



EBVS Best College Practices in the COVID-19 Pandemic Era

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ECVPH online AGM

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Issues for consideration

- Resident training
 - Externships
 - Congress/seminar/resident day attendance
- Certifying examination
 - Practical part with physical presence
- Annual Congress
 - Residents' days
 - AGMs
- Reaccreditation of diplomates
- Administration
 - Financial losses (cancellation of congresses)

Communication-I



Parma, 17.03.2020

Dear EBVS College Representatives,
the EBVS Executive Committee has been monitoring the evolution of the current COVID19 epidemic in Europe. It is becoming increasingly difficult to safeguard the health and wellbeing of all our colleagues (Residents, diplomats, college officers) that have organized and committed to meetings, examinations and general assemblies.
It is for this reason that we invite you all to follow the recommendations and guidance found below.

EBVS recommends the postponement of all board examinations until the pandemic situation in Europe has resolved. Even 'flexible' alternatives, e.g. remote invigilation, use of invigilators from other colleges at the same institute, etc., will automatically cause travel, potential accommodation in a hotel, social contacts, etc., and lead to the threat of further transmission of SARS-CoV-2. The European strategy – based on recommendations by the ECDC – is "SOCIAL DISTANCING" wherever and whenever possible. We regret the inconvenience this will cause for many candidates, but as an educational and science- driven institution, we urgently request your individual support in the prevention of further spread of the virus. "Flattening the curve" will only work if everybody contributes; this is painful for many of us but is also protecting the most vulnerable part of our society.

The EBVS further recommends that:

- if a college cannot offer the examination due to the COVID 19 pandemic ("*force majeure*"), it should seek to reschedule the exam as quickly as the situation will allow; if the situation will not allow rescheduling within 3 months of the original date, the college can postpone until the following year;
- if the COVID 19 pandemic ("*force majeure*") is responsible for a Resident not achieving all of the credentials for examination due to cancellation or postponement of conferences, the college should allow the candidate to sit the examination, but only confer the diploma if and when credentials have been satisfied.

Let us hope that the restrictions currently in place to halt the spread of infection will be efficient and that we can get back to the exceptional work we all do for our colleges.

Best wishes and keep safe,

Laura Kramer *Laura Kramer*

Laura Kramer

- Dear EBVS College representatives,
- Recently you have received a message from the EBVS Executive Committee which, taking into account the evolution of the current COVID19 pandemic in Europe, has offered some recommendations regarding the 2020 board examinations.
- Inevitably, this health crisis will have a marked impact on resident training and the ability to fulfil training requirements (clinical and laboratory work, programmed externships), due to changes in the operating hours of teaching hospitals, decreased caseloads and restrictions in travelling. The impact will not be the same among Colleges as there are differences in the respective disciplines, however it is very unlikely that any College will remain unaffected.
- In order to assess the extent of the problem and collect as much information as possible, the Executive Committee would like to invite you to give your feedback regarding your College's situation and / or planned strategy regarding problems in maintaining the expected level of training. This feedback will be very important for preparing recommendations on time for the planned AGM in April.
- Looking forward to receiving your response

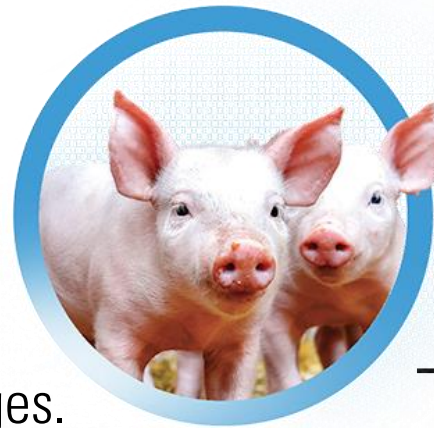
SUMMARY OF COLLEGE RESPONSES REGARDING RESIDENT TRAINING DURING COVID19 CRISIS

EBVS College	Certifying examination	Resident training	Congress	AGM	Diplomate reaccreditation
ECVECC	Remote online Examination in September 2020 with use of ExamSoft and a combination of remote and on site proctoring	Increased flexibility concerning credentials till July 15 th . Depending on the status, we will discuss extension of this 'period of leniency'. Case-by-case adjustments as our number of residents is relatively limited (15). Much of the emergency and critical care service tend to stay active as this is the minimal service veterinary medicine has to offer even under these difficult circumstances.	Canceled and we will organize an online event with the help of VIN end of June.	Will be held remotely with ZOOM on the date it was planned during the congress (June 5).	No changes. For this year we do not expect difficulties. For next year we will have to see, but no measures taking at the moment. We accept remote attendance to the AGM.
ECBHM	Resident survey Option 1-online as planned Sep.2020 Option 2-postponed for 2021	Increased flexibility (missing credentials) Allow residents to take the exam and get the diploma when credentials are met Intensification of alternative resources use (webinars, online training) Seek feedback from trainers	Postponement	Online	Not reported
ECVDI	Not clear but maybe postponed?	Increased flexibility (missing credentials, obligatory presentations) In case of illness: Reduced training (3 months - externships, clinical) Intensification of alternative resources (archive material, online training) Online data bases Share resources with other colleges (interdisciplinary)	Postponement (2022)	Online	Not reported
ECVIM	Postponed 2021	Investigate alternative solutions for congress presentations (online?) Investigate alternatives for paper publications No flexibility regarding clinical training and case logs-prolongation of training	Not reported	Not reported	Not reported
ECVN	Done pre COVID 19 crisis	Residents day online Investigate flexible pathways-no decision yet	Postponed 2021	Online	Not reported
ECVO	Postponed	Flexibility regarding case logs, abstract presentation, use of archive material for training Seek feedback from trainers Online training courses	Postponed 2021	Online	Not reported
ECPVS	Not reported	Investigate flexible pathways-no decision yet	Not reported	Not reported	Not reported
ECAR	Currently as scheduled (Nov.2020) Face to face + ExamSoft	Flexibility regarding case logs, attendance of conferences (individual case assessment)	Currently as scheduled (Nov. 2020)	Online	Not reported
ECVM	No residents eligible for examination yet	Residents continue training Externships cancelled for 2020	Currently as scheduled (Sep. 2020) teleconference	Not reported	Not reported
ECVAA	Written examination cancelled, oral rescheduled Nov.2020	Adapt, reduce if needed clinical training. For residents in closed training centers, programs suspended.	Cancelled, alternatives explored	Not reported, maybe online	Not reported
ECAWBM	Online-ExamSoft	Investigate flexible pathways-online quarterly webinars, other forms of online training	Online virtual congress	Online	Not reported
EVPC	Postponed 2021	Investigate flexible pathways-resident survey	Not reported	Online	Not reported
ECVS	Cancelled	Investigate flexible pathways-case per case evaluation	Online residents day forum 2020 Postponed 2021	Not reported	Recertification period extended for 1 year (years 2020-2024)
EVDC	Postponed Jan. 2021	Residents continue training-credentialing extended up to 12 m. if needed (case per case)	Postponed for 2021	Online	Not reported
ECVCN	Currentl not decided, Probably Dec 2020	Residents continue training and credentialing – the residency class will be anyway (probably online on teams)	Not yet decided – will be decided 9 th of June	Online/e-mail votes	Will be as usual for this year.



EBVS College	Certifying examination	Resident training	Congress	AGM	Diplomate reaccreditation
ECVP	ECVP 2020 exam took place in mid February Next examination is planned to be held in mid February 2021, We will announce the next ECVP exam on our website indicating "potential dates" . These dates could be changed in case of need.	Some residencies are completely locked down, others maintain necropsies and biopsies, and others perform residency training online. The ECVP Council has taken the following actions: - To know and evaluate the real situation of every residency program by contacting their Programs Directors. - To establish a list of possible open webinars and other online training systems that could be used by the residents no matter their residence program of origin. This will minimize the impact of the COVID 19 and will open transversal learning across residencies and the great opportunity of sharing macroscopic and histopathological cases from different geographical areas of Europe.	To be held in Turin, together with the ESTP (European Society of Toxicologic Pathology) in August 2020. It has been postponed to August 2021. ECVP Summer School 2020 has been cancelled due to pandemic COVID19. We very much hope that we will be able to hold the next Summer School from 12-24 July 2021 in Zagreb	ECVP AGM 2020: The ECVP Council is evaluating different possibilities. A decision hasn't been made yet.	Not reported
ECZM	Done March 2020	Investigate flexible pathways-case per case evaluation	Cancelled	Cancelled Committee work done online Voting online	Not reported
ECLAM	Cancelled, residents will be given 1 year extension to pass the exam	Investigate flexible pathways	Planning to have it online	Online	Not reported
ECVPT	Postponed Jan 2021	Residents continue training – clinical case contact is not required	EAVPT congress scheduled for 2021; Meetings in 2020 put on hold	Online	Process of reaccreditation continuing

