

# **RESIDENCY IN EQUINE PRACTICE**

**Louisiana State University  
School of Veterinary Medicine  
Department of Veterinary Clinical Sciences  
Veterinary Teaching Hospital**

**Revised September 2016**

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## **1.0 INTRODUCTION**

- 1.1** The equine practice residency program at Louisiana State University (LSU), School of Veterinary Medicine (SVM) is designed to provide two years or three years of post-DVM training in management of reproductive, medical, and surgical aspects of stud farm practice with emphasis on the horse.
- 1.2** If the candidate chooses the three-year route, the residency program will fulfill the training requirements and partially fulfill the requirements for examination (certification) of the American College of Theriogenologists (ACT) AND the American Board of Veterinary Practitioners – Specialty of Equine Practice (ABVP). If the candidate chooses the two-year route, the residency program will fulfill the training requirements and partially fulfill the requirements for examination (certification) of the ABVP OR the ACT (but not both).
- 1.3** The training program will utilize faculty of the Department of Veterinary Clinical Sciences (VCS ), faculty of other participating Departments, and clinicians at the Goulburn Valley Equine Hospital (Drs. A. O. McKinnon and J. Vasey) in Shepparton, Australia as clinical mentors.
- 1.4** Clinical facilities of the LSU Veterinary Teaching Hospital (VTH) and the Goulburn Valley Equine Hospital, Shepparton, Australia, will be the primary training locations for the residency.

## **2.0 OBJECTIVES**

- 2.1** To provide advanced training in clinical problem solving and diagnostic and therapeutic techniques in the fields of surgery, medicine and theriogenology.
- 2.2** To provide didactic and tutorial teaching training and experience.
- 2.3** To satisfy the requirements for examination by the American College of Theriogenologists (ACT) and/ or the American Board of Veterinary Practitioners (ABVP).
- 2.4** To provide experience in scientific and clinical case presentation through the seminar and house officer rounds program.
- 2.5** To provide experience in the preparation and submission of scientific articles for publication and/or presentation.
- 2.6** To provide experience in designing and conducting a clinical research project.
- 2.7** To provide opportunity to participate in graduate level courses that support and strengthen the clinical training program.

### **3.0 PREREQUISITES**

- 3.1** Candidates must have a DVM or an equivalent degree.
- 3.2** Candidates must have satisfactorily completed at least a one year rotating large animal internship or its equivalent post graduate veterinary experience.
- 3.3** Candidates must have successfully completed the National Board examination or its equivalent in the certifying country.
- 3.4** Candidates must have the goal of board certification by the American Board of Veterinary Practitioners (ABVP) and/or the American College of Theriogenologists (ACT).

### **4.0 FACULTY MENTOR**

- 4.1** The resident will be assigned to a faculty mentor who has diplomate status in the ABVP, ACT, American College of Veterinary Internal Medicine (ACVIM), or American College of Veterinary Surgeons (ACVS). For candidates planning on attaining board certification in the ACT, the residency mentor must be an ACT diplomate.
- 4.2** Responsibilities of the mentor include direction and coordination of the clinical program; advise on research, publications, preparation for board examination; and general counseling

### **5.0 HOUSE OFFICER ROUNDS AND SEMINAR PROGRAM**

- 5.1** The House Officer Rounds are designed to provide the resident the opportunity to receive and present interesting, unusual, or difficult clinical case material utilizing a problem oriented approach to professional colleagues and to develop manuscripts for publication. The resident will participate with the other VCS house officers on a rotating basis and will make at least 1 case presentation in House Officer Rounds during the year.
- 5.2** The House Officer Seminar series is designed to provide the resident with the opportunity to research and present scientific information to professional colleagues.
- 5.3** One seminar will be prepared and given in each year of the residency.
- 5.4** One seminar topic will relate to original research conducted by the resident (three year option).
- 5.5** Attendance: The resident is required to attend and participate in the following: VMED 7001: VCS Seminar, Grand Rounds, House Officer Rounds

### **5.5.1 VCS HO Rounds/Seminar Policy**

- 5.5.1.1** HO attendance at all HO Rounds/Seminar sessions is required. HO attendance is required at only those rounds and seminars designated as VCS HO Round/Seminar sessions and that others occurring in the same time slot would not be required by the HOC.
- 5.5.1.2** Attendance will be taken at the beginning of each session.
- 5.5.1.3** HO will be required to present an additional seminar if they have more than one unexcused absence during the program year.
- 5.5.1.4** All absences must be accounted for by completing a HO Leave Request Form and submitting it to the HOC chair.
- 5.5.1.5** Excused absences include the following: illness, annual leave, attendance or participation in a continuing education program, presentation of a student lecture, scheduled out-rotation or special service requirements per request of advisor. All other absences are unexcused unless deemed excusable by the HO adviser.

## **6.0 TEACHING PROGRAM**

- 6.1** Throughout the program residents will be viewed as role models by both interns and professional students. They should always present themselves in a professional manner.
- 6.2** The resident will participate in clinical instruction and in the evaluation of Phase II veterinary students assigned to the section.
- 6.3** The resident will participate in preclinical didactic lecture and laboratory instruction as assigned by his/her mentor.

## **7.0 BOARD CERTIFICATION**

- 7.1** An important credential in veterinary medicine is board certification in a specialty area. One of the objectives of the program is to prepare the resident for certification by the American College of Theriogenologists and/or the American Board of Veterinary Practitioners.
- 7.2** In order to qualify for examination the resident should refer to the published requirements of the respective college. For specific requirements see specialty college websites: [www.abvp.com](http://www.abvp.com) (click

Resources then Residency Handbook) or [www.theriogenology.org](http://www.theriogenology.org) (click Becoming a Diplomate, then General Information Guide).

- 7.3** It is solely the responsibility of the resident to submit any material and fees required by the college for registration for board examinations.

## **8.0 CLINICAL PROGRAM**

- 8.1** Two-year program: This training program will be a rotating 24 month clinical training program with time divided among theriogenology (5 mos.), internal medicine (5 mos.), and surgery (6 mos.) at Louisiana State University School of Veterinary Medicine and at the Goulburn Valley Equine Hospital in Shepparton, Australia (6 mos.) where theriogenology and neonatology will be emphasized, but medicine and surgery training will also take place. The remaining two months will involve personal development and board preparation and vacation.
- 8.2** Three-year program: This training program will be a rotating 36-month training program with time divided among theriogenology (6 months), internal medicine (6 months), and surgical specialties (6 months) at Louisiana State University School of Veterinary Medicine and at the Goulburn Valley Equine Hospital in Shepparton Australia (12 months) where the Theriogenology and neonatology will be emphasized, but medicine and surgery training will also take place. Six months will provide necessary time for research, personal development, board preparation, and vacation, spread out over the 36-month period.
- 8.3 Theriogenology rotation:** The goal of the theriogenology rotations will be to train the resident in all aspects of equine theriogenology, including but not limited to: breeding management (including use of fresh cooled and frozen semen), mare infertility, stallion infertility, embryo transfer, periparturient problems, and assisted reproductive technologies. While on theriogenology rotation, the House Officer will be expected to participate in the Reproductive Biology Seminar Series, Journal Club, and other activities of the Theriogenology section, including clinical activities involving other species seen by the Theriogenology service (mainly dogs).
- 8.4 Internal Medicine rotation:** The goal of the equine medicine rotations will be to train the resident in the diagnosis and treatment of equine diseases of the respiratory, gastrointestinal, urogenital, renal, immunologic and hepatic systems. Special emphasis will be placed on neonatal medicine and critical care of the equine neonate and adult. The structure of the learning experience will primarily be clinical, through participation in rounds, case work up, and guidance of professional students in Phase 2 of the curriculum.
- 8.5 Surgery rotation:** The goals of the surgical rotation will be to train the resident in common surgical procedures of equine practice. These procedures can be divided into reproductive system problems, such as

caesarean section, third degree perineal lacerations, cervical lacerations, ovariectomy, cryptorchidectomy, etc.; perinatal foal problems, such as omphalophlebitis, patent urachus, and ruptured bladder; foal developmental problems, such as angular limb deformities, flexural limb deformities, physitis, and osteochondrosis; orthopedic procedures, such as arthroscopic removal of chip fractures of the carpus and fetlock and lag screw fixation of lateral condylar fractures and third carpal bone slab fractures; respiratory procedures, such as prosthetic laryngoplasty, arytenoidectomy and myectomy, and transendoscopic laser procedures; and gastrointestinal procedures, such as exploratory celiotomy for colic.

