INTERNSHIP IN DERMATOLOGY - GRATIS

Louisiana State University

School of Veterinary Medicine

Department of Veterinary Clinical Sciences

Veterinary Teaching Hospital

Equine Health Studies Program

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INTERNSHIP PROGRAM
IN
VETERINARY DERMATOLOGY

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

1.0 INTRODUCTION

1.1. The internship is designed to provide a one-year period of post-DVM training in the specialty of Veterinary Dermatology.

1.2. The training program will utilize faculty of the Department of Veterinary Clinical Sciences (VCS) as mentors.

1.3. The training location for the internship will be the clinical facilities of the Veterinary Teaching Hospital (VTH).

1.4. This program provides intensive training in basic, clinical and comparative dermatology and in clinical investigative dermatology

2.0 OBJECTIVES

2.1. To provide advanced training in clinical problem solving and diagnostic and therapeutic techniques in the field of veterinary dermatology.

2.2. To provide didactic and tutorial teaching training and experience.

2.3. To prepare the candidate for residency or graduate study.

2.4. To provide experience in scientific and clinical case presentation through the seminar and house officer rounds program.

2.5. To provide a working understanding of comparative dermatology through reading of literature, participation in medical school programs when possible, and by attendance at annual The North American Veterinary Dermatology Forum, when possible.

2.6. To provide in-depth knowledge of cutaneous anatomy, physiology, pathology, microbiology, immunology and pharmacology so that the intern may develop a firm understanding of the pathophysiologic basis of cutaneous disease and therapy.

2.7. To provide a general knowledge of internal medicine as it relates to diseases of the skin.

2.8. To develop a scholarly and inquiring approach to dermatology to prepare for future career goals of teaching, clinical research, scientific publication, and/or specialty practice and to be able to make significant contributions to veterinary dermatology.

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 small animal internship or its equivalent post graduate veterinary experience. For practice equivalency or for any internship not administered by the American Association of Veterinary Clinicians matching program, a letter stating the dates of training; the names, addresses and phone numbers of the veterinarians in charge of the training; and a description of the clinical experience, including opportunities for problem solving, must be submitted along with the application.

3.3. Candidates must have successfully completed the National Board examination or its equivalent in the certifying country.

3.4. Candidates must be of satisfactory moral and ethical character.

3.5. Candidates must be a member of a national veterinary medical association.

4.0 FACULTY MENTOR

4.1. The intern will be assigned to a faculty mentor who has diplomate status in the specialty field of Veterinary Dermatology.

4.2. Responsibilities of the mentor include:

4.2.1. Direction and coordination of the clinical program;

4.2.2. Advice toward publications and the pursuit of obtaining a residency in Veterinary Dermatology

4.2.3. General counseling.

5.0 CLINICAL PROGRAM

5.1. The Dermatology clinics are organized into 12 blocks varying in length from 4 to 6 weeks (most blocks are 4 weeks), with clinical receiving during 2 full days and 3 half days per week. In addition, the service performs an average of 6 in-house consultations per week, including approximately 1 large animal case every few weeks. Two half days per week are reserved for general diagnostic procedures. The service has approximately 38 appointment slots available per week. Approximately 45% of the cases represent new referrals.

5.2. Blocks of clinical training

5.2.1. The dermatology intern (referred to as intern) will be assigned to the Dermatology service (DS), with the exception of possible rotations through other services, as approved by the intern's mentor.

5.2.2. The intern will be given one half-day off clinics each week for the pursuit of other academic purposes (see below).

5.2.3. The intern may be required to rotate in Companion Animal Internal Medicine for 1/2 to 1 block (depending on prior experience). Otherwise, this time will be spent assigned to the DS or to electives approved by the intern's mentor.

5.3. Other duties

5.3.1. The intern will participate in the instruction of Phase II students and interns. Participation in SVM student laboratories will be assigned as needed.

5.3.2. The intern will participate in house officer rounds, ward rounds, journal club, special topic conferences, seminars, and other scheduled conferences of the VTH. The intern will attend other scheduled seminars in the SVM as time permits.

5.3.3. When possible, the intern will attend the annual ACVD meeting (NAVDF) with the advice and approval of the faculty mentor.

5.3.4. The intern is encouraged to attend and participate in continuing education meetings sponsored by the SVM or by local and regional veterinary organizations.

6.0 HOUSE OFFICER ROUNDS AND SEMINAR PROGRAM

6.1. The House Officer Rounds are designed to provide the intern the opportunity to receive and present interesting, unusual, or difficult clinical case material utilizing a problem oriented approach to professional colleagues. The intern will participate with the other VCS house officers on a rotating basis and will make at least 1 presentation during the one-year program.

6.1.1. Case presentations should be presented using a problem oriented approach. Presentations should be 20- 25 minutes in length with an additional 4-10 minutes for questions.

6.1.2. A SVM dermatology faculty member(s) will be selected by the intern to mentor the case presentation(s).

6.2. The House Officer Seminar series is designed to provide the intern with the opportunity to research and present scientific information to professional colleagues.

6.2.1. One seminar will be prepared and given. The option to do two seminars instead of a case report and a seminar is available.

6.2.2. Seminars will be Presentations should be 20- 25 minutes in length with an additional 4-10 minutes for questions

6.2.3. Each seminar presentation will be evaluated by the audience using an established form.

6.2.4. It is encouraged that the intern strive to choose topics and produce a manuscript for publication based on the seminar topic.

6.3. The intern is required to attend and participate in the following: VMED 7001 (VCS Seminar); Grand Rounds; House Officer Rounds; other seminars that are requirements of the intern's home department and/or section.

6.3.1. VCS House Officer Rounds/Seminar Policy

6.3.1.1. House officer attendance at all House Officer Rounds/Seminar sessions is required. House Officer attendance is required at only those rounds and seminars designated as VCS House Officer Rounds/Seminar sessions and that others occurring in the same time slot are not required by the House Officer Committee.

6.3.1.2. Attendance will be taken at the beginning of each session.

6.3.1.3. A house officer will be required to present an additional seminar if they have more than one unexcused absence or come late to the seminar more than twice (unexcused) during the program year. All absences must be accounted for by completing a House Officer Leave Request Form and submitting it to the House Officer Committee chair.

6.3.1.4. 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 House Officer advisor.

7.0 TEACHING PROGRAM

7.1. Throughout the program the dermatology intern will be viewed as a role model by both other interns and professional students. They should always present themselves in a professional manner.

7.2. The intern will participate in clinical instruction and in the evaluation of Phase II veterinary students assigned to the section.

7.3. The intern will participate in preclinical didactic lecture and laboratory instruction as assigned by the mentor.

7.4. Along with the dermatology faculty member, the intern will be responsible for:

7.4.1. Receiving clinic dermatology appointments during clinical rotations.

7.4.2. Supervising day-to-day care of patients admitted to the hospital.

7.4.3. Helping coordinate the clinical teaching of students assigned to the dermatology service including daily rounds.

7.4.4. Providing in-house consultation service with the guidance of the faculty dermatologists.

7.4.5. Providing optimal client service and prompt, professional communications with referring veterinarians.

8.0 PUBLICATION

8.1. The dermatology intern is encouraged to write a minimum of one manuscript for publication during their internship.

8.2. Acceptable manuscript types include case reports, case series, retrospective clinical studies and subject reviews. Other manuscript formats may be accepted at the discretion of the dermatology mentor.

8.3. Development of a manuscript for publication based upon the topic of the intern's House Officer Seminar will satisfy this requirement.

8.4. The manuscript should be submitted for publication by the end of the internship. For this reason, the intern is encouraged to begin work on the manuscript early in their program.

8.5. Manuscripts submitted for publication will be reviewed, revised and coauthored by a dermatology faculty member(s).

9.0 RESEARCH

9.1. The dermatology internship is a clinically-intensive program. As such, a research project is not required but is permitted. Should the intern choose to pursue a research project, they would be expected to do the following:

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. Pursue publication of the results in a respected scholarly journal. Manuscripts submitted for publication will be reviewed, revised and coauthored by a dermatology faculty member(s).

9.1.6. Sources of Support: There is SVM and departmental organized research funding awarded on a competitive basis yearly.

10.0 ADDITIONAL OBJECTIVES – Scholarly Activity/Continuing Education

10.1. Participate in daily dermatology rounds in the clinical rotation VMED 5460/5463, weekly dermatology journal club, weekly basic science review, and weekly dermatopathology conference.

10.2. The intern is encouraged to attend continuing education meetings sponsored by the SVM and local, regional, or national veterinary organizations. Attendance must be approved by the intern's advisor and block mentor.

10.2.1. The intern may receive support to travel to the annual meeting of the ACVD (NAVDF) from the Dermatology Service.

10.2.2. Contingent on budgetary constraints, the VCS department may have a limited amount of funding available to the intern for traveling, photocopying, expenses incurred for lecture/seminar/program presentations etc.

10.2.3. The dermatology faculty provides a yearly Dermatology Continuing Education Seminar with corporate support. Proceeds from this program are used to support house officer travel and, when necessary, research needs.

10.3. The intern will be under the direct supervision of the faculty dermatologist. However, the intern will have primary case responsibility for dermatology patients in all aspects of diagnosis and therapy.

10.4. The intern will review the teaching dermatohistopathology (glass slides) sets.

10.5. The intern will attend the weekly SVM dermatopathology conference.

10.6. The intern will participate with the faculty preceptors in a regular critical review of textbook sections as deemed important by the faculty preceptors.

10.7. The intern is strongly encouraged to attend the annual meeting of the American Academy of Veterinary Dermatology/American College of Veterinary Dermatology (NAVDF).

10.8. The intern will maintain a checklist of internship activities for inclusion in the biannual VCS review of interns.

10.9. The intern will maintain a regular program to review current veterinary and human dermatologic literature and participate in VTH journal club programs.

10.10. The intern will complete an evaluation of internship form at the end of the internship.

11.0 HOUSE OFFICER COMMITTEE

11.1. The committee is comprised of a representative of each house officer program, the VCS Head (ex officio), and the Director of the VTH (ex officio). It will be responsible for the year-end review of the intern's progress. This review will be based on block evaluations that the intern receives throughout the course of the program. The Committee will grant an internship certificate to those interns who successfully complete the program. The intern will submit an evaluation of the program in the last month of their internship. This evaluation must be completed and turned in to the House Officer Committee before an internship certificate will be granted.

12.0 PERFORMANCE EVALUATION

12.1. A critique will be provided by the block mentor at the end of each assigned block through the E*Value software. Every two weeks the intern will request a summary evaluation from their block mentor to be performed through E*Value. The critique will cover:

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 intern will meet with their mentor on a quarterly basis to discuss their progress and block evaluations.

12.3. The House Officer Committee will review the block evaluations and has the capability to recommend continuation, probation or termination of the program at any time based on these evaluations.

12.4. The intern will be asked to make an assessment of the program in May with suggestions for improvement. The evaluation form will be electronically distributed and must be completed by the given deadline as a mandatory part of the requirements for completion of their program.

13.0 EMPLOYMENT AND BENEFITS

13.1. Gratis internships are annual appointments subject to departmental approval. The School of Veterinary Medicine provides malpractice insurance.

13.2. Gratis interns are classified as University employees by Louisiana State University, however, due to their unpaid status, they do not qualify for the Louisiana State University health insurance, leave accrual and retirement plans. The School of Veterinary Medicine provides malpractice insurance coverage.

13.3. Since gratis employees do not earn leave, the intern must seek approval via email from the clinician to whom the intern will be assigned during the absence, the intern's advisor and the Chair of the House Officer Committee 30 days in advance for all absences, except illness and emergencies. 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 intern is assigned as soon as the intern learns that he/she will be absent. Non-emergency absences will be granted on an individual basis taking into account the reason and the needs of the service and hospital. Absence for personal business is to be taken during elective or research blocks. Total absences throughout the internship should not exceed 21 days for non-emergency absences and 12 days for emergency or illness absences, unless prior authorization is granted by the faculty mentor.

