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| Reference Number | C-C.6 |
| Module Title | Cattle – Bovine Mastitis and Lameness |
| Category and Value | C – 10 credits |
| Study Hours | 100 |

Introduction

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

The candidate is also 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.

This is an optional module for those wishing to obtain a Certificate in Advanced Veterinary Practice (Cattle).

Aims

The aim of this module is to enable the candidate to develop comprehensive and systematic understanding of mastitis and lameness in cattle herds so that they can apply this knowledge to the management of both mastitis and lameness. The candidate will be able to critically evaluate their own standards of practice and develop strategies for continuous improvement in the future.

Learning Outcomes

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

1. Critically appraise the management and monitoring of mastitis and lameness in cattle in the UK and critically evaluate the role of the veterinary surgeon in planned mastitis and lameness control.
2. Apply clinical reasoning skills and evidence-based medicine to the diagnosis, management, monitoring and control of mastitis and lameness.
3. Critically evaluate the legislation relating to mastitis and lameness and how it relates to the health, management and welfare of cattle and food production in the UK.
4. Critically evaluate cattle husbandry and management and its effects upon rates of mastitis and lameness.
5. Critically appraise the literature relevant to clinical cases in the topics covered and use the literature to inform practice.

Module Content

Mastitis

Mastitis pathogens, their epidemiology, treatment, prevention and control

The role of the dry period and dry cow therapy

Milking machine: its function, maintenance and testing; common problems and their role in mastitis

The milking routine and teat disinfection; pre- and post-milking

Somatic cell count – relevance, measurement and monitoring at herd and individual cow level

Diseases of the udder and teat

Economics, targets, recording and monitoring systems

Lameness

Routine foot care, trimming and foot bathing

Infectious and non-infectious causes of lameness and their treatment, prevention and control

Risk factors for lameness

Interaction between nutrition and lameness

Economics, targets, recording and monitoring systems

Assessment Strategy

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