

LARGE ANIMAL INTERNAL MEDICINE

General Information

I. Introduction

The residency program is offered by the Department of Large Animal Clinical Sciences in the Virginia-Maryland Regional College of Veterinary Medicine at Virginia Tech.

II. Objectives

The program will provide the resident with:

1. Advanced clinical training in large animal internal medicine
2. Fulfillment of the requirements for a conforming residency program in the American College of Veterinary Internal Medicine
3. Experience teaching veterinary students in clinical and preclinical courses
4. Opportunity for designing and conducting a research project
5. Opportunity to prepare and present seminars to peer groups
6. Opportunity for scientific writing
7. Concurrent graduate course work for a Master's degree in Veterinary Science

III. Prerequisites

Prerequisites for acceptance into the residency program will include:

1. DVM degree or equivalent
2. Completion of at least one year of a large animal rotating internship in medicine and surgery or private practice equivalent
3. Eligibility for admission to the Graduate School

IV. Application Procedures

Application will proceed through the Veterinary Intern/Resident Matching Program. The Matching Program will be administered by the Chairman of the Department of Large Animal Clinical Sciences.

V. Criteria for Selection

Candidates for the residency program will be judged on the following criteria:

1. Letter of intent
2. Curriculum vitae
3. Transcripts of university performance

4. Three letters of reference, one of which should be from a referee in large animal internal medicine
5. Experience
6. Potential for eligibility for admission into the Graduate School

VI. Administration of the Residency Program

The program will be administered by the Chairman of the Department of Large Animal Clinical Sciences. The resident will be responsible to the Resident Advisor who is a diplomate of the American College of Veterinary Internal Medicine and a member of the Department of Large Animal Clinical Sciences. The resident will be responsible to the Graduate Advisor who has a Master's or doctoral degree and is a member of the Department of Large Animal Clinical Sciences.

VII. Responsibilities

1. Management

The resident will be the primary attending clinician in the VTH for referral and non-referral cases assigned to Large Animal Medicine. The resident will have primary case responsibility for these cases and will request and receive consultation from clinical faculty and specialists. The resident will be supervised by Medicine faculty members and the Resident Advisor. The resident will communicate with the referring veterinarian and/or client within 24 hours after admission and prior to discharge. Documentation of communication with the referring veterinarian and/or client must be maintained in the medical record and signed by the resident. The resident will complete the discharge instructions prior to discharge, and the referral letter within 7 days of discharge. The referral letter will be co-signed by the Medicine faculty member.

The resident will receive all cases transferred to Large Animal Medicine from Large Animal Surgery and Production Medicine. The medicine faculty member will be responsible for all cases managed by the resident.

2. Emergency Duty

The resident will participate in emergency duty on a rotating basis with residents in Large Animal Medicine at the direction of the Resident Advisor.

3. Consultation Calls

The resident will receive requests for consultation from outside veterinarians. All requests for consultation must be completed within 24 hours.

4. Clinical Instruction

The resident will participate in the clinical instruction of senior veterinary students. The resident will use clinical cases to instruct senior veterinary students. The senior student assigned to a case will complete the medical record using the problem oriented medical record format. The resident will review and critique the problem-oriented medical record daily. The resident will discuss each case with the student assigned to the case each day. The resident will assist the student with routine diagnostic and therapeutic procedures, and perform procedures themselves when the procedure poses a significant risk to the patient or when the student has unsuccessfully attempted the procedure. The Medicine faculty will provide assistance with difficult procedures.

The resident will attend and participate in rounds and lead discussions when a case assigned to the resident is being discussed.

5. Classroom Instruction

The resident will participate in the preclinical instruction of veterinary students at the discretion of the Resident Advisor. Preclinical instruction will include lectures and or laboratories and will not exceed two lectures during the first year, four lectures during the second year, and six lectures during the last year of the residency program. The resident will assist in laboratories providing less than 40 hours of laboratory instruction per year. All requests for the resident to provide instructional assistance must be approved in advance by the Resident Advisor.

6. Seminars

The resident will attend and participate in Large Animal Resident Rounds, Large Animal Case Rounds and Large Animal Medicine Journal Club. The resident is encouraged to attend all seminars given by visiting faculty.

7. Continuing Education Programs

The resident is encouraged to assist in the presentation of continuing education programs in Large Animal Medicine offered by the Department. All requests for the resident to participate in continuing education programs must be approved by the Resident Advisor.

8. Research

The resident will design and complete a research project under the direction of the Resident and Graduate Advisors. Results of this project will be submitted as a manuscript for publication in a refereed journal.

9. Publication

The resident must submit a case report or review article for publication in a refereed journal in addition to the research publication described previously. These manuscripts must be submitted prior to the completion of the residency/Master's degree program. The resident must request and receive assistance from Medicine faculty members to complete these manuscripts.

10. Professional Development

The Department will attempt to provide partial funding for the resident to attend the annual meeting of the American College of Veterinary Internal Medicine.

The resident will spend 40 hours of direct contact with a Board-certified veterinary radiologist. The resident will spend 40 hours of direct contact with a Board-certified veterinary clinical pathologist or pathologist. The timing of these weeks with the Radiologist and Clinical Pathologist/Pathologist will be coordinated by the Resident Advisor.

The resident will participate in a three-week elective rotation in the Production Medicine Service. The resident will participate in a three-week off-campus elective rotation. The timing and location of these elective rotations will be requested by the resident and approved by the Resident Advisor.

11. Evaluation

The resident will be evaluated every six months by Medicine faculty. The evaluation will include medical knowledge, clinical skills, responsibility, attitude and communication skills. An assessment of the resident's strength, weakness and recommendations for improvement will be made by the Medicine faculty. Results of the evaluation will be discussed with the resident and forwarded to the Department Chairman. The resident will be evaluated annually for reappointment by the Department Chairman.

The resident will submit a written evaluation of the program or discuss the strength and weakness of the program during an exit interview with the Department Chairman.

12. Application for admission into the American College of Veterinary Internal Medicine

The resident must register with the American College of Veterinary Internal Medicine (ACVIM) within 90 days of beginning the residency training program. Information regarding the ACVIM can be viewed at <http://www.acvim.org>