



Veterinary Health Center

MANHATTAN, KANSAS

OFFICIAL PROTOCOL

LIVESTOCK SERVICES

Overview of rotation organization and student expectations

Required equipment:

- coveralls, scrubs, boots
- thermometer, stethoscope, penlight, bandage scissors, hemostat, black sharpie, yellow highlighter, and black pen

Reference materials for rotation preparation:

- [Course Videos](#)
- [Clinic Schedule & Rounds Prep Information](#)
- CLASS NOTES: Review especially (PE, vaccinations, deworming, normal TPR for species, etc.)
- Reference textbook perma-links available on Livestock Rotation CANVAS page

Grading: *Preparation, Participation, Interaction, Knowledge, Skills*

Grades received on this rotation are determined by the senior clinician(s) on duty with the student during the rotation. Input is gathered from house officers and support staff. If a student is felt to be performing unacceptably, the senior clinician will meet with the student by the end of the first week of the rotation. All students are expected to participate in rounds and “in-formal” case discussions. Students should be prepared to discuss the intricacies of his or her cases, ask questions during rounds and provide constructive interaction during case discussions. Examinations (either oral or written) may be given at any point during the rotation to augment performance evaluation. Failure to perform an assigned duty (ICU, emergency duty, after-hours treatments including weekend rounds) is grounds for failure. More specifically, if a student is on emergency call after hours and the desk has unsuccessfully attempted to contact the student more than twice, failure of the course and repeat will be mandatory. All absences must be preceded by an excused absence form (except documented medical emergencies).

Student Presentations: Students on Livestock Medicine and Surgery will choose a topic they are interested in and present a 10-15 minute discussion on Fridays at **8am**. The topic should be approved by Faculty. Examples include individual diseases, metabolic processes, or surgery. Topics should not include lists of diseases that cause a problem (ie. Causes for abortion) or lists of toxic plants, etc. The topic should either have a word document summary to hand out to the group, or a PowerPoint presentation. Each topic should provide at least three references other than class notes and Merck manual. Good sources of reference are primary literature, Veterinary Clinics of North America, and a Textbook source. 2 or 3 presentations will be given each Friday morning at **8am**.

Attire and Equipment: Professional dress is required. When receiving cases in-hospital students should wear clean coveralls and boots. Coveralls should be removed and hung in the rounds room when not seeing cases. All students should keep a change of clothes and clean scrubs in the livestock services lockers. Local practice students should take a spare set of coveralls on calls in case a second farm must be visited immediately after leaving the first. There are no

specific attire requirements for under your coveralls but be mindful that you may have to remove your first set of coveralls while still on farm. Please plan for the weather when on Local Practice to ensure you have warm clothing in the winter and plenty of water in the summer. **Protective and presentable footwear is required** (leather or rubber boots, or over shoes).

Any footwear should be expected to get wet, soiled and washed regularly between handling cases and before leaving the clinic. Tennis shoes, flats and loafers are unacceptable and are not allowed on the clinic floor. Jeans can be worn but must be neat, clean and have a high enough waist to cover undergarments when bending over. Hats are only allowed on field service calls. Wearing any non-university gear promoting a particular drug or drug company is prohibited.

REQUIRED EQUIPMENT: thermometer, stethoscope, penlight, bandage scissors, hemostat, black sharpie, yellow highlighter, and black pen. If the student does not have the listed attire or equipment they will be asked to leave and go get it. Jewelry (rings, bracelets, & earrings) can become caught on equipment or gates; wear at your own risk.

Fingernails are to be trimmed to \leq fingertip length to prevent patient injury during rectal exams and allow adequate surgical scrubbing.