## 8.6 Resident's Program

### 8.6.1 Time line – example 2-year program

<u>Year 1</u>		<u>Year 2</u>	
<b>Jul</b>	Med; LSU	<b>Jul</b>	Off clinics: Vacation/Research/Personal Development
<b>Aug</b>	Med; LSU	<b>Aug</b>	Australia
<b>Sep</b>	Surg; LSU	<b>Sep</b>	Australia
<b>Oct</b>	Med; LSU	<b>Oct</b>	Australia
<b>Nov</b>	Surg; LSU	<b>Nov</b>	Australia
<b>Dec</b>	Surg; LSU	<b>Dec</b>	Australia
<b>Jan</b>	Surg; LSU	<b>Jan</b>	Australia
<b>Feb</b>	Surg; LSU	<b>Feb</b>	Med; LSU
<b>Mar</b>	Therio; LSU	<b>Mar</b>	Surg; LSU
<b>Apr</b>	Therio; LSU	<b>Apr</b>	Med; LSU
<b>May</b>	Therio; LSU	<b>May</b>	Therio; LSU
<b>Jun</b>	Therio; LSU	<b>Jun</b>	Off clinics: Vacation/Research/Personal Development

### 8.6.2 Time line – example 3-year program

<u>Year 1</u>		<u>Year 2</u>		<u>Year 3</u>	
<b>Jul</b>	Med; LSU	<b>Jul</b>	Off clinics: Vacation, Research, Personal Development	<b>Jul</b>	Off clinics: Vacation, Research, Personal Development
<b>Aug</b>	Med; LSU	<b>Aug</b>	Australia	<b>Aug</b>	Australia
<b>Sep</b>	Surg; LSU	<b>Sep</b>	Australia	<b>Sep</b>	Australia
<b>Oct</b>	Med; LSU	<b>Oct</b>	Australia	<b>Oct</b>	Australia
<b>Nov</b>	Surg; LSU	<b>Nov</b>	Australia	<b>Nov</b>	Australia
<b>Dec</b>	Surg; LSU	<b>Dec</b>	Australia	<b>Dec</b>	Australia
<b>Jan</b>	Surg; LSU	<b>Jan</b>	Australia	<b>Jan</b>	Australia
<b>Feb</b>	Surg; LSU	<b>Feb</b>	Med; LSU	<b>Feb</b>	Surg
<b>Mar</b>	Med; LSU	<b>Mar</b>	Surg; LSU	<b>Mar</b>	Med
<b>Apr</b>	Therio; LSU	<b>Apr</b>	Elective LSU	<b>Apr</b>	Therio; LSU

<b>May</b>	Therio; LSU	<b>May</b>	Off clinics: Vacation, Research, Personal Development	<b>May</b>	Off clinics: Vacation, Research, Personal Development
<b>Jun</b>	Therio; LSU	<b>Jun</b>	Off clinics: Vacation, Research, Personal Development	<b>Jun</b>	Off clinics: Vacation, Research, Personal Development

- 8.6.3** The resident will participate in the instruction of Phase II students and interns. Participation in SVM student laboratories will be assigned.
- 8.6.4** The resident will participate in house officer rounds, ward rounds, journal club, special topic conferences, seminars, and other scheduled conferences of the VTH. He/She will attend other scheduled seminars in the SVM as time permits.
- 8.6.5** The resident will present 1 seminar and 1 presentation during each year of the residency (to faculty and house officers) on a topic of interest to the resident.
- 8.6.6** The resident may attend a major professional meeting at some point during the program with the advice and approval of his/her faculty mentor and the house officer committee. Expenses will be paid by the resident. The meeting must be scheduled during a non-clinical block.
- 8.6.7** The resident is encouraged to attend and participate in the ACVIM Forum or ACVS continuing education meeting during the first year to fulfill in part the ABVP continuing education requirement of 50 hours.
- 8.6.8** The resident must register with the specialty college(s).
- 8.6.9** The resident may, with the approval of the resident's advisor, participate in clinically relevant graduate courses. Course work must not interfere with the clinical and instructional responsibilities of the resident.
- 8.6.10** The resident is encouraged to prepare a research proposal; review it with his/her faculty mentor, and submit it for funding consideration.
- 8.6.11** The resident will share in primary and back-up emergency duty with other house officers and faculty. Emergency duty commits the resident to evening, weekend, and holiday duty on a rotating basis. Emergency activities will be closely supervised early in the program, but the resident will be expected to develop skills in

emergency care which will require less supervision as the individual enters the second year of the program.

**8.6.12** The resident will submit one paper for peer-reviewed publication by March 1 of the second year (two-year option) or of the third year (three-year option) to the House Officer Chair, including a letter from the resident's mentor attesting to suitability of the manuscript. Topic considerations should be discussed with his/her mentor prior to working on the manuscript. This manuscript must be accepted for publication in order to complete certification by the ABVP and/or ACT

**8.6.13** Timely registration with the specialty college(s) and timely application for exams (petition for candidacy), including payment of fees, is entirely the responsibility of the resident.

**8.6.14** The resident will prepare 1 case reports suitable for application submission if the resident elects to complete ABVP certification.

**8.6.15** The resident is required to give at least 1 hour of didactic instruction in Year 2 and 3 (if enrolled in a 3-year residency) in courses offered to veterinary students.

**8.6.16** The resident is encouraged to attend and participate in the Society for Theriogenologist continuing education meeting during the second (or third year) year to fulfill in part the ABVP continuing education requirement of 50 hours, and the ACT's requirement for a minimum of 30 hours Continuing Education pertaining to the field of Theriogenology that must be completed during the training program and within two years immediately prior to taking the certifying examination.

## **9.0 RESEARCH PROJECT**

**9.1** The Department of Veterinary Clinical Sciences requires its residents to participate in scholarly activity such as basic, applied or clinical research. To that end the resident in a three-year program is required to:

**9.1.1** Design a research project to address a specific question or problem in the discipline

**9.1.2** Write a research grant proposal that may be used to seek funding for the project.

**9.1.3** Conduct the research according to the experimental design.

**9.1.4** Analyze and report the results of the project.

**9.1.5** Publication of these results in a refereed journal is strongly encouraged.

## **10.0 GRADUATE PROGRAM**

Not applicable

## **11.0 ADDITIONAL OBJECTIVES**

**11.1** The resident is expected to remain current with the literature in equine reproduction and neonatology, equine surgery, and equine medicine.

**11.2** The resident is expected to initiate, complete and submit the necessary logs (see appendix, [www.abvp.com](http://www.abvp.com) ) and reports for the appropriate specialty boards.

## **12.0 EVALUATION AND REAPPOINTMENT**

**12.1** An evaluation will be provided by the block mentor at the end of each assigned block through the E\*Value software. A summary evaluation will be made quarterly by the Theriogenology faculty in conjunction with the resident's advisor. The evaluation covers:

**12.1.1** Professional ability; to include theoretical knowledge and application of that knowledge, clinical skills, tutorial skills, and scholarly activity.

**12.1.2** Hospital services; to include communication skills, patient care, medical record quality, emergency duty quality, and adherence to VTH protocol.

**12.1.3** Personal characteristics; to include responsibility, initiative, interaction with faculty, staff and students, department and leadership.

**12.2** The resident and mentor will meet on a quarterly basis to discuss progress and block evaluations

**12.3** At any time in the resident's program, and at the latest in March of each year, the House Office Committee will review all evaluations to date. Following that review, the committee will make a recommendation to the Head of the Department of Veterinary Clinical Sciences to:

**12.3.1** Continue the appointment until the next review

**12.3.2** Award a certificate upon satisfactory completion of the program.

**12.3.3** Not to reappoint the resident, with a minimum of 30 days notice of termination. At the discretion of the House Officer Committee and in consultation with the resident's service, guidelines can be

formulated that if met, may allow the resident to be re-instated at the end of the specified period.

- 12.4** All House Officers are required to complete an annual evaluation of their program with suggestions for improvement before continuation or completion of their program is granted.

### **13.0 HOUSE OFFICER COMMITTEE**

- 13.1** The Committee is comprised of a representative of each House Officer program. It is responsible for the year-end review of each house officer's progress. This review is based on block evaluations received throughout the course of the program. The Committee grants recommendation for reappointment or a certificate to those who successfully complete the program.
- 13.2** All House Officers are required to complete an annual evaluation of their program with suggestions for improvement before continuation or completion of their program is granted.

### **14.0 EMPLOYMENT AND BENEFITS**

- 14.1** Louisiana State University classifies interns and residents as University employees. As such, they (and their eligible dependents) qualify for the Louisiana State University Baton Rouge health insurance and benefits. The School of Veterinary Medicine provides malpractice insurance coverage. The salary (not a stipend) is published in the Directory of Internships and Residencies as published by the American Association of Veterinary Clinicians ([www.virmp.org](http://www.virmp.org)). Salary is payable in monthly increments via direct deposit. Retirement contributions are required and withheld from each paycheck. No social security tax is withheld. Federal and state income tax is withheld. The employee may be eligible to petition the IRS for exemption from federal tax on part of his/her salary.
- 14.2** The Veterinary Teaching Hospital operates year round. House officers will share emergency duty with other house officers within their specialty. House Officers will also share evening, weekend and holiday duty on a scheduled basis.
- 14.3** The University offers accrual of annual time off following either the University accrual rate (14 hours/month with a maximum accumulation of 176 hours) or the Civil Service Schedule rate (8 hours/month with no maximum accumulation). Sick time off accrual is 8 hours/month. All time off, except for illness and emergencies, should be requested and approved 30 days in advance. Time off requests must be entered into Workday (via the employee's MyLSU account) by the employee and approved by the supervisor before time off will be granted. Annual time off will be granted on an individual basis taking into account the reason for the requested absence and the needs of the service and hospital. Annual

