

## **Internship in Small Animal Emergency & Critical Care: Program Specifics**

Please see “House Officer Programs: General Information” for basic information common to all internship and residency programs. The following information highlights specific program requirements of the Small Animal Emergency & Critical Care internship program.

**Program Director:** Dr. April Blong ([aeb287@iastate.edu](mailto:aeb287@iastate.edu); 515-294-4900)

Faculty Diplomates serving as supervisors and potential advisers of the program:

- Victoria Miller, DVM, DACVECC
- April Blong, DVM, DACVECC
- Meredith ‘t Hoen, DVM, DACVECC, DECVCEC
- Maria Vegas, DVM, DACVECC

### **Prerequisites and Application**

- Candidates must have successfully completed, at minimum, a one-year rotating internship in small animal medicine and surgery OR have equivalent years of experience in small animal practice (at least 4 years).
- The intern for this program should have a strong interest in pursuing a residency program, ideally with the American College of Veterinary Emergency and Critical Care.
- In addition to the standard VIRMP application, an interview will be required with the Emergency and Critical Care faculty via phone or in person.
  - After reviewing the applications received, the ECC faculty will extend invitations via phone and email to potential candidates.
  - Applicants who do not agree to or are not able to arrange an interview will not be considered further.

### **Clinical program requirements**

The program will start with the resident class in mid-July and end June 30 the following year for an overall program length of approximately 50 weeks.

<b>ECC intern schedule (1 year)</b>
12 weeks of critical care in direct contact with a board eligible or ACVECC diplomate
29 weeks of emergency service, some of which will be in contact with a board eligible or ACVECC diplomate, and some of which will the candidate will be supervising rotating interns with faculty back up
2 weeks cardiology rotation
4 weeks elective rotations
2 weeks of vacation
1 week orientation

- **\*\*The intern should expect to work at least 50% (but not more than 80%) of weekends and holidays, as well as some overnight work (not more than 33%).\*\***
- **\*\*For specialty interns interested in a non-ECC specialty, up to 4 weeks can be moved from the 29 weeks of emergency service to the specialty of their interest.**
- **\*\*Interns are given 8 weeks “off” of ECC clinical duty. This time encompasses the necessary non-ECC rotations, and up to 2 weeks of vacation per year.**
  - It is the responsibility of each intern to ensure they use their weeks “off” accordingly to fulfill the program requirements.
  - Research weeks are not provided to interns
  - When scheduling rotations with other services, it is expected the intern will contact the service leader a **MINIMUM** of 3-4 months prior to the desired time on another service. Remember to be flexible, services cannot always accommodate a visiting HO on some weeks.
  - If you need help identifying who to contact about schedule arrangements or are having difficulty arranging time on a service please let your adviser or Dr. Blong know.

### Seminar/Rounds requirements

<b>Rounds type</b>	<b>Frequency</b>	<b>Day/Time</b>	<b>Commitment</b>
HO Seminar/Case Presentation	Weekly	Thursdays @ 8am	Required
SA Intern Rounds	Weekly	Mondays @ 8am	Recommended
ECC Resident Topic Rounds	1-2x weekly	Tues/Thurs @ 3pm	Required
Radiology-Pathology (RadPath) Rounds	Monthly	4 <sup>th</sup> Tuesday @ 8am	Optional
Morbidity & Mortality Rounds	Monthly	2 <sup>nd</sup> Tuesday @ 8am	Optional
SAIM Book Club	Weekly	Fridays @ 9am	Optional
Student Grand Rounds	Weekly	Fridays @ 8am	Optional

- **ECC Service rounds** are composed of weekly (50 wks/year) resident topic rounds. The topic of these rounds will rotate on a three-year schedule in proportion to the expected representation on the ACVECC certifying exam. Categories include but are not limited to: cardiovascular, respiratory, renal/urinary, endocrine, gastrointestinal, hepatobiliary, neurology/special senses, reproductive, musculoskeletal, immunologic/hemolymphatics, integument, sepsis/SIRS/MODS, shock/ischemia/CPR, coagulation/transfusion medicine, acid-base/fluid, anesthesia/analgesia, nutrition and environmental and toxicities. Focus in each category will include physiology, pathophysiology, diagnostics, monitoring and interventions.
- During approximately 75% of the year, there will be a second weekly rounds session that rotates between: **ECC literature review, ECC journal club, ECC clinical correlates, ventilator lab, and mock exam.**
  - ECC literature review will involve each service member being assigned one or more ACVECC required/recommended journals and presenting a brief summary of relevant literature from that source. Abstract level material in a bulleted format.
  - ECC journal club will be assigned to service members on a rotating basis. The presenter for that session will provide an in-depth review and critical evaluation of a single prominent ECC related journal article. They will also lead group

discussion. The intent of Journal club is to critically evaluate a single article to assess its quality of evidence.

- ECC clinical correlates will be assigned to service members on a rotating basis. The presenter for that session will provide an in-depth case review/summary for a single complex or difficult case from the ICU. They will also perform a relevant literature search and present current literature regarding some aspect of the case and lead a group discussion relevant to the case.
- Ventilator lab will involve all service members. Skills practiced/discussed will include ventilator set-up, waveform analysis, and trouble shooting. This may be hands-on dry lab, didactic, or case-based in nature.
- Mock exam sessions will involve each service member preparing a small set of questions (typically 4-5 multiple choice or short answer questions from each person) regarding a set of assigned topics from recent resident rounds content. Exam questions are expected to be high-quality and meet format and criteria requirements set forth by ACVECC. A minimum of two references from the ACVECC approved knowledge base list (one if it is a question relating to a specific journal article) are required to support each question.

