

WILDLIFE AND CONSERVATION MEDICINE

Study Programme: MIMV Curricular Year: 5th Semester: 9th and 10th Optional Credits: 2,5 ECTS

Lecturer(s): Luís Carvalho (CCP,R), Virgílio Almeida, Jorge Correia, Anabela Moreira.

1. Contact hours:

Lectures - 22 Practicals - 6 Total - 28

2. Objectives:

Develop the role and competences of the veterinary surgeons on research, management and control of wildlife diseases and nature conservancy, under the scope of a Conservation Medicine approach. Expand knowledge about taxonomy, identification, biology of the relevant species of amphibians, reptiles, birds and mammals, and their main diseases, with special emphasis on the fauna of Portugal and Europe, always comparing with recent examples in other continents.

3. Programme:

Importance of wildlife medicine: role of the veterinary surgeon in the study, management and control of wildlife diseases in natural ecosystems and zoological parks. Pathogens/disease and their consequences on wildlife and their ecosystems. Wildlife diseases in animals kept in natural ecosystems and in captivity. Consequences on its conservation. Ecology and epidemiology of wildlife major diseases. Taxonomy, identification, biology and pathology of the most frequent species of amphibians, reptiles, birds and mammals, with special emphasis on native Portuguese and European species. Wildlife pathogens and diseases monitorization. Management and disease control strategies in wild and zoological park environments. National and international legislation. Apprehension of the concepts concerning Conservation Medicine, Ecosystem Health and One World, One Health.

4. Bibliography:

Bengis, R.G. (Coord.) (2002). *Infectious Disease of Wildlife: detection, diagnosis and management*. OIE Scientific and Technical Review, Vol. 21 1 and 2.

Hudson, P.J., Rizzoli, A., Grenfell, B.T., Heesterbeek, H. & Dobson, A.P. (Eds.) (2002). *The Ecology of Wildlife Diseases*. Oxford University Press, New York, 197 pp.

Wobeser, G.A. (2007). *Investigation and Management of Disease in Wild Animals*. Springer, 1^a ed., 404 pp.

Study materials produced by the teaching staff and collaborators as PDF files including the theoretical classes on Powerpoint presentations.

4. Assessment:

The final evaluation is performed with a written theoretical examination, with multiple choice (true and false) and semi-development questions. This final exam has a maximal duration of one hour and a half. The final mark results from the continuous assessment of the students (class attendance) and the grade in the theoretical exam. The minimum passing grade is 10 (ten) from 0 to 20 for the theoretical test.