time off for personal business is to be taken during elective or research blocks. Emergency absence such as for illness or a death in the immediate family should be brought to the attention of the clinician to whom the House Officer is assigned as soon as the House Officer learns that he/she will be absent. The official request should be entered into Workday upon the House Officer's return. Except in unusual circumstances, approval will not be granted for time off during the final month of the program.

- 14.4** Reappointment to the second and third years of the residency program is contingent upon satisfactory completion of the previous year's requirements.

## **15.0 APPLICATIONS**

- 15.1** Candidates may apply for the Residency in Equine Practice by completing:
- 15.1.1** A standard residency application through [www.virmp.org](http://www.virmp.org).
  - 15.1.2** A statement of residency objectives and subsequent career goals.
  - 15.1.3** Official academic transcripts.
  - 15.1.4** Three letters of reference from individuals currently familiar with the applicant's professional status.
  - 15.1.5** A curriculum vitae.

## 16.0 APPENDICES

### 16.1 HOUSE OFFICER ROUNDS EVALUATION FORM

House Officer: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Evaluator: \_\_\_\_\_

	<b><u>Evaluation</u></b> E=Excellent G=Good N=Needs Improvement	<b><u>Comments</u></b>
<b>Case Selection</b>		
Complexity of case		
Appropriate follow-up		
<b>Content</b>		
Format of presentation		
Discussion		
Conclusions		
Use of problem-oriented approach		
<b>Delivery</b>		
Clarity of speech		
Rate of delivery		
<b>Effectiveness of Visual Presentation</b>		
Use of visual aids		
Body language and enthusiasm		
Questions handled appropriately		

**Additional Comments:**

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## 16.2 VCS SEMINAR EVALUATION FORM

Presenter: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Audience: \_\_\_\_\_

Title/Topic: \_\_\_\_\_

**Evaluation Criteria:**

	Points	Evaluation
<b>Definition of subject: introduction, importance, clinical significance</b>	<b>0-5</b>	
<b>Organization</b>	<b>0-10</b>	
<b>Quality of material</b>	<b>0-10</b>	
<b>Presence: speaking ability</b>		
<b>Clarity</b>	<b>0-10</b>	
<b>Rate of delivery</b>	<b>0-10</b>	
<b>Enthusiasm, expressiveness</b>	<b>0-10</b>	
<b>Support Materials</b>		
<b>Handouts, manuscript</b>	<b>0-15</b>	
<b>Visual aids</b>	<b>0-5</b>	
<b>Appropriate Summary</b>	<b>0-5</b>	
<b>Presentation consistent with audience level</b>	<b>0-10</b>	
<b>Questions/discussion handled appropriately</b>	<b>0-10</b>	
	<b>Total</b>	

**Comments:**

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Evaluator: \_\_\_\_\_



## 16.4 HOUSE OFFICER BLOCK EVALUATION FORM (E-Value)

<u>House Officer Evaluation Form in E-Value</u>	Needs Improvement	Satisfactory	Good	Excellent	Not Applicable
<b>Professional Ability</b>					
Theoretical Knowledge					
Knowledge Application					
Skills					
Patient Care					
Thoroughness					
<b>Individual Characteristics</b>					
Communication with clinicians					
Communication with students					
Communication with staff					
Independent study & initiative					
Awareness of current literature					
Contribution to student education					
Performance under stress					
Ability to accept criticism					
Organizational skills					
Ability to work in a team					
Reliability					
Motivation					
Attendance at seminars & rounds					
Presentation at seminars & rounds					
Ability to make independent decisions					
<b>Hospital Service</b>					
Completion of duties					
Quality of work					
Emergency services duty					
Communication with veterinarians					
Client communication					
Referral letters & record keeping					
Acceptance of service & case responsibility					
Adherence to VTH protocol					
<b>Strengths:</b>					
<b>Areas for Improvement:</b>					