

<b>REF. NO</b>	<b>C-ONC.1</b>
<b>TITLE</b>	<b>Approach to the cancer patient, cancer pathology and surgical treatment of cancer</b>
<b>CATEGORY AND VALUE</b>	<b>C – 10 CREDITS</b>
<b>NOTIONAL STUDY HOURS</b>	<b>100</b>

Completion of this module, together with C- Onc. 2 and C-Onc 3, and the compulsory A and B modules are necessary for candidates who are aiming to achieve the Oncology designated Certificate in Advanced Veterinary Practice.

### **Aim**

The candidate will be able to demonstrate an ability to apply their understanding of the approach to a patient with cancer including cancer diagnostics and oncologic surgery.

### **Learning Objectives**

This module is intended to cover approach to the cancer patient, cancer diagnostics, and surgical oncology. Upon completion candidates should be able:

- to evaluate an oncology patient
- make a diagnostic plan for a patient that may have cancer
- select appropriate diagnostic and staging tests with consideration of the pro and cons of each test in relation to the evidence base in oncology
- discuss the pathology of cancer in terms of tumour types and their natural history
- understand the importance of critical appraisal of pathology reports and understand the importance of immunohistochemistry in diagnosis
- perform simple cytology analysis.
- make decisions about the role of surgery in a cancer case
- understand the approach to patients with solid tumours
- identify patients with solid tumours that would benefit from multimodal therapy

### **Module Content:**

On successfully completing this module, candidates would be expected to have knowledge of, and understand the clinical relevance of:

#### **Approach to diagnosis of the cancer patient**

- Clinical evaluation of patient that may have cancer
- Biopsy techniques

#### **Cancer and Pathology**

- Basic cancer pathology
- The natural history of common malignancies in the dog and cat
- Diagnostic criteria for malignancy
- Immunohistochemistry and basic immunochemical panels
- Basic cytology and special stains

#### Staging and prognostication of cancer patients

- When and how to stage a patient with cancer
- Selecting the appropriate imaging for the cancer patient and understanding the results
- Using this information for prognostication and treatment planning

#### Surgical Oncology

- Principles of surgical oncology
- Decision making in surgical oncology
- Basis of surgical reconstruction
- Combining surgery with other modalities

#### Solid tumours

- Management of common solid tumours of the skin, musculoskeletal system and body cavities

#### **Assessment:**

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 requirements for the module to be accessible to candidates from a wide variety of veterinary backgrounds and to focus on the veterinary aims of small animal oncology practice.
- Assessment will be aimed at encouraging learning and at measuring progress towards the intended learning outcomes of the module