Rossdales LLP

Job Description

Associate (Equine Neonatology and Internal Medicine)

1 Purpose:
The purpose of this document is to set out the main aspects of the job within Rossdales LLP. It will not be an exhaustive list of all aspects but should set out the overall expectations of the role from Rossdales LLP and define the main requirements for the jobholder.

2 Job title:
Veterinary Associate

3 Department:
Rossdales Equine Hospital

4 Location:
Exning

5 This position reports to:
Emily Haggett, Partner

6 Direct reports:
None

7 Hours:
Monday – Friday 8:00 – 18:00 with a one-hour (unpaid) lunch break when workload permits.
Saturday 08:00 – 12:00

The role holder will be part of the Medicine on-call rota.

Other hours may be required in accordance with the business needs.

8 Main aspects of the job:

Role overview – to work within the internal medicine team to provide a clinical service to critically ill foals hospitalised in the neonatal intensive care unit and also to provide clinical and intensive care to in-patients and new admissions with medical disorders.

The main aspects of this role include (but are not limited to):

- Client liaison and interface with Thoroughbred, sports and pleasure horse clients and owners, including discussion of results.
- All aspects of critical care (including neonatal) and general medicine.
- Care of hospitalised patients including daily management plans and client communications.
- Performing night and weekend duties on the medicine rota.
- Collecting appropriate samples, handling and processing them in a correct manner to facilitate accurate, reliable and prompt testing.
- Where diagnosis is not possible, discuss and inform client of any further tests or treatment options. Treatment must be prescribed and/or supplied according to the requirements of the VMD and with due attention to all relevant legislation.
- Liaison with Partner responsible for the client, especially if the case is complicated or there is a problem.
- Referral of cases when appropriate and liaison with referral clinic.
- Communicate effectively with referring veterinary surgeons.
- Ensure veterinary reports are written and sent promptly.
- Maintaining contemporaneous medical records, including reports of specific diagnostic procedures such as ECGs, echocardiographs, ultrasonography, radiography etc.
- Support colleague in the ambulatory practice by providing specialist consultations on local farms and training yards.
- Contributing to internal knowledge sharing and external client events, CPD and conferences as required.
- Cleaning, restocking and preparing work areas and equipment, off-site and on-site.
- Completing insurance claim forms promptly when required and ensuring that copies are kept.
- Ensuring that copies are kept of any documentation given to clients.
- Keeping accurate and up to date records of visits and cases using Eclipse.
- Booking work completed to the accounts system or using Mobile Eclipse in accordance with best practice.
- You must perform your duties with attention to H&S considerations for yourself and clients.
- Where radiographs are required, ensuring that all relevant radiation safety guidelines are followed and appropriate PPE is used.
- Complying with standards set for the RCVS Practice Standards scheme.
- Any other duties reasonably requested by the Partnership.

9 Organisation Structure:

Rossdales organisation structure is set out on the Practice Intranet under ‘My Rossdales’. 

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10 Appraisals:
Rossdales LLP aims to complete appraisals on an annual or biennial basis. Probationary reviews are held on or around three months from the start date.

11 Confidentiality:
All staff are required to ensure confidentiality is maintained at all times.

12 Health & Safety:
It is the responsibility of all employees to ensure that Health and Safety requirements are followed at all times in accordance with the Employee Handbook and the Health and Safety Policy, found on the Practice Intranet.

Rossdales LLP is an Equal Opportunity Employer.

August 2018
Rossdales LLP is an exclusively equine practice of 45 veterinary surgeons and 10 consultants based in Newmarket, the headquarters of the UK’s Thoroughbred industry. The successful applicant will become part of our seasonal neonatal and internal medicine teams.

The neonatal intensive care unit (NICU) is located within our state-of-the-art hospital in Exning. Emily Haggett leads the clinical team. The unit admits approximately 70 foals each year and is excellently equipped to provide all aspects of neonatal intensive care. We have facilities for intensive monitoring, mechanical ventilation, cardiovascular support, total parenteral nutrition and patient isolation.

The Medical Intensive Care Unit (MUCI) opened in late 2017 and greatly enhances our ability to manage horses with neurological disorders. It is a purpose-built facility where each patient is housed within a stable with its own dedicated nursing area. The clinical team in the MICU is led by Celia Marr and our medical and nursing teams have access to state-of-the-art facilities, equipment and technology. Strict protocols are in place to ensure that the highest levels of biosecurity are maintained for our sickest patients.

One stable in our MICU is equipped with an Anderson sling and Large Animal Lift, the gold standard device for this purpose. Additionally, our MICU stables can accommodate foals that have to be separated from their dams for continuous infusions of fluids and intravenous nutrition without breaking the vital bonding process.

A comprehensive clinical pathology laboratory and a well-equipped diagnostic imaging service support the units. Our NICU and Internal Medicine teams are also occasionally involved in care of sick foals and horses at local stud farms and yards. The successful applicant will also be expected to assist with emergency admissions.

Out-of-hours duties will be extensive.

We are looking for a hard-working and committed veterinarian who is committed to a career in Equine Internal Medicine. The position is particularly appropriate for someone who has completed an ACVIM or ECEIM approved residency programme and/or completed the RCVS CertAVP and wants to expand their experience by working in a well-equipped and dynamic hospital based in the UK’s centre for Thoroughbred racing and breeding.

Applicants must be a member of the Royal College of Veterinary Surgeons and must have the right to work in UK at the agreed start date.

The position is offered from Monday 28 January to Friday 30 August 2019.

Out-of-hours duties will be extensive: initially the successful applicant will be expected to be available on-call to assist with medical emergencies and intensive care patients for 2 of 3 nights and weekends and will be supported by one of the permanent medical staff while on-call. At a point dependent on the successful applicant’s experience, in the second phase of the contract, duties will be shared equally with 3 permanent medicine clinicians.

If clinical commitments dictate that the successful applicant is obliged to remain in the intensive care unit throughout the night or for much of the weekend he/she will either be given a half day off the following day, or if this is not possible a half-day off may be taken later during periods that the clinic is quiet. If, by the end of the contract, all these half-days off have not been taken, they will be added to the holiday allowance.
Annual leave entitlement is 35.5 days inclusive of Bank/Public Holidays, pro rata for seven months will be 21 days inclusive of Bank Holidays. Holiday will usually be scheduled towards the end of the contract. Medicine clinical staff do not normally take holiday from February – June.

Salary will be commensurate with experience.

At the end of the Contract the Associate will have gained further experience in:

**Neonatal Intensive Care;**

Clinical assessment including interpretation of laboratory data and advanced diagnostic imaging.
Therapeutics including fluid therapy, ionotropic and pressor support & total parenteral nutrition.
Advanced intensive care including cardiovascular monitoring and mechanical ventilation.

**Internal Medicine;**

Assessment and treatment of adults presenting for medical disorders.
Diagnostic imaging including echocardiography, ultrasonography, radiography and computed tomography.
Clinical pathology.