Safety: Student safety and safety of our patients is of utmost importance. Good hygiene involves washing hands 10-12 times per day. **If you are or may be pregnant, please notify one of the faculty or technicians. The following pharmaceuticals may result in pregnancy loss or damage to the fetus: Oxytocin, Dexamethasone, RB51 vaccine, Lutalyse (or other prostaglandins). Prostaglandins may also trigger an asthmatic reaction in people afflicted with this disease. Injection of Micotil and Xylazine are both potentially fatal to humans. Proper care should be taken when handling these drugs. Accidental injection of RB51 vaccine should be reported to a faculty member or the technician and requires immediate attention.**

Hygiene: In general, SOAP or treat young before old, healthy before sick, non-contagious before contagious, anything before an enteric case. **Wash hands and change gloves after handling any animal and before touching another animal.** Boots, shoes, stethoscopes and soiled clothing should be changed between patients/farm calls. If a foot bath is required for a patient, the foot bath should be cleaned twice daily.

Clean-up: Maintaining the equipment and working areas of the clinic in a clean, orderly, and professional manner is a task which all of us (clinicians, technicians, and students) must undertake. Items such as empty fluid bags, surgical instruments, stomach tubes, speculums, etc. need to be cleaned and put away when they are no longer being used. All chutes and alleys should be washed immediately after use. The treatment area and outside pens should be washed down at the end of the day.

Assignment/Working Hours: **NOTE:** Text messaging is NOT an approved form of communication on the livestock services rotation. If you need to contact a house officer, technician or faculty member regarding patient care you must communicate directly via phone call or contact the front desk to have a direct message sent via TEAMS to the house officer, technician, or faculty on the case.

All students are expected to arrive in the mornings with enough time that patient SOAPs and treatments can be completed so that the student is ready for rounds at 9 am. A general rule of thumb is to allow 30 minutes per intensive patient. In the event that a student does not have a hospitalized case to treat in the morning, all students are expected to be at the clinic no later than 7:45 am. If you have a hospitalized patient, you need to be at the VHC no later than 7:00 AM to relieve the overnight student worker or technician. Below is a loose outline of daily operations:

Daily In-House Schedule M-F:

7 – 9 am	Patient PE, treatments, SOAPs
9 - 10 am	Patient rounds and discussion
10 am – 12	Receive cases, perform procedures
12 – 1pm	Lunch (if time and patient needs allow)
1 – 3 pm	Receive cases, perform procedures

Updated 3/10/2022

Approved by M. Miesner, E. Reppert, L. Weaver

3 – 4 pm	Case discussion period
4 – 5 pm	Patient PE, treatments, SOAPs

Daily In-House Schedule S-Sun:

8 am Patient treatments and brief rounds – *Students should have all PE and basic treatments done by 8 AM. Meet at the grey tilt chute at 8 AM ready to round.*

*All in-house students expected to attend rounds unless they have an excused absence that has been approved by a faculty member prior to the absence. *

Daily Field Service Schedule M-F:

7 – 9 am	Assist with PE and treatments for hospitalized patients
9 am – 12	Field service calls, in-house patient rounds
12 – 1 pm	Lunch (unless in-house or F/S calls)
1 – 4 pm	Field service calls, case discussions
4 – 5 pm	Assist with PE and treatments for hospitalized patients

Field Service appointments are often scheduled to start prior to 9am, please check the calendar in CANVAS to know when you should expect to be leaving for the day's calls. Plan to arrive in the garage 5-10 minutes before the stated leave time. If a call is scheduled across the noon hour in CANVAS it would be wise to bring a sack lunch for the day.

Emergency duty

*** You must report to the VHC within 15 minutes of being called or paged for an emergency. If you are on emergency call after hours and the desk has unsuccessfully attempted to contact you more than twice, that constitutes grounds for failing the rotation.***

I. Weekdays: A,B are emergency shifts. You are on-call from 5 pm-8 am when you are assigned to both shifts and you will be called in for all emergencies during that time.

"A" shift

- Student A must be in-hospital from 5-10 pm.
- Shift duties include; hourly checks and treatments for all hospitalized patients, receive (be the primary student) any emergency cases that come into the hospital (from 5-10 pm) and round with ICU staff/student at 10 pm. On-call from 10 pm-8am to assist with any emergencies during that time.

"B" shift

- Student B is on-call from 5 pm–8 am.
- Shift duties from 5-10 pm include; assist with any in-house emergencies, hourly checks and treatments of hospitalized cases and serve as the primary student on any emergency cases seen in the field.
- Shift duties from 10 pm-8 am include; serve as primary student on any emergencies seen in-house or in the field.
- Be on call to assist with overnight in-patient treatments as a back-up to the ICU student during the week in the event that the ICU student/tech/student worker are unable to complete hourly treatments within 45-50 minutes. You will be released once all the treatments have been caught back up.

II. Weekends: A,B,C are emergency shifts. You are on-call 8-8am when you are assigned to any emergency shift and will be called in for all emergencies during that time.

Local practice students that obtain an in-patient on emergency will transfer their patients to a livestock medicine and surgery student the following morning. However, if it is the last weekend of the rotation, and a local practice student obtains an in-patient the local practice student will keep the case until Monday morning at 8 AM.

Livestock medicine and surgery students that obtain an in-patient on emergency will keep their cases until the patient is discharged or the student completes the in-house rotation (whichever comes first).

"A" shift

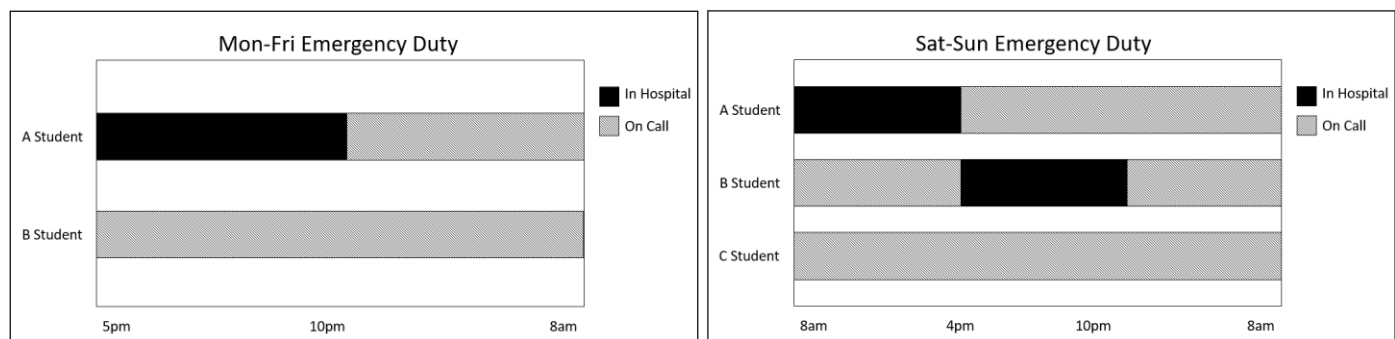
- Student A must be in-hospital from 8 am-4 pm.
- Shift duties include; hourly checks and treatments for all hospitalized patients, receive (be the primary student) any emergency cases that come into the hospital (from 8 am-4 pm) and round with Student B at 4 pm.

"B" shift

- Student B must be in-hospital from 4-10 pm.
- Shift duties include; hourly checks and treatments for all hospitalized patients, receive (be the primary student) any emergency cases that come into the hospital (from 4-10 pm) and round with ICU staff/student at 10 pm.

"C" shift

- Student C is on-call from 8-8 am.
- Shift duties include; assist with any in-house emergencies, hourly checks and treatments of hospitalized cases and serve as the primary student on any emergency cases seen in the field and all emergencies from 10 pm-8 am.
- Be on call to assist with overnight in-patient treatments as a back-up to the ICU student on the weekends in the event that the ICU student/tech/student worker are unable to complete hourly treatments within 45-50 minutes. You will be released once all the treatments have been caught back up.



ICU duty (this is not an emergency shift)

- ICU shift duties; hourly checks and treatments on all hospitalized large animal patients (LS, EQ).
- Students assigned to ICU are ON CALL from 10 PM- 8 AM
- Students perform ICU duty coverage in the event that the ICU student/tech is ill or on vacation. Dr. L. Weaver will inform you either in person or by email if you are required to cover a full or partial overnight shift. The ICU student may also be called in if the ICU caseload becomes disproportionately large making it impossible for the ICU student/tech to complete the hourly treatments within 45-50 minutes. You will be released once all the treatments have been caught back up.
- Students that must come in to perform a complete 8 hr ICU duty mon-thru will be dismissed from clinics at 3 pm the day of and immediately after 8 am rounds the day after.

- **NOTE:** If ICU workers are covering overnight shifts without a technician or veterinary assistant on a Mon-Thurs night, any student on ICU (regardless of if they got called in overnight or not) must come into the clinic at 5:45 AM to perform 6 AM treatments and hourly observations on both equine and livestock until the students on the hospitalized cases arrive (between the hours of 6-8 AM). If the student does not show up or if the discharge desk has unsuccessfully attempted to contact the student more than twice, this will be grounds for failing the rotation. Dr. L. Weaver will inform the ICU student by email if they need to arrive early to relieve ICU student workers during the week.

Medicine/Surgery Student Duties – General: Day 1 – Orientation (8:30 AM) and USDA training (1:30 PM) in the livestock conference room. Clinical cases will be assigned, and rounds will be held after USDA orientation to go over case assignments.

The livestock medicine and surgery rotation is a total of 14 days; there are two 5-day work weeks and two weekends. All students are expected to be present for the entire rotation, including weekends, unless arrangements are made with the faculty member on clinics in writing (email) at least two weeks in advance of the requested day(s) off. The livestock medicine and surgery rotation frequently has hospitalized patients over the weekend. Providing excellent and efficient patient care to livestock medicine and surgery patients requires the help of all members of the rotation. The student assigned to each case is expected to continue providing patient care with the 7am/4pm treatments and SOAPs throughout the weekend. Arranging the on-call/emergency schedule so that you are free of call for a weekend does not guarantee that you won't have patient care responsibilities, so as a rule you should expect to be in town and available for the entire two weeks.

Admissions: All appointments are managed in Instinct. Students should check the schedule before rounds and sign up for any available cases; also check the schedule periodically throughout the day as new appointments are often added as the day progresses. To “sign up” for a case, go to the front desk and tell the front desk staff which case you would like to be assigned.

When a case arrives, the receptionist will page the student that signed up for the case and a message will be sent via Teams to alert the technicians and clinicians. If there has not been a student assigned to a case the front desk staff will page overhead for any available Livestock Services student. The student should pick up the record (will only contain stickers for the patient, no paper forms, all physical exam forms and SOAPs are done through Instinct) from the receptionist and greet the owner. Temperament of the animal should be assessed prior to unloading. **Never handle a fractious animal alone; get a tech or clinician to help unload all mature cattle and any fractious animals.** After unloading (with assistance from a technician or clinician), take the history while observing the animal from a distance. A clinician or technician is required to operate the hydraulic chute.

Once the animal has been restrained, do a physical examination excluding a rectal exam. Record the findings in Instinct on the PE form. If the attending clinician is not yet present, please have them notified by the front desk via Teams. Complete your problem list, differential diagnosis, and treatment plan on Instinct. **Permission from the clinician is required prior to performing a rectal examination.** Student findings should then be discussed with the clinician. Treatment and care of all hospitalized patients are the primary responsibilities of the student on the case. Students should be aware of what their patients are or are not eating. Monitor feed tubs, hay racks, and water buckets daily. If there are concerns regarding feeding/watering of a patient, please consult the attending clinician. For all hospitalized patients, electronic ICU orders (treatment sheets) must be previewed by the clinician before 5 pm. To alert the house officer to changes on the treatment sheet and/or to indicate that your treatment sheet is ready to be reviewed, please send a task (via Instinct) to the house officer on the case. The clear board next to each stall should be filled out with the patient ID, working diagnosis, call parameters specific to that patient, and after hours contact person. A stall card with the patient sticker should be placed on the back of the stall that indicates what the animal is being fed. All PE, treatments, and SOAPs must be done by 9 am before rounds; 2 people **at all times** for cattle cases. To assist with treatments of patients, a house officer and technician are in clinic at 7:00 am and veterinary technicians are in clinic no later than 8 am.

Anesthesia Request: Any patient undergoing general anesthesia must have a request turned in to anesthesia by 3 pm the day before the procedure. All adult ruminants should be held off feed 36-48 hours and off water 12 hours prior to general anesthesia. No food/water signs should be posted on the stall and it is the responsibility of the student to ensure the appropriate signage has been placed.

Surgery Requests: Surgery request should be filled out for any surgery requiring anesthesia. Completed requests should be placed in the LA surgery nurses station. Such cases also require completion of a surgery report. The report must be completed within 24-48 hrs of the procedure. A draft of the report should be reviewed by the house officer on the case prior to being added to the patients file.

Livestock Local Practice Student Duties – General: Day 1 – Orientation (8:30 AM) and USDA training (1:30 PM) in the livestock conference room. A local practice senior clinician will meet with you after your orientation/barn tour. Check-in with a local practice senior clinician when the USDA training is done.

The schedule of field calls can be found using the “Google Calendar of Events” link on the home page of the VCS 910 Rotation CANVAS course. Clicking on each event will populate a description of the appointment and expected hospital departure time. Please be ready to go, in the field service garage, at least 5 minutes before the expected departure time. If there are two overlapping appointments, students will be split between the two calls (senior clinicians will touch base with students the day before, if possible, to determine which appointment the students are assigned). If an appointment is scheduled over the noon hour, please bring a lunch to take in the truck. It is advisable to have your lunch packed in the event that an unexpected emergency farm call takes place over the noon hour. Always be prepared to change into a clean set of coveralls in the event that we receive a second call while out on farm. The senior clinicians will try to communicate changes to the schedule as soon as possible, but it is the responsibility of the student to check the schedule throughout the rotation to monitor for any last-minute changes and check in with a senior clinician at the end of each day to confirm the plan for the next day. Local practice students are encouraged to help their medicine and surgery rotation-mates with morning treatments if there are a large number of in-patients. Local practice students are only required to be at the weekend morning rounds if they are scheduled to an “A” shift that day.

Local Practice Records: Every herd and individual animal that is seen in the field will have a record in Instinct. Herd records are in table format, filled out either in the Numbers app or on a lined, triple carbon copy paper, with individual animal identification and the performed tasks noted on each line. Herd records will be uploaded to Instinct by the senior clinician. Individual animals examined in the field will need a history, physical exam, and discharge form completed in Instinct at a minimum. These records can either be written on paper or directly put into Instinct during the farm visit. It is the responsibility of the primary student on the case to ensure these forms are completed by the end of the day unless otherwise instructed by the senior clinician.

Local Practice Biosecurity: At the end of each call, all students must wash and disinfect their boots and remove their dirty coveralls PRIOR to walking back into the hospital. Red buckets and brushes are at each garage door for this purpose. Everyone is expected to help clean, and return to appropriate area of the hospital, the items used during the call and throw out any trash brought back from the farm. There is a laminated set of instructions by the sink in the garage for cleaning the multi-use syringe guns. Please be sure to fill the truck’s water tank if it was used on any of the calls for the day. Students may also assist with any basic restocking that needs to be done (i.e.: syringes, needles, replacing equipment that was used on the farm call – coordinate with the senior clinician if you are uncertain what needs to be restocked or where to get the items).