

<b>Reference Number</b>	C-VD.3
<b>Module Title</b>	Small Animal Dermatology B
<b>Category and Value</b>	C – 10 credits
<b>Study Hours</b>	100

## Introduction

This module is focused on small animal dermatology, covering the principles of therapy of dermatological diseases in companion animals, and the management of specific small animal dermatological conditions. This module will extend and consolidate clinical knowledge and skills gained at undergraduate level, to allow application of this knowledge to the initial assessment of patients and their subsequent management. The candidate will be able to evaluate critically their own standards of practice and develop strategies for continuous improvement in the future.

The module is aimed at candidates interested in enhancing their knowledge and understanding of these topics within small animal dermatology and is an optional module for the RCVS Certificate in Advanced Veterinary Practice (Veterinary Dermatology).

## Aims

The aim of this module is to:

1. Develop a logical, systematic and reasoned approach to the management of dermatological diseases commonly seen in practice, including a systematic understanding of disease, owner and patient factors relevant to each patient and incorporating them into a treatment plan.
2. Enable the candidate to critically evaluate their own standards of practice and develop strategies for continuous improvement in the future.

## Learning Outcomes

By the end of the module, successful candidates will be able to:

1. Critically reflect on the importance of establishing a diagnosis and identifying perpetuating factors and concurrent diseases when managing dermatological diseases in small animals.
2. Apply clinical reasoning skills and evidence-based medicine to the management of dermatological cases in small animals, including responsible antimicrobial use and methods to minimise the development of antibiotic resistance.
3. Critically appraise the literature relevant to clinical cases in the topics covered and how the literature can be used to inform practice.
4. Critically evaluate and reflect on clinical decision-making, including recognising limitations of competence, determining appropriate referral, and identifying areas for professional development.

## Module Content

## **1. Principles of Therapy**

This will cover the principles of therapy of dermatological diseases in companion animals

This will include the importance of establishing a diagnosis and identifying perpetuating factors and concurrent diseases.

The focus is on the basic mechanism of action and clinical utility of the following classes of drugs as applied in disorders of the skin including the mode of action of the drugs used, their potential side-effects and the more common drug incompatibilities and interactions.

- Antibiotics, systemic and topical (and understand the importance of antimicrobial resistance)
- Parasiticides
- Antifungals
- Anti-pruritic, anti-inflammatory and immune-modulatory drugs in common use
- Allergen-specific immunotherapy
- Dietary management
- Topical and hydro-therapy:
  - Shampoos: cleansing, anti-seborrhoeic, anti-microbial
  - Sprays, creams, emulsions, ointments, lotions, gels, emollients and moisturisers

## **2. Management of Specific Conditions**

This will cover therapy of specific conditions including:

- Parasitic diseases
- Dermatophytosis
- Malassezia dermatitis
- Pyoderma
- Protozoal and viral skin diseases
- Otitis externa and otitis media
- Neoplastic skin conditions
- Allergic and immune-mediated diseases of the skin
- Anal sac disease

## **Assessment Strategy**

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