14.0 OTHER INFORMATION – ACVD Requirements and Program Facilities

14.1. The LSU VTH is a full service, tertiary care teaching hospital which offers specialty services to the general public and referral services. The specialty services offered in addition to veterinary dermatology include small animal internal medicine, small animal surgery, veterinary anesthesiology, veterinary ophthalmology, veterinary radiology, clinical cardiology, small animal clinical oncology, integrative medicine, equine

surgery, equine internal medicine, theriogenology, food animal medicine and surgery and herd health. These services are supported by full service in-house laboratories in clinical pathology, histopathology, clinical endocrinology, microbiology and serology. There is a full service pharmacy and the radiology department is equipped with modern ultrasound and has access to afterhours CT and MRI scan equipment.

14.2. The dermatology service has a full time veterinary technician, shares a research technician, and owns five microscopes (one double-headed with camera attached, two double headed side to side used in the clinical setting two single headed used in the clinical setting and one assigned to the intern), camera equipment, two desk computers with printers, several lap top computers and a Med Rx Scope. The service performs all routine diagnostic and therapeutic procedures appropriate to a referral specialty service other than radiation therapy. The service receives glass slides of all of the surgical biopsies performed by the Dermatology service.

14.3. The LSU SVM is supported by a very complete medical and scientific research library, professionally staffed and with computer, video and other research support facilities.

15.0 APPLICATION

15.1. Candidates may apply for the Internship in Small Animal Dermatology by completing:

15.1.1. A standard internship online application (V.I.R.M.P. application).

15.1.2. A statement of objectives for the internship and subsequent career goals.

15.1.3. A transcript of his/her academic record.

15.1.4. Three letters of reference from individuals currently familiar with the applicant's professional status.

15.1.5. A curriculum vitae

15.2. Upon occasion, exceptionally qualified candidates will be considered from outside of the V.I.R.M.P. match program. However, submission of the remaining information (statement of objectives, letters of reference and curriculum vitae) will still be required.

16.0 APPENDICES

16.1 HOUSE OFFICER ROUNDS EVALUATION FORM

VCS House Officer Rounds
Evaluation Form

House Officer: _____

Date: _____Topic:_____

Evaluator: _____

	Evaluation E = excellent G = good N = needs improvement	**Comments**
Case Selection		
Complexity of case	_____	_____
Appropriate case follow-up	_____	_____
Content		
Format of presentation	_____	_____
Discussion	_____	_____
Conclusions	_____	_____
Use of problem-oriented approach	_____	_____
Delivery		
Clarity of speech	_____	_____
Rate of delivery	_____	_____
Effectiveness of visual presentation		
Use of visual aids	_____	_____
Body language/enthusiasm	_____	_____
Questions handled appropriately	_____	_____

Additional Comments:

_____
_____
_____

16.2 VCS SEMINAR EVALUATION FORM

VCS Seminar Evaluation

Presenter: _____ Date: _____

Audience: _____

Title/Topic: _____

Evaluation Criteria:	**Points**	**Evaluation**
1. Definition of Subject: introduction, importance, clinical significance	0-5 pts	_____
2. Organization:	0-10 pts	_____
3. Quality of material:	0-10 pts	_____
4. Presence: Speaking ability		
a. Clarity	0-10 pts	_____
b. Rate of delivery	0-10 pts	_____
c. Enthusiasm, expressiveness	0-10 pts	_____
5. Support materials:		
a. Handouts, manuscripts	0-15 pts	_____
b. Visual aids	0-5 pts	_____
6. Appropriate summary?	0-5 pts	_____
7. Presentation consistent with audience level?	0-10 pts	_____
8. Questions/discussion handled appropriately?	0-10 pts	_____
	Total	_____

Comments: _____
_____
_____
_____
_____
_____
_____

Evaluator:_____

15.3 HOUSE OFFICER LEAVE REQUEST

I am requesting leave approval for the following reasons: (**Indicate the reason and dates**.)

