

ROTATING BOVINE INTERNSHIP PROGRAM

FACULTY OF VETERINARY MEDICINE
GHENT UNIVERSITY

Salisburylaan 133, B-9820 Merelbeke, Belgium

Organising departments:

Department of Internal Medicine, Reproduction and Population Medicine,
Department of Large Animal Surgery, Anaesthesiology and Orthopaedics,
Faculty of Veterinary Medicine, Ghent University

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- **Start of the program:** First day of the academic year of UGent (around 20th of September)
- **End of the program:** Last day of the academic year of UGent

Objectives:

The Bovine Rotating Internship program is a one-year post-academic educational program for recently graduated veterinarians aiming to give them advanced clinical training in bovine, small ruminants and camelid health care at the individual (ambulatory clinic, reproduction, obstetrics, internal medicine, surgery and medical imaging) and herd level (nutrition, reproductive management, health monitoring, problem herd analysis and infectious diseases). This year of comprehensive broad postgraduate training and experience prepares the veterinarian for high-quality service in practice and fulfils the requirements of an internship program for the European College of Bovine Health Management (ECBHM) or European College of Animal Reproduction (ECAR).

Program Overview:

The bovine internship program is rotating between the three divisions of the clinic for ruminants (internal medicine, reproduction and surgery) and the herd health service. Positions are opened with a focus on the clinic for ruminants, not herd health management.

The internship is a full-time 12 months program. It includes 44 weeks of clinical training, leaving 3 weeks for working on a project of the intern's interest and 5 weeks of vacation per year. The program starts at the start of the academic year. Rotations are on a monthly basis between internal medicine, surgery/anesthesiology and reproduction/obstetrics.

The clinics holds state of the art and point of care based equipment for ultrasonography, endoscopy, radiography and advanced medical imaging (eg. MRI or CT). In addition, there is an in-house lab for blood examination, cytology, bacteriology and parasitology. Surgical theaters are available for reproduction (caesarian sections) and advanced orthopedic and soft tissue surgery. The hospitalisation ward allows intensive care, including fluid and oxygen therapy.

There is one team of clinicians for the whole of the clinic for ruminants. When the work is finished in your discipline, you are expected to join hospitalisation at internal medicine. Participation in herd health visits is included in the program. Training days are from Monday to Friday. Participation in evening/night and weekend shifts is mandatory at a 1-in-3 basis.

Responsibilities

Participate in the clinical examination, diagnostic procedures and treatment of ruminants and camelids

Participate in surgical procedures

Daily care of the hospitalization ward

Participate in clinical teaching and evaluation of students

Administrative tasks like medication records and report writing

Participate in tasks relate to biosecurity and general cleanliness of the facility

During the internship you are supervised by different veterinarians, under which ECBHM diplomates, who maintain final responsibility on the animals

Education

The clinic organizes several educational activities, accessible to interns

- Participation in the journal club of the ECBHM residency program. Pertinent articles from current veterinary journals will be discussed.
- Educational afternoons on different topics, dedicated to interns
- Participation in the theoretical training of residents to develop problem herd solving skills in the area of reproduction, mastitis, young stock, lameness and metabolic diseases.
- Interns are encouraged to participate in post-academic courses (e.g. Academy for Veterinary Medicine, Flemish Buiiatrics association, local lectures organized by veterinary organisations)

Evaluation of interns

- A representative of the organizing department will perform one intermediate evaluation in January according to a standard evaluation document which will serve as the basis for a feedback conversation. At the end of the internship (September) a final evaluation and feedback will be given. A positive evaluation results in a 'certificate of bovine internship', delivered by Ghent University.
- The organizing department reserves the right to cancel the participation of an intern to the program when the intern does not comply with the program as stipulated or after several negative evaluations.

Residency

The internship program is in principle, the basis for a residency program of any College in that area, member of the EBVS. Nevertheless, the completion of an internship program is no guarantee for admission as a resident.

Conditions for admission:

- Candidates should have obtained the diploma of "Veterinary Medicine", either at Ghent University or at another European University. Candidates that have obtained their diploma outside the European Union will be evaluated on an individual basis
- Applications from final-year students will also be accepted
- Proficiency of English is expected. A good knowledge (spoken and written) of Dutch is regarded as an asset.

Statute of the interns:

Interns should subscribe as students of the Faculty of Veterinary Medicine, Ghent University, Belgium. They receive a one-year scholarship with a monthly grant (around 1500 euro (tax-free)). On-site accommodation is only provided when on night duty. Interns are expected to find and arrange their own housing.

Applications:

- Internship position will be declared vacant in the months March-April. All details to apply will be included in the vacancy text. For more information contact: Bart.Pardon@UGent.be