### **Scholarship and teaching requirements**

- Teaching and presentation requirements
  - The intern will participate in the instruction of clinical students. Participation in CVM student laboratories will be assigned.
  - The intern will present 2 lectures per year in ECC resident topic rounds. This lecture will be on a single topic at a level appropriate for presentation to fellow ACVECC residents and diplomats.
  - The intern will be the primary presenter during at least 2 ECC journal club and/or clinical correlate sessions per year.
  - The intern will be responsible for preparing questions, as per ACVECC guidelines, on assigned topics for mock exam sessions.
  - The intern must complete ACVECC training benchmarks for review by their advisor by December 20<sup>th</sup> and June 20<sup>th</sup>.
  - The intern is encouraged to attend and participate in continuing education meetings sponsored by the CVM or by local and regional veterinary organization.
  - The intern is encouraged to apply for specialty training in their area of greatest interest through the VM RIP matching program in the fall.
- Research requirements
  - The intern is expected to participate in clinical research. The faculty have projects the intern may be a part of, or if they wish they can formulate and pursue their own project. Preparing and submitting a manuscript for publication is strongly encouraged, but not required.
  - The internship program does NOT allow elective weeks to be used for “research or study” time.
  - Research effort should occur during down time while on clinics or during the intern’s own time.

### **Other program specifics that differ from ISU-CVM “House Officer Programs: General Information”**

- Any external elective rotations must be approved by the intern advisor a minimum of 4 weeks prior to the scheduled elective time.

- Within two weeks of returning, the intern must submit a case log (including their role/involvement with each case), written evaluation of the experience, and the supervising specialist must submit a written evaluation of the intern
- Failure to provide any of the above documentation may result in the time NOT counting towards the necessary 50 weeks of training that are required to complete the internship.
- Interns will be evaluated quarterly by their adviser.
  - The first critique may be provided within 30-60 days of starting, thereafter, critiques will be provided at least every 4 months.
  - As part of a review process, ECC interns will complete the following Self-Evaluation Form for Q2 and Q4 evaluations:

**ECC Intern Self-Evaluation Form**

The ECC Intern is to complete all areas (except faculty feedback sections) of this evaluation and submit it to their faculty advisor at least one week before their scheduled evaluation. At the evaluation, the Intern's progress will be discussed and feedback given.

**Clinical skills:**

- Please describe areas of clinical case management in which you feel you excel:
- Please describe areas of clinical case management in which you feel you could improve; include goals/plans on how to improve these areas:
- Please describe ways in which the ECC faculty can help you to achieve these goals:
- Faculty feedback of ECC Intern's clinical case management skills:  
(1 is poor or almost never, 3 is average, 5 is outstanding or almost always)
  - Ability to manage basic emergency cases 1 2 3 4 5
  - Ability to manage complex emergency cases 1 2 3 4 5
  - Ability to manage basic critical care cases 1 2 3 4 5
  - Ability to manage complex critical care cases 1 2 3 4 5
  - Does the Intern ask for faculty assistance when indicated 1 2 3 4 5
  - Intern's attention to detail on case management 1 2 3 4 5
  - Does Intern demonstrate compassionate care for patients 1 2 3 4 5
  - Comments:

**Teaching/Communication skills:**

- Please describe ways and/or situations in which you feel you excel at teaching students; rotating Interns:
- Please describe areas related to teaching students and rotating Interns in which you feel you could improve; include goals/plans on how to improve these areas:
- Please describe ways in which the ECC faculty can help you to achieve these goals:
- Faculty feedback regarding ECC Intern's teaching of students and rotating Interns:
- Please describe ways/situations in which you feel you excel at communicating with staff; RDVM's; clients:
- Please describe ways/situations in which you feel you could improve communicating with staff; RDVM's; clients: (include goals/plans on how to improve these areas)
- Please describe ways in which the ECC faculty can help you achieve these goals:
- Faculty feedback of ECC Intern's communication:
  - Ability of the Intern to conduct student topic rounds 1 2 3 4 5
  - Ability of the Intern to discuss case presentations w/ students 1 2 3 4 5
  - Willingness of the Intern to teach students 1 2 3 4 5
  - Intern's interaction skills with technical staff 1 2 3 4 5

- Owner communication 1 2 3 4 5
- RDVM communication 1 2 3 4 5
- Ability of the Intern to guide rotating Interns 1 2 3 4 5
- Ability of the Intern to teach rotating Interns when impromptu learning opportunities arise 1 2 3 4 5
- Ability of the Intern to give constructive criticism 1 2 3 4 5
- Ability of the Intern to receive constructive criticism 1 2 3 4 5
- Comments:

Research/presentation skills:

- Please list any presentations that you have prepared and given since the last evaluation:
- Please list any research activity that you have performed since the last evaluation:
- Please describe areas related to research and presentations in which you feel you excel:
- Please describe areas related to research and presentations in which you feel you could improve; include goals/plans on how to improve these areas:
- Faculty feedback of ECC Intern's presentation skills and research activity:
  - Intern presentation skills 1 2 3 4 5
  - Interns preparedness for ECC rounds 1 2 3 4 5
  - Interns ability to prepare original research 1 2 3 4 5
  - Interns ability to conduct original research 1 2 3 4 5
  - Comments: