

The Equine Clinic at OakenCroft

Internship Goals, Plans, and Progress Reports for:

This internship will revolve around ambulatory call with the more senior veterinarians and will also allow independent study time as needed. Care of hospital cases and farm horses will be undertaken by the intern with direction from a senior veterinarian.

Independent calls will be performed as part of the learning experience and for general practice as warranted. Education will take priority over work product.

On-call duties for the first part of the internship will be minimal, but the intern will be asked to provide treatments on clinic horses after hours as needed. It is our intention that the intern NOT feel compelled to provide such services to the point of exhaustion. When you need help, ask for it. Since there are a number of doctors here it may be that not everyone will be aware of the day to day demands placed on your time. Do not hesitate to communicate to us when things are getting out of hand.

Dentistry

Goal: Training and expertise in dental practice including hand floats, power floats, wolf teeth, incisor care, sinocentesis, and radiology. Comfort level and independent billable performance are to be achieved in the first 6 months.

High Priority

Implementation Plan: Instruction from practice members followed by practice on school horses and rescue horses. Cadaver specimens may be obtained by the intern from a donated horse as needed.

Review notes:

Radiology

Goal: Training and expertise in radiology, with an emphasis on obtaining high quality diagnostic films. Familiarity with the methods required to obtain digital images for manipulation and emailing. Care of equipment, radiation safety, processing of films and troubleshooting will be emphasized. Comfort level is to be achieved in the first 3 months.

High Priority

Implementation Plan: Practice films will be obtained on a farm-owned horse by the intern with the assistance of farm staff. Films will be reviewed with a senior member of the practice. Ample time will be provided to hone skills. When skills are acquired, the intern may be asked to obtain radiographs of clinical cases. Review all clinical films from all Veterinarians and upon consultation of them enter a radiology report in the animal's computer record. Time will be provided for computer work associated with the images. Care of equipment will be discussed and an equipment section will be created in the ECO Handbook. The protocols for image capture and archiving will be entered in the ECO Handbook. The technique charts for each machine will be reviewed and updated as necessary.

Review notes:

Reproduction

Goal: Training and expertise in reproductive procedures including rectal palpation with and without an ultrasound. Acquisition of skills needed to obtain uterine culture, cytology, and biopsy; the ability to perform Caslicks, breeding stitches, and uterine therapies; exposure to dystocia management; stallion collection and preparation of fresh cooled semen; artificial insemination with fresh-cooled and frozen semen; diagnosis and management of twin embryo; embryo recovery for non-surgical transfer.

High Priority

Implementation Plan: The practice will provide time and help for the intern to follow broodmares at the clinic. While on calls, the intern will be instructed on procedures and will perform those procedures where and when it is appropriate. Farm mares may be bred by the intern to obtain early pregnancies that may be terminated by fetal crushing. The intern will have access to and will update the Quicknotes that pertain to reproduction. The intern will be asked to attend any dystocia and night time clinic foalings regardless of the on-call schedule if possible to gain experience that otherwise may not be available. Experience with stallion collection will be available at the clinic.

Review notes:

Practice Management

Goal: The intern is to be exposed to and help develop and maintain some of the management procedures within the practice. The intern will review the document: Relationships in Practice: The Dynamics of Success. The intern will maintain for review a portfolio of cases that can be used both as an educational tool and as a means of marketing themselves in the future to other practices. The intern will present that portfolio at the weekly staff meetings for comment and review as needed. The intern will be responsible for preparing a 5 minute summary of a journal article each week at the staff meeting.

Moderate Priority

Implementation Plan: The intern will be given time to become familiar with image capture and manipulation for radiographs, thermography and ultrasound. With the aid of the office staff the intern will establish internet access in the office suitable for image transfer to remote locations. The intern will be involved with the development and maintenance of the office web site. The intern will update scripts for use within the office by the office staff for a variety of common problems (hives, Lyme disease, parasite control, COPD, colic, acute lameness, swollen eyes, foaling, breeding, Cushing's, nutrition, geriatric medicine....). The intern will aid in the development of an announcement of their inclusion in the practice. The intern will take the steps required to be licensed in NYS and Massachusetts. The intern will take the initiative to learn how to fill in state and federal paperwork as required to practice. The intern will be given time and direction needed to complete and update a practice formulary and the Quicknotes section of the ECO handbook. The intern will be responsible for obtaining and maintaining a practice photo library of clinical cases as requested. In addition, the intern will maintain a comprehensive series of interesting cases in a portfolio, including a critique of the case. The intern will be responsible for a 5 minute summary of a journal article at the staff meeting each week.

Review notes:

Client Education

Goals: The intern is to be included in the development and production of a variety of client education venues.

Moderate Priority

Implementation Plan: The intern will aid in teaching at SUNY Cobleskill. The intern will present at a series of client education seminars in the fall and winter months. Some of these will be through the clinic, while others may be for 4H, FFA, or individual barns. The intern will take phone consultations for routine questions from the office staff when appropriate.

Review notes:

Fluid Therapy

Goals: Develop an understanding of protocols for fluid administration in a variety of adult and pediatric disease processes. Update information in the ECO Handbook as needed and aid with the administration of fluids on clinic cases as needed.

Low Priority

Implementation Plan: Time will be given to compile and organize the material. Current texts, literature and referral resources may be used. Results should include replacement calculations (oral and IV) based on laboratory results for both fluid components and flow rates. Conditions should include but not be limited to impaction colic, adult diarrhea, foal diarrhea, foal TPN, dehydration, liver and renal disease.

Review notes:

Laboratory

Goal: The intern will become familiar with the In-house procedures used in this practice to obtain CBC, Fibrinogen, Glucose, BUN, I-stat gases and electrolytes, IgG, Cytology, Joint Fluid Analysis, Abdominal Fluid Analysis, Thoracic Fluid Analysis, Tracheal Wash and BAL analysis, Uterine cultures, fecals, sperm counts and motility. The intern will review for the ECO Handbook a step-by step manual for these tests. The intern will become familiar with sample procedures sent to outside laboratories by this practice. The intern will learn how to interpret these results, making an interpretation summary for the ECO handbook as needed. (Esp. Lyme, Chemistries, Endocrinology, CBC's, Fibrinogens, fluid analysis.)

Low Priority

Implementation Plan: Time will be spent with the laboratory technician and with current texts and literature to develop this section. Review will be with a senior member of the practice.

Review notes:

Pediatrics

Goal: The intern will become familiar with the normal neonatal foal and a variety of common neonatal disease processes including: entropion, patent urachus, umbilical infections, septic joints, R. equi, other common

respiratory diseases, diarrhea (foal heat scours, rotavirus, salmonella, Cl. difficile, milk scours), colic, ulcers, inhalation pneumonia, interstitial pneumonia, flexural deformities, angular deformities, failure of passive transfer.

Seasonal Priority

Implementation Plan: The intern will be given time to review the clinic's Neonatal Mare and Foal Report and the associated list of differentials listed in the Sneakers Software. The intern will be charged with all neonatal exams and blood work on the clinic foals. The intern will become familiar with Madigan's Neonatal Handbook. The intern will assist in placing casts, splints and in performing periosteal strippings.

Review notes:

Hospital Cases

Goal: To learn to manage the clinical and administrative aspects of hospital cases. The Intern will work closely with each veterinarian to provide care and communications for all horses in the clinic. The intern along with the appropriate lay staff person will organize paperwork and billing. The intern will communicate with each owner post discharge for follow-ups.

Ongoing Priority:

Implementation Plan:

Review Notes:

General Medicine

Goal: The intern will become familiar with a variety of common equine conditions, their causes, diagnostics, and treatments including sole abscess, hives, COPD, colic, nutrition, geriatric medicine, endocrinology, preventative medicine.

Ongoing Priority

Implementation Plan: The intern will develop a protocol for conditions commonly seen in practice. It is suggested that they be addressed as they are seen as clinical cases. These protocols will be kept in a journal to be edited by the senior members and included in the ECO Handbook when indicated.

Review notes:

Horse Show Medicine

Goal: The intern will become familiar with medication rules as they apply to horse shows (USA Equestrian, FEI, AQHA). The intern will become familiar with problems commonly encountered at horse shows, and will be instructed in the treatment of these conditions.

Seasonal Priority

Implementation Plan: The intern will obtain a current copy of the rules and medication policies from the regulatory body's website. The intern will be able to discuss these rules with Dr. Penno and Naile, and visit with them at horse shows. The intern will create a section in the ECO Handbook dealing with these issues. The intern is strongly encouraged to spend time at AQHA shows held in Cobleskill whenever possible, taking with them the necessary equipment and supplies to service horses at the showgrounds.

Review notes:

Ultrasonography

Goal: The intern will become familiar with obtaining and archiving images of the equine limb, thorax, larynx and abdomen.

Moderate Priority

Implementation Plan: Time will be provided to study and use the ultrasound on horses at the clinic. Images will be reviewed by senior members of the practice and experts where indicated. Care of the equipment will be discussed and the intern will maintain a care section in the ECO Handbook.

Review notes:

Thermography

Goal: The intern will become familiar with obtaining, interpreting and archiving images captured with the thermography camera.

Moderate Priority

Implementation Plan: Time and resources will be provided to use the thermography camera. The Intern will archive images and consult with Emerge Vision as needed. The intern will maintain a protocol section for the ECO Handbook detailing the use and care of the digital camera.

Review notes:

Endoscopy and Gastroscopy

Goal: The intern will become familiar with Endoscopy and Gastroscopy, and the care of the endoscopic equipment.

Moderate Priority

Implementation Plan: The intern will receive instruction on the use and care of the endoscope and gastroscope. The intern will maintain a section in the ECO Handbook detailing the care of the endoscope. Transtracheal and endoscopic tracheal washes will be performed on clinical cases if possible. Cadaver specimens of the head may be collected by the intern in order to practice guttural pouch endoscopy. The intern may use the same cadaver to install indwelling guttural pouch catheters. The intern will explore methods of obtaining and archiving endoscopic images by consulting with industry, private practice and academic resources.