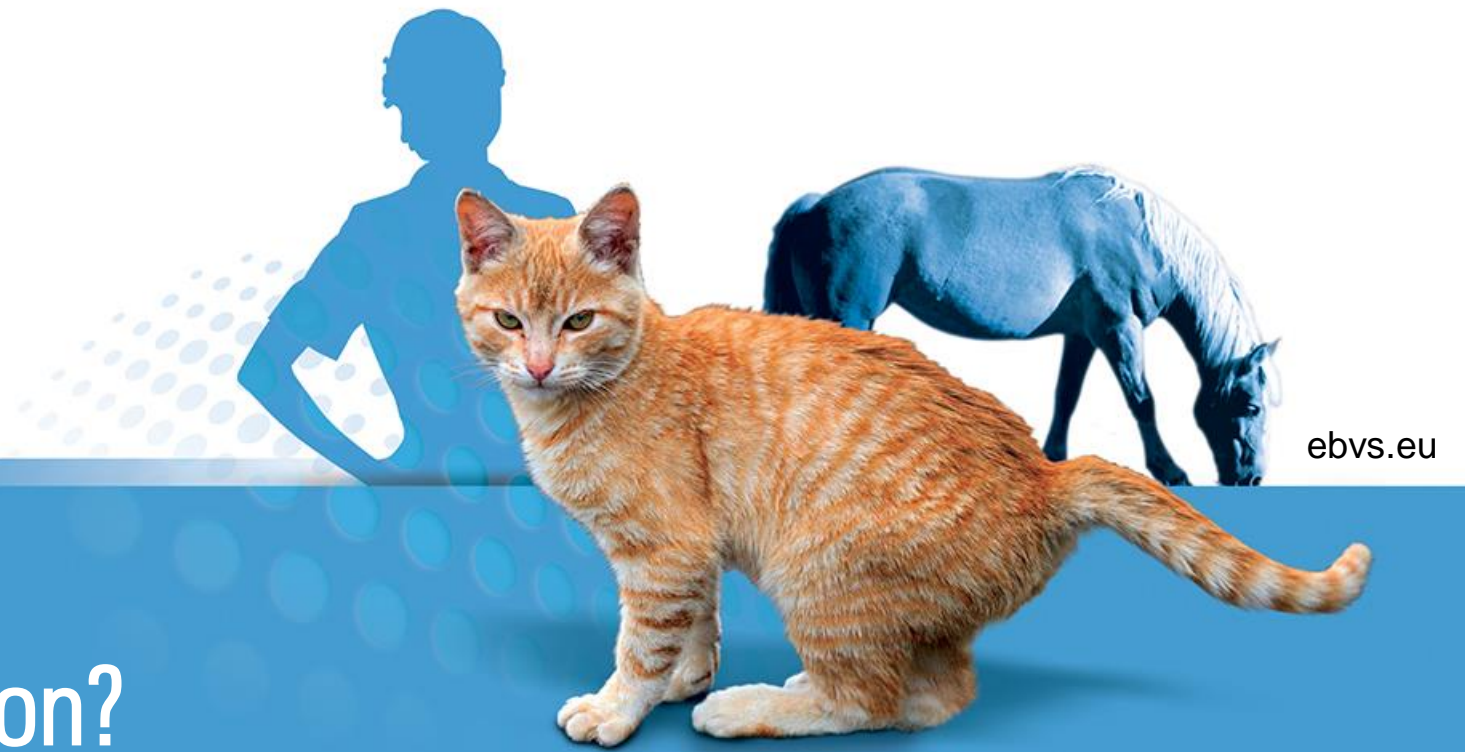
Summary



- Flexible training options examined but not applicable to all colleges.
 - Clinical training is important for certain colleges (ECVIM, ECVS, other)
 - It cannot be substituted by online courses or study of archive material
 - Sharing of education resources among colleges is an attractive option
- Most of 2020 scientific meetings cancelled or postponed
 - Accepted abstracts transferred to the next congress in most cases
- AGMs planned online
- Examinations postponed/cancelled/done remotely
 - ExamSoft platform
- Reaccreditation of diplomates
 - Extension of the accreditation period

Example: List of available resources

Material	Description	Organization	Link
Future Learn (e.g. courses by London School of Hygiene and Tropical Medicine)	Course Database		https://www.futurelearn.com/search?q=epidemiology
Coursera	Various statistics courses (also other subjects)		https://www.coursera.org
Coursera	Whole genome sequencing of bacterial genomes: tools and applications	Denmark Technical University	https://www.coursera.org/learn/wgs-bacteria?action=enroll
LEMMA	Learning environment for multilevel methods and applications	University of Bristol	https://www.cmm.bris.ac.uk/lemma/
COVID-19	MOOC on COVID-19	London School of Hygiene and Tropical Medicine	https://www.futurelearn.com/courses/covid19-novel-coronavirus
One Health	Future Learn	MOOC: One Health - connecting humans, animals, and the environment	https://www.futurelearn.com/courses/one-health
Emerging and re-emerging viruses	Emerging and re-emerging viruses are key players among the different pathogens that have caused recent epidemics, as attested by several severe outbreaks affecting humans such as Ebola, chikungunya, influenza, Zika, dengue, SARS and MERS or outbreaks affecting animals such as rabies and bluetongue disease.	Institut Pasteur	https://www.fun-mooc.fr/courses/course-v1:pasteur+96015+session01/about
EuFMD	Foot and Mouth Disease eLearning module	European Commission for the Control of Foot and Mouth Disease	https://eufmdlearning.works
