



General Practitioner Certificate in Small Animal Oncology

Syllabus

This syllabus is designed as a guideline to the key areas that the delegate will be expected to understand. Over the course delegates will deal with virtually all clinically relevant aspects of small animal oncology. A wide variety of diagnostic and therapeutic options will be introduced and their clinical application will be detailed in the course of interactive case management sessions. Interactively, attendees will learn how to work-up oncological cases including interpretation of diagnostic imaging findings and cytological specimens. The veterinarian will instead be expected to have knowledge of common disorders and an appreciation of resource material from where further research can be undertaken into more unusual conditions.

Exam questions may cover any area of the syllabus but not all areas of the syllabus are covered in the taught programme, therefore delegates are recommended to be familiar with all parts of the syllabus.

Suitable reading lists and resource material will be provided, both in this Handbook, and by individual tutors during the course.

Tumour Biology & Epidemiology

- Introduction to the main tumours biology
- Tumour ethology and epidemiology

Diagnostic and Therapeutic

- Cancer patient: history assessment and diagnosis
- Therapeutic options
- Palliative care
- Paraneoplastic syndromes

- Statistical parameters, clinical study design, evidence-based medicine

Surgical Oncology

- Main principles of surgical oncology
- Writing and interpretation of pathology reports

Biopsies and Skin Tumours

- Biopsy techniques
- Structure of skin and adnexal tumours

Diagnostic Imaging of Neoplastic Diseases

- Consideration of several diagnostic imaging methods for diagnosis of neoplasia
- Conventional radiography: principles and interpretation of clinical cases
- Ultrasonography and computed tomography (CT) for diagnosis of neoplasia
- Scintigraphy and other possible imaging options

Radiation Oncology, MRI, Neuro-Oncology

- Magnetic resonance tomography (MRI): principles and interpretation of clinical cases
- MRI compared to CT and ultrasonography
- Intracranial and spinal neoplasia
- Basics of radiation oncology: principles and practice

Chemotherapy

- Principles of chemotherapy
- Main chemotherapeutic drugs: handling
- Risks and adverse effects of chemotherapeutic drugs and their management
- Protocols and rescue strategies
- Tumours amenable to chemotherapeutic treatment
- Metronomic chemotherapy
- Anti-angiogenic therapeutic strategies
- Cancer immunology and immunotherapy
- Medical treatment strategies
- Adjuvant chemotherapy
- Lymphomas, Leukaemias and other haematopoietic tumours

Tumours of the Digestive System

- Oral and oesophageal tumours
- Gastrointestinal tumours

- Tumours of the salivary glands
- Tumours of the exocrine pancreas
- Tumours of the liver

Tumours of the Respiratory Tract, Thorax and Skeletal System

- Tumours of the nasal cavity, larynx, trachea and lung
- Other intrathoracic tumours
- Tumours of the skeletal system(excl. multiple myeloma)

Endocrine Neoplasia and Tumours of the Urinary and Genital Tract

- Common endocrine tumours
- Tumours of the urinary tract
- Tumours of the genital tract and mammary glands

Tumours of the Eye and its Adnexal Structures

- Anatomy and physiology of the eye
- Ophthalmologic examination: principles and diagnostic aids
- Diagnosis, differential diagnoses, therapy and prognosis of ocular tumours

Tumour cytology

- Acquisition of samples, staining storage and documentation
- Cytological interpretation, diagnostic criteria, criteria of malignancy
- Cytology of cutaneous and subcutaneous tumours
- Cytology of tumours of internal organs
- Lymph node cytology
- Examination of samples
- Bone marrow biopsy and principles of bone marrow cytology focusing on bone marrow neoplasia
- Immunocytochemistry,
- Limitations of cytology