



Veterinary Health Center

MANHATTAN, KANSAS

OFFICIAL PROTOCOL

DIAGNOSTIC MEDICINE / NECROPSY

Course Description

The diagnostic medicine rotation is a required rotation for fourth-year veterinary students. A major emphasis of the course is to gain proficiency in the necropsy (postmortem) examination of animals, with the goal of achieving a definitive diagnosis. We will spend significant time recognizing and interpreting pathologic findings discovered during the gross necropsy examinations, and in the communication of those findings in both written and oral form using language that is descriptively clear, concise, and accurate. Thorough gross necropsy examinations and reports are expected. A major emphasis is placed on the differential diagnosis of common clinical disease problems affecting food and companion animals.

Exposure to various laboratory diagnostic procedures and techniques (toxicology, virology, bacteriology, serology, parasitology, immunology, molecular diagnostics, clinical pathology, histopathology, immunohistochemistry), as well as techniques in appropriate and correct sampling and submission of various tissues and specimens for ancillary testing, are emphasized during the rotation. Instruction occurs primarily during student handling of necropsy cases, laboratory exercises, case discussions, presentations during necropsy rounds, topical or case-based didactic presentations, computer assisted learning, and independent and group study.

Materials

The following equipment is required and provided by the student:

- Coveralls: full body blue or green coveralls that are clearly marked with ID or name tag
- Rubber necropsy gloves (two pair) - Yellow dishwashing gloves (preferably without cloth cuffs; latex examination gloves are not acceptable)
- Rubber boots (preferably without cloth tops)

NOTE: All necropsy equipment including knives, forceps, scissors and scalpels are provided by KSVDL.

Schedule

All students should meet in Mosier Hall D-103 at 8:30 AM on the first scheduled day of the rotation for orientation (usually the first Monday morning of the rotation). A detailed daily schedule of activities and a statement of course objectives will be provided and general procedures related to the VDMP902 rotation will be distributed to all students prior to the rotation, and discussed during the orientation session. All course related material is posted and available to all enrolled students on the course website (Canvas, VDMP902 Diagnostic Medicine Rotation).

Other Information

Updated 03/14/2023

Approved by B. Plattner

For the VDMP902 rotation, food/drinks/personal belongings (including laptops) can be stored temporarily in room D102-Mosier Hall, to which only current rotation students have access (via the CVM-issued personal ID/access badges). Lockers in room Mosier D-102 are available to store personal belongings EXCEPT necropsy attire (boots, coverall, rubber gloves, etc.). Badge access is required to access KSVDL, necropsy receiving area, necropsy floor, and Mosier Hall D-102; access D-102 will be removed, lockers will be emptied, and unclaimed belongings will be discarded at the end of each rotation. Storage space and lockers are available in the men's or women's locker/change rooms adjacent to the necropsy floor for storage of necropsy attire (boots, coveralls, rubber gloves, etc.) during the rotation. Food and/or drinks are NOT allowed in the necropsy/receiving area.

Faculty

All faculty diagnostic anatomic pathologists who regularly receive cases to Kansas State Veterinary Diagnostic Laboratory (KSVDL), anatomic and clinical pathology residents, and faculty from various sections of KSVDL participate in and lead instruction of students during the rotation. Dr. Brandon Plattner is the rotation coordinator; any questions and concerns regarding any aspect of the rotation should be directed to Dr. Plattner (blplattner@vet.k-state.edu).