- Assessment will be aimed at encouraging learning and at measuring progress towards the intended learning outcomes of the module.