

EVDC Residency Covid-19 Contingency Planning

COVID-19 has a huge impact on our lives including the residency programmes that are currently running. This is clearly illustrated by the results of a questionnaire distributed amongst residents.

The EVDC board has created a Resident Support Group (RSG) which both residents and supervisors can contact regarding any issue that arises due to Covid restrictions. The RSG consists of the chairs of the Education Committees (EVDC – Florian Boutoille and EVDC-Equine subspecialty – Henry Tremaine), plus Lieven Vlamincx, EVDC Board Member, to co-ordinate the response and to act as liaison between the Board and the EdC chairs.

Contingency measures have been discussed and approved by the Board to assist residents-in-training in 2021, who may (have) experience(d) difficulties with acquiring material for their caselogs. They will be in effect for residents enrolled in programmes during 2021 as below:

1. Full time and Part-time residencies can be extended by up to 12 months to attain credentials if required.

2. Supervised hours

A proportion of annual supervised hours can be logged as 'virtual' as per [Table 1](#) (i.e. with online discussion and collaboration between supervisor and resident as opposed to direct physical supervision) provided that a **COVID-19 diary** of interaction between resident and supervisor is included at the annual review.

Residents should submit onto DMS case details for all such cases including:

- History
- Clinical presentation
- Diagnostic imaging
- Treatment plan
- Execution
- Outcome
- Reflection

Residents should also submit onto DMS for such cases the *'template for remote assessment of proposed virtually supervised or cadaveric procedures'*.

Supervisors will be able to sign off on such cases onto DMS if the material as described above is to a satisfactory standard and the below protocol is adhered to.

Protocol for virtual supervised hours

- Prior to undertaking a virtually supervised day, the date should be confirmed in the resident's COVID diary with the supervisor.
- The detailed plans of the procedures undertaken should be discussed by video/verbal link at the beginning of the day, or prior to this.
- The steps taken for each case should be outlined to the supervisor and documented using the *'template for remote assessment of proposed virtually supervised or cadaveric cases'*.
- The results and findings should be discussed between supervisor and signed off within 48hrs of the scheduled day.

3. MRCL cases

Up to 20% of MRCL numbers for 2021 can be cadaveric in categories that do not already allow a cadaveric component.

4. **Specialty Training**
Selected activities of selected tasks for specialty training are amenable to be performed virtually, if approved by the supervising specialist (see [Table 1](#)).
5. **COVID-19 diary**
Residents must submit a COVID-19 diary of their activities at the annual review while unable to perform clinical work. These diaries will be reviewed by the EdCom's and CC's and assist with any mitigating circumstances.

In addition, the Board would reassure all residents that individual consideration will be given to residents regarding their credentialing, on a one-to-one basis dependant on their personal circumstances relating to the Covid-19 pandemic (see [Table 2](#)).

EVDC Board, March 2021

Table 1. Proportion of supervised hours that can be logged as 'virtual supervision'

Full time residency programme						
	Year 1	Year 2	Year 3			
Minimum supervised hours/year	160	160	160			
Virtual allowance	25% (40 hours)	50% (80 hours)	60% (96 hours)			
Part-time (alternate) residency programme						
	Year 1	Year 2	Year 3	Year 4	Year 5	Year 6
Minimum supervised hours/year	160	160	160	160	160	160
Virtual allowance	25% (40h)	25% (40h)	40% (64h)	40% (64h)	60% (96h)	60% (96h)
Specialty Training hours						
	General (SA) programme		Equine programme			
	Required	Virtual	Required	Virtual		
Anaesthesia	40	20	30	15		
Diagnostic Imaging	40	40	40	30		
General Surgery	40	-	40	-		
SA/human dentistry	-	-	40	-		

Table 2. Cadaver procedure allowance (applies to procedures performed in 2020 and 2021)

MRCL categories	General (SA) programme		Equine programme	
	Required	Cadaver allowance	Required	Cadaver allowance
OM	20	5	30	6
PE1	20	5	10	2
PE2	20	5	15	3
PE3	15	3	35	7
PE4	5	1	-	-
EN1	35	7	15	10
EN2	5	1	15	3
EN3	3	1	2	2
RE	15	3	20	6
OS1	35	7	25	5
OS2	45	9	25	5
OS3	5	1	5	1
OS4	5	1	15	3
OS5	5	1	3	1
PR	5	1	3	1
OR1	10	2	30	6
OR2	4	1	10	2
OR3	4	1	5	1
OR4	2	-	3	1
EX	10	2	-	-