



EXOTIC PET MEDICINE RESIDENCY TRAINING PROGRAM

PROGRAM REQUIREMENTS:

Established by the ACEPM, the resident will:

1. Be a graduate of an approved veterinary school or college
2. Have completed a one-year rotating internship or three (3) years in clinical practice before they can be accepted for a residency.
3. Be approved to practice veterinary medicine in the country/state of:
4. Be a member of a national veterinary medical association (i.e. AVMA, CVMA, AVEPA, ANMVI, AFVAC, ANZCVS, ect.)
5. Be of satisfactory moral and ethical character including but not restricted to being honest and truthful, not be habitually intoxicated or addicted to drugs, and not to have been convicted of cruelty to animals

OBJECTIVES:

1. To fulfill the requirements of a formalized residency program as set forth by the American College of Exotic Pet Medicine
2. To provide in-depth clinical training in Exotic Pet Medicine
3. To provide in-depth basic and applied science training in Exotic Pet Medicine
4. To conduct original research in the field of Exotic Pet Medicine
5. To meet the requirements of the ACEPM credentials and education committees (ACEPM Board)
6. To obtain ACEPM board certification

PROGRAM OVERVIEW:

An ACEPM diplomate in good standing serves as the residency advisor.

The residency can be offered in an authorized and routinely pre-approved exotic pet specialty medical facility (i.e., clinic, hospital, etc.) or an exotic pet medical service in a referral hospital or a veterinary teaching hospital (i.e., academia).

Applications for new ACEPM residency programs are evaluated by the ACEPM Board members and may be approved, disapproved, or returned for revision.

Application fees apply and are listed and updated on the ACEPM website (<https://www.acepm.org/application>).

The training program consists of a minimum of three (3) years of full-time, supervised training and clinical practice in exotic pet medicine with an annual re-appointment based on annual performance.

Program director (primary mentor):

Co-Mentors(s):

Resident:

Start date:

Veterinary clinical training facility:

The resident will have shadow days at the other specialty clinics to broaden exposure and experience. Resident(s) will have structured rounds every one to two weeks.

LIBRARY:

- Journal of Exotic Pet Medicine
- Journal of Avian Medicine and Surgery
- Journal of Herpetological Medicine and Surgery
- Journal of the American Veterinary Medical Association
- American Journal of Veterinary Research
- Veterinary Clinics of North America: Exotic Animal Practice
- Quesenberry, Orcutt, Mans. 2020. Carpenter (ed.). Ferrets, Rabbits and Rodents -E-Book: Clinical Medicine and Surgery. United States: Elsevier Health Sciences.
- Divers, Stahl (eds). 2019. Mader's Reptile and Amphibian Medicine and Surgery 3rd ed. Elsevier.
- Mader, Divers (eds). 2014. Current Therapy in Reptile Medicine and Surgery. Elsevier
- Mitchell, Tully (eds). 2016. Current Therapy in Exotic Pet Practice. Elsevier.
- Speer. 2015. Current Therapy in Avian Medicine and Surgery. Elsevier.
- Carpenter's current formulary
- Williams DL. Ophthalmology of Exotic Pets. 1st ed. Wiley-Blackwell, Oxford, 2012
- Others, latest versions of the above library is ideal if available

DESCRIPTION OF RESIDENCY PROGRAM

A. All residency programs must supply opportunity for training and clinical experience in the following disciplines at the highest standards as determined by the board of directors ("Board"):

- i. Anesthesiology
- ii. Behavior, Husbandry, Species natural history
- iii. Dentistry, Dermatology, Ophthalmology
- iv. Diagnostic imaging (ultrasound and advanced imaging (CT) are mandatory)
- v. Endoscopy
- vi. Internal medicine
- vii. Pathology (clinical and anatomical, including histopathology)
- viii. Soft tissue and orthopedic surgery
- ix. Urgent care

B. The duration of the residency program must consist of a minimum of 144 weeks of full-time training and clinical practice.

Two (2) weeks vacation and two (2) weeks for research and article writing per year are required.

Each advisor may approve additional time for elective rotations in support of the program (approved by the Board).

A three (3) year program will include graduate studies, research, classes, or other relevant activities.

Research review: 1-2 hours monthly is devoted to research review of the various residents' research projects.

Each mentor can supervise up to three (3) residents at any given time, but no more than two (2) residents can begin the program in the same year.

Exam: At the present time the exam is designed as a verbal exam (in person/virtual ie. Zoom) in front of an appointed ad-hoc exam board consisting of the program advisor and other experts in the field.

At the exam the resident will be "defending" their research project and will be examined on various aspects of their research along with their general exotic pet medical knowledge and experience (**using the case log criteria provided**).

The purpose of such an exam is to use the research project as a foundation and divert to general exotic pet medical applications and knowledge.

Passing rate is set at 70%.

Case Log

Case logs are submitted every six (6) months and must be reviewed and signed by the program advisor. The residents can be primary or secondary and assisted by the advisor in complicated procedures. Procedures may include up to two (2) qualifications (e.g., endoscopic salpingectomy can serve as avian spay and avian coelioscopy).

Descriptions should be concise and include enough detail so that the committee can readily evaluate the scope and depth of the described case. Routine cases such as wellness exams (healthy animals seen for vaccination, preventative or grooming care) shall be accounted for no more than 10 hours/year for purposes of evaluating the Resident through the case log.

Enter the date on which the case was first seen (or later date if recheck). Case numbers and identifying information are optional but helpful.

- Enter the signalment (age, sex, breed, species, other information).
- Enter the main problem or problem list and either differential diagnosis or final diagnosis (if known).

Enter a brief description of any diagnostic, medical, or surgical procedures performed.

Enter the case outcome including results of diagnostics or procedures and case status (discharged, improved, worsened, died, euthanized, etc.).

- Select the type of case (medical category); Up to two (2) may be selected.
- Select the Resident's role (primary or assistant).

Before submission, the case log should be proofread for accuracy and spelling. Errors in grammar, misspelling, typos, etc. reflect poorly on the Resident and will be considered by the Residency Committee as part of the evaluation.

Scientific literature should be reviewed for each case and references should be provided. The Resident must research and expand their knowledge thoroughly during the Program. Abstracts/Proceedings are acceptable as ancillary references when published references are unavailable.

In cases where a residency program may not be able to provide such experience at a given time, the residency committee may approve an alternative experience such as a lab/course/class at another location or the ability to complete the necessary experience at another facility.

Each case represents one (1) hour of clinical experience. **The listed hours below are counted per one year.**

Residents may submit a final log after thirty (30) months (two and a half years) and may complete missing procedures in the last six (6) months of the residency, and may submit their exam/research project evaluation after thirty (30) months. A Residency completion certification will be awarded after completion of thirty-six (36) months of clinical training signed by the advisor.

A Diploma in Exotic Pet Medicine will be awarded after passing the exit exam and thirty-six (36) months of training signed by assigned board members and completion of all other requirements.

The following disciplines are mandatory; Please note that the caseload described below reflects the minimal caseload that is required:

Anatomical Pathology: (20 hours) necropsies and histopath submissions (at least 20 necropsies per year that include final histopathology)

Anesthesia: (40 hours) The Resident must be the primary anesthesiologist. Knowledge and competency in using: blood gas devices and interpretation, capnography, blood pressure, mechanical ventilation, intubation techniques; are required.

Analgesia: Knowledge and competency in analgesia and pharmacology are required.

Behavior: (10 hours) describe all aspects including environmental modification and/or pharmacology

Clinical Pathology: (20 hours) Knowledge and competency in but not limited to hematology, microbiology and parasitology are required.

Endoscopy: in all species groups if applicable; A minimum of three (3) procedures in each category overall (e.g., three (3) gastroscopic procedures, etc.) are required (over three (3) years).

- Biopsy and sample collection (lung, spleen, liver, renal in avian and reptiles)
- UpperGI/Gastroscopy/Colonoscopy/Cloacoscopy/Coelioscopy/Tracheoscopy/

Rhinoscopy/Urethroscopy

Imaging: (20 hours) advanced imaging (CT or MRI); (20 hours) Ultrasound, Traditional radiology (X-ray) will be assumed.

Internal medicine: (60 hours) A minimum of 5 hours in each sub discipline is required. Infectious diseases, cardiology, dermatology, gastroenterology (including hepatology and endocrinology), nephrology, neurology, pharmacology, pulmonology, theriogenology, ophthalmology

Surgery (soft tissue): listed procedures: Three procedures are required in each category overall (in three (3) years)

- Sterilization of small mammals; Sterilization of reptiles/amphibians; Sterilization of birds
- Coeliotomy in birds and reptiles
- Cystotomy in small mammals, reptiles
- Enterotomy, gastrotomy
- Biopsy of internal organs
- Enucleation
- Dentistry and maxillofacial surgery; Three (3) procedures in small mammal dentistry without surgery (crown restoration, simple tooth extraction, etc.,) AND three (3) maxillofacial surgical procedures are required
- Splenic/hepatic/endocrine surgical experience is recommended but not required

Surgery (orthopedic): Limb amputation; fracture repair, plastrotomy, shell repair, tail amputation; 3 procedures in each category overall (in three (3) years) (Any species group is applicable).

