5th Year Rotations: Clinical Skills

Organisers: J Brearley and C Wager (Session 2 delivery assisted by N Holdstock)

Aims: To allow students to rehearse previously encountered clinical skills (and the relevant underpinning knowledge) in the context of given case-based scenarios, in preparation for final year rotations in the Queen’s Veterinary School Hospital (QVSH).

Days and times: Tuesday 09:30 – 13:00
Thursday 09:30 – 13:00

Please note that these times relate to Michaelmas term only; Lent term timings will be confirmed nearer the time.

Venue: Please come to the main room of the QVSH Pauline Brown Clinical Skills Centre

Dress code: Grey scrub top, bare below the elbows, long hair secured back, appropriate footwear

Format: These rotations offer a combination of directed, supported and self-directed skills rehearsal within the facilities of the Pauline Brown Clinical Skills Centre, which includes the main centre room, diagnostic imaging room and teaching/consult room. Further descriptions for each session can be found below.

Preparation: Prior to the sessions, students may wish to re-familiarise themselves with the clinical skills being covered, by reviewing the relevant content available on the Veterinary Clinical Skills Moodle site.

Session 1: Anaesthesia and surgery skills (Michaelmas Term)

The objectives of the Michaelmas term sessions are to:

- Build on students’ clinical skills proficiencies from 4th year by contextualising anaesthesia and surgery clinical skills into a patient-based scenario, where skills are rehearsed sequentially
- Familiarise students with QVSH surgery and anaesthesia documentation and protocols

The clinical skills which will be covered in these sessions are detailed on the following page.
Skills covered will include:

| Tuesday sessions - surgery | Completion of QVSH surgery request form  
|                           | Use of Sterilium® for surgical hand and arm antisepsis  
|                           | Gowning and closed gloving  
|                           | Laying out the instrument trolley  
|                           | Patient draping  
|                           | Open gloving  
|                           | Suturing, to include choice of suture material and pattern |

| Thursday sessions - anaesthesia | Completion of QVSH anaesthesia documentation |
|                               | Peripheral intravenous catheterisation |
|                               | Anaesthetic machine checks |
|                               | Anaesthetic breathing system selection, checks and fresh gas flow calculations |
|                               | Checking monitoring equipment |
|                               | Endotracheal intubation (canine) |
|                               | Instrumenting the patient and initial checks of the anaesthetised patient |

Session 2: Small animal and equine ambulatory skills (Lent Term)

The objectives of the Lent term sessions are to:

- Build on students’ clinical skills proficiencies from 4th year by contextualising equine ambulatory and small animal practice clinical skills into two patient-based scenarios, where skills are rehearsed sequentially, and a degree of clinical decision making and simulated client communication is also required
- Familiarise students with QVSH diagnostic imaging and clinical pathology documentation and protocols

Skills covered will include:

| ‘A’ sessions (day to be confirmed) - small animal practice | Completion of QVSH clinical pathology sample submission form  
|                                                          | Blood tube selection, jugular blood sampling, sample packaging  
|                                                          | Interpreting biochemistry results  
|                                                          | Calculating intravenous fluid administration and drug therapy  
|                                                          | Selecting a sedation protocol  
|                                                          | Ultrasound guided cystocentesis  
|                                                          | Basic urinalysis, to include dipstick, urine specific gravity and sediment examination  
|                                                          | Client communication and aftercare |

| ‘B’ sessions (day to be confirmed) - equine ambulatory practice | Selection of appropriate sedation protocol, dose calculation (with weight estimation) and intravenous drug administration  
|                                                               | Open gloving  
|                                                               | Suturing, to include choice of suture material and pattern  
|                                                               | Medical bandaging of the equine lower limb, to include dressing selection  
|                                                               | Client communication and aftercare |