1. To attend the meeting listed below.

   _____

2. To attend to personal activities (illness, family emergency, vacation).

   _____

3. To attend to official activities (out rotations, special circumstance requirements).

   _____

INTERN/RESIDENT:_____ Date:_____
Print Sign

ADVISOR: _____ Date: _____
Print Sign

BLOCK MENTOR: _____ Date: _____
Print Sign

CHAIR HOC: _____ Date: _____
Print Sign

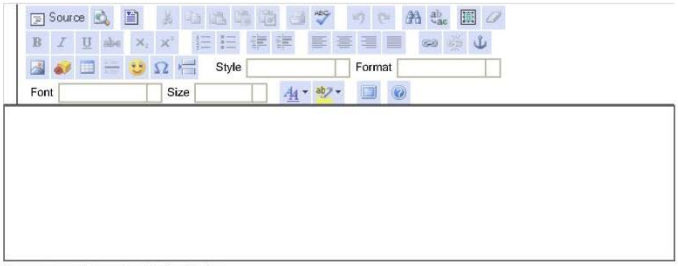
16.4 HOUSE OFFICER BLOCK EVALUATION FORM (through E-Value)

Sample Online Block Evaluation Form:

House Officer	Name
Block	Block
Block Mentor	Mentor
Professional Ability	
1. Theoretical Knowledge	Select Rating
2. Knowledge Application	Select Rating
3. Diagnostic/Surgical Skills	Select Rating
4. Patient Care	Select Rating
5. Thoroughness	Select Rating
Personal Characteristics	
1. Clinician Communication	Select Rating
2. Student Communication	Select Rating
3. Staff Communication	Select Rating
4. Independent Study & Initiative	Select Rating
5. Awareness of Current Literature	Select Rating
6. Contribution to Student Education	Select Rating
7. Performance Under Stress	Select Rating
8. Ability to Accept Criticism	Select Rating
9. Organizational Skills	Select Rating
10. Ability to Work in a Team	Select Rating
11. Reliability	Select Rating
12. Motivation	Select Rating
13. Attendance at Seminars & Rounds	Select Rating
14. Presentation at Seminars & Rounds	Select Rating
15. Ability to Make Independent Decisions	Select Rating
Hospital Service	
1. Completion of Duties	Select Rating
2. Quality of Work	Select Rating

3. Emergency Services Duties	Select Rating
4. Communication with Veterinarians	Select Rating
5. Client Communication	Select Rating
6. Referral Letters & Record Keeping	Select Rating
7. Acceptance of Service & Case Responsibility	Select Rating
8. Adherence to VTH&C Protocol	Select Rating

Strengths



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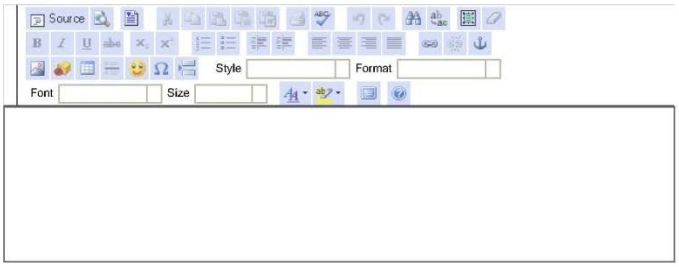
Improvements



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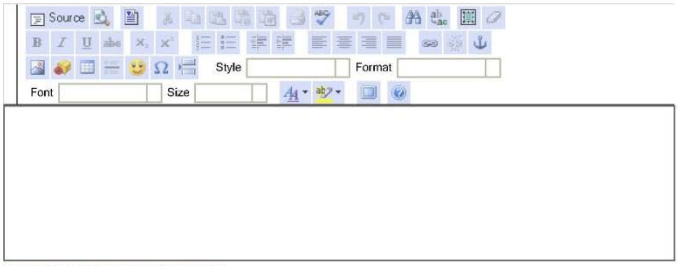
General Comments



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