Urgent Care: (20 hours) Knowledge and competency in but not limited to: oxygen therapy (delivery, toxicity, physiology), air sac cannula placement, iStat (blood gasses) use and interpretation, IV therapy, CPR therapy, wound management, fracture stabilization and coaptation, thoracocentesis, abdominocentesis, and coelomocentesis.

Wellness: (10 hours) Routine exam, vaccination, preventative medicine, grooming, behavior, husbandry and Species natural history

Residency committee may require additional procedures based on the submitted logs despite an acceptable number of procedures based on the depth and diversity of cases submitted.

Record of Continuing Education

The Resident is required to obtain a minimum of seventy five (75) hours of CE during the training program. A minimum of (25) hours must be formal CE each year. This requirement must be met by attending and participating in RACE-approved programs; national conferences, forums, and symposiums; state conferences; and high-quality regional or local meetings.

Examples of formal CE include RACE- or state licensing board- approved meetings. Internet-based coursework, videos, journal-based quizzes, etc. will be accepted only for the number of hours credited by the sponsoring organization.

Coursework such as college classes are not considered formal CE unless they are RACE-approved or accepted for state licensure requirements.

Enter the date of the CE followed by the title of the program, conference, or meeting. Enter the city and state/province (or select International) of the CE event. Enter the first and last name of the speaker/presenter. More than one (1) name may be entered if multiple persons presented the CE.

- Enter the topic or title of the session.
- Enter the number of credit hours awarded by the CE event.
- Select the type of CE.
- Be sure to list each session or topic on a separate line even if given by the same speaker or included at the same event. Do not group multiple hours or topics on one (1) line.

Record of Presentations

The Resident is required to maintain a log listing exotic pet/animal medicine presentations given at conferences and other professional meetings.

Record of Progress Report

The Resident must keep a summary of the activities throughout the residency program. This includes an up-to-date overview of the residency, including % of supervision, total number of cases seen so far, days at specialist training that have been completed in the various disciplines, hours of completed continuing professional development (CPD), number of international conferences attended, progress with regard to the research project, number of publications in peer-reviewed journals and presentations/lectures.

Residency Evaluation Form

At the end of every year this is submitted to the Education/Residency Committee, and gives the resident an opportunity to evaluate the Residency program. This information is strictly confidential and if problems are raised, the Committee will contact the resident privately to discuss things further.

ACEPM Approved Residency Training Sites:

1. Exotic Vet Care, 814 Johnnie Dodds Blvd., Mount Pleasant, SC 29464
2. Long Island Bird and Exotics Veterinary Clinic, 333 Great Neck Rd., Great Neck, NY 11021
3. Ambulatorio Veterinario Belvedere, Via Papa Giovanni XXIII n°21 42122-Reggio Emilia, Italy
4. University of Parma, Strada del Taglio, 10 - 43126 Parma (PR), Italy

PROGRESS TEMPLATES:

Case Log Template:

Signalment (Age, gender, breed, species), common and/or latin names can be used
Date

Case number(optional)

Problem(s) or Diagnosis(es)

Diagnostics, medical, surgical & other procedures, brief description

Outcome

Case Type (Medical and/or Surgical)

Role (Assistant or Primary)

Supervision (Y/N)

Discipline #1

Discipline #2

Discipline #3

Procedures Log Template:

Signalment (Age, gender, breed, species), common and/or latin names can be used
Date

Case number(optional)

Special Procedure (Non-Routine Diagnostics or Treatment Procedure Description)

Problem(s) or Diagnosis(es)

Case Type (Medical and/or Surgical)

Role (Assistant or Primary)

Supervision (Y/N)

Discipline #1

Discipline #2

Discipline #3

Pathology Log Template

Signalment (Age, gender, breed, species), common and/or latin names can be used

Date of Death (Mortality)

Case number (Optional)

Problem(s) or Diagnosis(es)

Explanation (Briefly explain the reason for the complication or death)

Post Mortem Exam Performed (Y/N)

Post Mortem Diagnosis (Optional) Final diagnosis based on post-mortem examination/histopathology and any ancillary diagnosis tests (micro, virology, etc).

Case Type (Medical and/or Surgical)