European Data Portal	Open Data training courses	EU	https://www.europeandataportal.eu/en/training/elearning
ECDC eLearning	Introduction to outbreak investigation	ECDC	https://zfs.ecdc.europa.eu/adfs/ls?SAMLRequest=nVJNSwMxEP0rS%2B771WaLDW2hsRc1V
ECDC eLearning	Micro-Learning on COVID-19	ECDC	https://eva.ecdc.europa.eu/course/index.php?categoryid=56
FAO E-Learning Centre	Various courses	FAO	https://elearning.fao.org/course/
INAMI (French and Dutch, not in English)	Human health focus		https://inami-riziv.dokeosnet.com
SciDev.Net	Media Skills for Scientists		https://scidevnet.teachable.com/p/communication-course-for-scientists
Epidemix	web-based app created to explore visually spatiotemporal trends in disease transmission and improve the understanding of disease modelling. Makes disease modelling transparent and can help everyone interested in disease modelling, from beginners to seasoned modelers.	City University of Hong Kong & Royal Veterinary College	https://www.epidemix.app
college fam	Collection of Data Science Resources for Learning	Harvard etc.	https://www.collegefam.com/all-in-one-collection-of-data-science-resources-for-learning/
Giraffe Academy	Python tutorial for beginners (4.5 h, youtube)	freeCodeCamp.org	https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=rfsCVS0vtbw
Giraffe Academy	SQL tutorial for beginners (4.5 h, youtube)	freeCodeCamp.org	https://lnkd.in/fcNTnaG
1st ECVPH Webinar for residents - Advanced "One Health" Short Course (24-26 June 2020)	Insight and practical work on "One Health" methods by a vet. epidemiologist, a statistician and a mathematician. The audience are ECVPH residents. The Seminar is composed of lectures, self-study, discussions and practical seminar	Swiss Tropical and Public Health Institute, Basel, Switzerland	https://ecvph.org/meetings-events/1st-ecvph-webinar-residents-advanced-one-health-sh
FUN MOOC (French)			https://www.fun-mooc.fr/courses/course-v1:CNAM+01001+session07/about



More information?

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