Review notes:

Surgery

Goal: The intern will be exposed to and perform those procedures commonly done in this practice. Procedures should include: routine castrations, closed castrations with scrotal ablation, inguinal hernia repair, inguinal cryptorchidectomy, surgical and non-surgical hernioraphy, periosteal strippings, transphyseal bridging, eye enucleations, third eyelid amputations, dermal biopsy, inferior check ligament desmotomy, DDF tenectomy, neurectomy, splint bone removal, sinus trephination and tracheostomy. The intern will also become familiar with anesthetic induction and maintenance as performed in this practice.

Ongoing Priority

Implementation Plan: The intern will be the primary surgeon assisted by a practice member on as many cases as possible. Cadaver specimens may be harvested and used in cases that are not readily available or that are too great a liability.

Review notes:

Ophthalmology

Goal: The intern will become familiar with the diagnosis and treatment of common ocular conditions, including corneal ulcers, uveitis, conjunctivitis, blocked tear ducts, tumors of the third eyelid, and entropion. The intern will gain expertise with the ophthalmoscope, penlight, tonopen, corneal scraping debridement, corneal staining, corneal anesthesia, intraocular injections, bulbar conjunctival injections and subpalpebral lavage systems.

Moderate, Ongoing Priority

The intern will see and treat clinical cases where appropriate. Dr. Serk has a special interest in ophtho. The use of Cadaver specimens is encouraged.

Review notes:

Technical Skills

Goal: The intern will acquire familiarity with a list of technical skills including: nasogastric intubation, catheter placement and maintenance, cast applications and removal, bandage application and removal, rectal palpations for internal medicine and reproduction, spinal taps, epidurals, EKG, thoracic taps, abdominal taps, trans-tracheal wash, BAL, Physical Exam, purchase exams, respiratory exams, neuro exams, derm exams, cardiac exams, ophtho exams, insurance exams, bladder catheterization and post mortem examination.

Ongoing Priority

Implementation Plan: The intern will be involved with clinical cases where appropriate. The use of skate horses and cadaver specimens will be used where appropriate.

Review notes:

Lameness

Goal: The intern will become familiar with the diagnosis of lameness through visual examination, flexion test, palpation, regional nerve blocks, articular anesthesia, ancillary testing (radiology, ultrasonography, thermography). The intern will become familiar with common lameness conditions. The intern will become familiar with farrier relations and talents as they regard clinical cases. The intern will acquire knowledge and expertise in treatment modalities and therapeutics.

Ongoing Priority

Implementation Plan: The intern will be involved with clinical cases where appropriate. The use of skate horses and cadaver specimens will be used where appropriate. The intern may accompany an approved farrier from time to time as schedules allow. The intern will maintain scripts and ECO Handbook Quicknotes for common lameness conditions (sole abscess, laminitis, navicular disease, tarsal DJD, tendon disease, suspensory disease, therapy protocols. The Intern will assist the farriers at all clinic farrier meetings. Intern will be present for any in-house lameness days.

Review notes:

Complimentary Therapies

Goal: Exposure to Spinal Adjustments and Acupuncture

Ongoing Priority

Implementation Plan: Time Spent with Dr. Penno and Richwagen on calls and in house cases

Review notes:

On-Call Schedule and Philosophy

Goal: The intern will assist with clinical cases as needed for after-hours treatments both on the road and in the clinic.

Ongoing Priority

Implementation Plan: The intern will have no primary on call until the beginning of the breeding season. From that point forward the intern will be on-call for 1/2 of the practice 1 night a week and 1 weekend a month, during which time they will provide emergency services under the guidance of a more senior veterinarian. Prior to that, the intern will be offered the opportunity to assist with other emergencies. During the foaling season he intern will attend all foalings. It is the responsibility of the intern to not become overwhelmed by the on-call schedule, and to bring it to the attention of the practice owner when the intern requests (which they are completely entitled to do) to be officially "off-call".

Review notes:

Performance Review

Goal: The intern will be reviewed monthly or as needed by their mentors. It will be up to the Intern to schedule these reviews with Dr. Lesser, the Office Manager (Tracy Teal) and any other required parties

Review notes:

Portfolio

Goal: The intern will produce a portfolio of cases and case reviews. The purpose of the portfolio will be to document decision making and veterinary skills in a wide range of practice areas.

Ongoing Priority

Implementation Plan: Preferably, one case from each of the above areas will be included. The report should include any limits placed on the case management because of owner finances or other restraints. Rationale for diagnostics and treatments should be included, as well as a critique of the strong and weak points of the management of the case. The reports will be submitted at weekly staff meetings as they are completed for comments from the vets. It is intended that the portfolio be part of the intern's application process for future jobs.

Review Notes: