DAY ONE COMPETENCY

This Sheep Veterinary Society guidance is for a newly qualified veterinary surgeon wishing to carry out specific tasks on their first day in mixed practice or farm animal practice when considering sheep. In principle, their “first day” at work because anything can happen! Realistically—probably their first week. “Day 1” competence will be a reflection of their undergraduate education. It does not take into account the individuals knowledge that may have been enhanced by their specific interest in sheep, their EMS or their background.

UNDERSTAND AND DISCUSS

- Stratified system, rudimentary knowledge of the industry
- Breeding cycle of the ewe and how it fits into the farm
- Ram management – use of teaser
- Artificial breeding techniques
- Feeding of all classes of sheep – priority of the in lamb ewe
- Health planning – Red Tractor / Assurance Schemes
- Prescribing and the Cascade
- Welfare and use of NSAIDS
- Vaccination protocols – clostridial / pasteurella vaccines & abortion vaccines
- Antimicrobial use – antimicrobial resistance
- SCOPs principals
- Principals of lameness control – understand the 5 point plan
- Zoonosis
- Trace elements in sheep
- Iceberg diseases – monitoring schemes
- Scrapie – testing
- Ability to access cephalic vein
- Investigation of poor performance in lambs and ewes

UNDER SUPERVISION

- Amputate toe
- Flush infected joint
- Investigate flock lameness problem
- Vasectomy
- Electro-ejaculate ram

DEEMED AS TOO SPECIALIST

- Aural haematoma
- Tail amputation
- Castration of lambs
- Repair new born umbilical hernia
- Prolapsed rectum, reduce and suture, amputation.
- Advise on management
- Urolithiasis – penis examination

Tasks

- Sponging
- Insert intravaginal sponge (IVS)
- Locate and remove a retained sponge
- Practical approach and importance
- Condition scoring
- Trim horn under supervision
- Ear tag placement
- Ring lamb tail and toesicles
- Intraproetional injection new born lamb
- All breeds of sheep – ram and ewe lambs
- Emphasis on difficulties with breed variation – Terst, Jerez
- Lambling
- Lambs
- Ring womb
- Lambs
- Grade 1, grade 2 – reduce and suture
- Grade 3 – under supervision
- Prolapsed cervix
- Diagnose hypocalcaemia, twin lamb disease (hydropic)
- Investigate and advise

General

- Put on heat collar
- Suture
- ewe, ram, growing lamb, young lamb
- Shorn and fully fleeced – clipping
- UV injection, blood test
- New born lamb
- Turn ewe over examine feet diagnose cause of lameness- treat
- Sharpen hoof knife
- Diagnosis
- Treat contagious ophthalmia
- Assess neurological conditions – diagnose cause, under supervision
- Treat individuals
- Under supervision for case outcomes, and formal insurance claims

Clinical examination

- Wound repair
- Access & individual treatment
- Myelask
- Fractured leg
- Dog attack
- Weens
- Itch sheep
- Under supervision for case outcomes, and formal insurance claims
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Post mortem

- Not expect to diagnose cause unless obvious? Take photos
- Assess neurological conditions – diagnose cause, under supervision
- Treat individuals
- Weens
- Itch sheep
- Sample, skin scrapes/blood sample discuss implications under supervision

Veterinary Practice Management

- Review and advise on future management of the case and flock-culling policy
- Reduce and suture and advise on future management
- Prolapsed uterus
- Epidural

Abdominal examination

- Aleve
- Glucosamine
- Meloxicam