



Strategic Plan: 2019 - 2022

The ECVDI is a certifying organisation with a mandate to set and uphold the standards of excellence in veterinary diagnostic imaging and radiation oncology. Our mission is to ensure that our members are equipped to provide the highest quality of veterinary care and advanced knowledge in veterinary diagnostic imaging and radiation oncology and to help them to disseminate that knowledge. In order to meet this mandate, the ECVDI Executive Committee has set a strategic plan which clearly communicates the objectives to effectively utilise its limited financial, volunteer, and staff resources.

1. Refine and improve the accreditation and certification process:

Improving the residency programme and examination procedures, including the format and syllabus of the latter, is one of the most important tasks that the college undertakes. It is essential that the college continues to produce specialists that are aligned with current practice requirements, as the job of a veterinary radiologist is something that has evolved, particularly over the last 10 years. The Job Task Analysis (JTA) was introduced in 2018. The JTA committee was appointed to make proposals for improvement of the examination syllabus, align the examination content with current practice, and match expectations with residency programme structure. This involves the collection of data from members of the college in order to ensure that resident programmes produce appropriately trained specialists. The changes are made by the examination committee, education committee and credentials committee to try to ensure that the college remains relevant, producing radiologists that deserve the title “specialist”.

The Resident Education Task Force, in partnership with the ACVR, will seek to identify opportunities to enhance resident training and preparation for certification. This includes the In-training Examination Committee, charged with creating a series of low stakes mock theoretical examinations for residents in training, to help increase their likelihood of success in college examinations.

The teleradiology committee is charged with creating an online training programme (Rounds in Veterinary Diagnostic Imaging) in image interpretation for residents. This is designed to expose residents in training to a number of experienced radiologists, to promote discussion and collaboration amongst residents and to promote a level of consistency between residents in training. It will include a meeting to improve social cohesion between residents and radiologists. With input from the examination committee to ensure appropriate structure, this will be designed to improve success in the certifying practical examination.

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2. Knowledge and skills: Development and communication of standards.

The college will endeavour to create standards for image acquisition, reporting and procedures. The college will seek to endorse teaching programmes that meet its exacting standards.

3. Support the discovery and dissemination of new knowledge.

The ECVDI will support disseminating new knowledge in our speciality in several ways. Being an affiliated organisation to Veterinary Radiology and Ultrasound, our associate editors are members of the Journal Advisory Committee and help to shape policy that improves the quality and process of scientific publication.

The college will develop the EVDI meeting in partnership with EAVDI to provide the premier forum for presenting new research in Veterinary Diagnostic Imaging. Our goals are to continue to make the conference relevant, accessible, and up-to-date by increasing the infrastructure and oversight of conference planning and providing the highest scientific quality and valued content for members.

4. Increase member engagement: In-college activities.

The college seeks to remove impediments to engagement so that the membership is aware of the college bylaws and feels able to participate in a meaningful capacity. The college has already gone to great lengths to improve membership engagement with increased transparency of the selection process for college committees, the introduction of a monthly college newsletter and improvements in communication through the ECVDI website. It will continue with this endeavour, so that college initiatives are comprehensible and members have a clear idea of how the infrastructure of the college works.

The college will concentrate on improving the website so that college information can be displayed and disseminated more clearly. The college will also endeavour to make further improvements in communicating to its members on aspects such as upcoming activities, administration and the promotion of its speciality to the veterinary profession.

5. Develop Radiation Oncology as a subspecialty of the college

The college has fostered the development of the European Radiation Oncology Speciality in the form of the temporary add on Programme and integrated the radiation oncology members of ECVDI into its community. The college aspires to develop a direct entry full specialisation training programme within the next three to five years as a subspecialty of the college, similar to ACVR-RO under ACVR.

6. Increase collaboration with the American College of Veterinary Radiology (ACVR).

The goal of this venture is to align the two colleges more closely, as they share common goals. Such initiatives include the use of the Radiation Oncology (Rad Onc) add on examination from the ACVR for ECVDI Radiation oncology candidates, sharing of the large animal component of the certifying examinations from the ECVDI to the ACVR, and collaboration on the Education Task Force and In-training Examination Committees.

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