



ROTATING INTERNSHIP PROGRAM
University of Camerino
School of Bioscience and Veterinary Medicine
Veterinary Teaching Hospital

Brief description and objectives of the program

Rotating Internship Program at the Veterinary Teaching Hospital of University of Camerino is a one-year, structured, multidisciplinary, clinical training programme in veterinary medicine beyond the professional degree.

Internship program emphasises mentorship, direct supervision, and didactic experiences including rounds, seminars, and formal presentations. It provides practical experience in applying knowledge gained during formal professional education, and offers an opportunity for recent graduates to obtain additional training in the clinical and basic sciences. An internship is composed of a broad range of clinical assignments within the major divisions of veterinary medicine. Involving a flexible rotation in a wide range of clinical activities, the comprehensive broad postgraduate training and experience prepares a veterinarian for high-quality service in practice or for a decision on an area of specialisation including advanced specialty training (residency programs). The Rotating Internship Program is a prerequisite for accessing a Residency Program, however this is subject to the opinion of the Director of each Residency Program during the application for a Residency position.

Interns will be provided with the opportunity:

- to gain experience in first level and advanced diagnostic and therapeutic techniques in small animal medicine and surgery;
- to identify for themselves area of specific interest for a subsequent specialty training;
- to gain experience in clinical decision making, emergency care, client communication and hospital administration;
- to gain experience in seminar presentation and in manuscript preparation;
- to receive tutorship from senior clinicians.

Prerequisites for admission

- Degree in Veterinary Medicine;
- Authorization to practice the veterinary profession;
- Registration in the Professional Order of Veterinary Doctors.

Organization of the program

The program includes an introductory phase lasting 4 weeks approximately. The interns will be gradually introduced to the hospital services on a rotational basis with specific emphasis on tutorship, so as to facilitate familiarization with the facilities, staff, procedures, protocols, and services of the veterinary teaching hospital. The structured medical staff will organize specific

essential practical training courses. Attendance at these starting courses is mandatory for Interns. During this introductory period the Interns will gradually be trained in all services, including emergency, intensive care and clinical laboratories, until the acquisition of individual skills and responsibilities.

Formal and scheduled rotations in various specialized services of the hospital (see list below) will take the remaining part of the entire internship year. Interns will be progressively introduced to take responsibility for the primary case with the supervision of the faculty always available; the first cases of opinion on an individual basis will be assigned to the interns in the context of the actual rotation services and during rotations in case of emergency, intensive care and hospitalization services. The supervised clinical activities will be commensurate with the increase in clinical competence. Supervision of experienced veterinarians and faculty members will ensure monitoring, evaluation and progressive grading of clinical skills and competencies progressively acquired by interns.

Detailed program description and time requirements

Rotating internship program has a total duration of 50 weeks (at least 40 hours per week) and provides for mandatory and active attendance of the veterinary teaching hospital of University of Camerino. Within the program, adequate time will be dedicated to independent study or assisted by teachers (self direct learning), elaboration of clinical cases, bibliographic review, preparation of journal clubs.

The attendance of the various hospital services is articulated with the following approximate minimum timing:

- Internal medicine (13 weeks = 520 hours);
- Surgery (13 weeks = 520 hours);
- Clinical Pathology (5 weeks = 200 hours);
- Diagnostic imaging (5 weeks = 200 hours);
- Reproduction (5 weeks = 200 hours);
- Emergency service and intensive care (9 weeks = 360 hours).

In the internal medicine program particular attention is given to consultation and patient care in dermatology, cardiology, gastroenterology, depending on the case at the time of rotation.

In the surgery program particular attention is given to consultation, patient care and operation in soft tissue surgery, orthopaedics, traumatology, neurology, oncologic surgery, ophthalmic surgery, laser and radiofrequency surgery, mini-invasive surgery, wound care, physiotherapy and rehabilitation, anaesthesiology and pain therapy, depending on the case at the time of rotation.

In the clinical pathology program particular attention is given to haematology, clinical biochemistry, endocrinology, cytology, depending on the case at the time of rotation.

In the diagnostic imaging program particular attention is given to digital radiology, ultrasound, computed tomography, magnetic resonance imaging, depending on the case at the time of rotation.

In the reproduction program particular attention is given to consultation, patient care and operation in andrology, gynecology, obstetrics and neonatology, depending on the case at the time of rotation.

During the entire program, Interns will assume duties within the 24hrs Emergency Service, the Intensive Care Unit and the Hospitalization Services also during nighttime, weekends and holidays, by assignment and prior scheduling. Interns will be actively involved also in daily clinical rounds and case discussions. On a monthly basis, Interns will prepare or participate at Journal Clubs and prepare formal presentations such as case presentations or bibliographic reviews of other reports as assigned. During all these activities, students and faculty members

are expected to participate enhancing the academic and scientific nature of communication and activities.

Didactic training

The Internship Program includes a strong didactic component. Teaching rounds shall be held weekly and may include journal clubs, seminars, lectures, conferences, etc. Each Intern should be expected to deliver every three months a professional presentation or seminar to senior clinicians and peers.

Clinical experiences, Responsibilities and Supervision

The Internship Program includes primary case care responsibility for first-opinion and emergency/critical care cases. Primary case care responsibility for complex cases will be held under the supervision of Senior Clinicians to maximize the value of the educational experience. Internship provides the opportunity to be the primary clinician on a broad range of elective and entry-level procedures to ensure appropriate progress is made.

Patient rounds include a discussion about the mechanisms of disease and a thorough review of case management plans for patients being managed by the Intern and by the Service.

Senior veterinarians of the Veterinary Teaching Hospital directly supervise the Interns, each for its area of experience. The level of supervision can be expected to decrease as the Intern develops greater medical and surgical proficiency.

Documentation of activities, assessment and internship certification

At the beginning of the program, interns receive a logbook of activities to fill-in in order to document and record the clinical cases daily followed in the hospital and the individual activities carried out during the whole training period. The logbook of activities has to be countersigned by the supervisor responsible for any particular activity reported and have to be delivered at the end of the Internship Program.

At the end of the program a Rotating Internship Certificate is issued stating the completion of the training course. The Internship Committee issues the certificate only if the Intern has completed the full 12-month training course and has reported positive evaluations during daily practical and professional activities and tasks included in the didactic training.