

Detailed Program Description for ACVD Website

1. Program name and location:

*Tufts University Cummings School of Veterinary Medicine
200 Westboro Road, 01536 North Grafton, MA, US*

2. Is the program currently on ACVD Probation? If yes, please describe the reasons for probation, what is being done to correct them and when the program is scheduled to be off probation? *No.*

3. Mentor(s):

Name: *Ramón Almela, DVM, PhD, Assistant Professor.*

1. Years in ACVD: *ECVD Diplomate since 2018*
2. Years as Mentor: *0.*

Name: *Ekaterina Mendoza-Kuznetsova, DVM, Clinical Assistant Professor.*

- i. Years in ACVD: *ECVD Diplomate since 2012.*
- ii. Years as Mentor: *4.*

Name: *Stephanie Abrams, DVM, MS, Adjunct Assistant Professor.*

- i. Years in ACVD: *ACVD Diplomate since 2018*
- ii. Years as Mentor: *0.*

4. Specific requirements for applying to the program:

DVM or equivalent degree.

Have completed a one-year internship or satisfactory practice equivalency.

Must acquire licensure to practice in the State of Massachusetts or be included in the institutional license of Tufts University.

Must meet ethical and moral standing in the profession

5. Length of residency in years:

Three years.

6. Is a Master's degree or PhD required?

No, it is not.

7. When the residency was first offered?

2013.

8. Has it been continuous since then?

No. In September 2017 former residency coordinator, Dr. Lluís Ferrer, moved to Spain (Autonomous University of Barcelona). Since January 2019 the service is fully active again

9. How many residents have been accepted into the program since inception?

Two.

How many of these have become board certified dermatologists?

Two.

10. What is the average annual dermatology caseload for the institution over the past 5 years?

The Dermatology Service is expected to have at least 1000 cases/year.

11. What is the average total caseload seen the entire residency?

3000 cases (average cases annually times the number of years of residency).

12. On average, how many new patients, rechecks and consults does the program see per year? (give these in actual numbers of cases)

New cases: 400

Rechecks: 600

Consults: 150

13. On average, what percentage of the program's cases are dogs and cats?

Dogs 85% Cats 15%

14. On average, how many exotic, equine and farm animal cases does the program see per year?

Exotics: 1 Equine: 6 Farm animals: 8

15. What percentage of time is the mentor(s) in clinics with the resident while the resident is seeing cases during the residency:

First: 100%, second: 100% and third: 100%

(This means that the mentor is either physically seeing patients with the resident or can be contacted by phone and available to see the case within one hour of being called.)

16. Does the program have access to other specialists?
If so, please list:

Over 60 boarded specialists work at the Foster Hospital for Small Animals, and the Hospital for Large Animals. The list of specialists include diplomates in Internal Medicine (Small and Large Animals), Surgery, Oncology (Med and Rad), Radiology and Diagnostic Imaging, Neurology, Ophthalmology, Pathology (Anatomic and Clinical), Parasitology, Clinical Nutrition, Dentistry, Behavior, Emergency and Critical Care, Anesthesia, Cardiology, Zoological Companion Animal Medicine, Theriogenology.

17. Please describe your library access:

The resident has full access to the Webster Library [<http://www.library.tufts.edu/vet/>]. The library provides access to books, journals and audio-visual materials—in analog and digital formats—in the fields of medicine and surgery for large, small and exotic animals; animal welfare; wildlife diseases and ecology; zoonotic diseases; conservation medicine; laboratory animal science, and veterinary practice management. All the journals considered necessary or useful for the resident training are accessible at the Webster Library. The Tufts University Network offers access to electronic journals.

The resident, as member of the Tufts community, will have access to the extensive collections of books and journals of the School of Medicine, School of Nutrition and School of Dental medicine of Tufts University, among others.

18. Does the program have statistical support for their residents' research projects?

Yes.

19. Does the program have direct access to any basic science or clinical science laboratories that the resident can use for research proposes? If yes, please describe the types of laboratories available and interactions that the resident may have with them.

The Grafton Campus of Tufts University where the resident will spend most of the time has large research facilities, including a P3 Biosafety Laboratory (New England Biosafety Laboratory). The resident will have access to the laboratories of the Department of Clinical Sciences, but also to the research facilities and laboratories belonging to the Departments of Biomedical Sciences and Infectious Diseases and Global Health. Tufts University has also some Core facilities for some translational Technologies (DNA Sequencing).

20. How often do the residents and mentors have the following rounds? (For each type of rounds, please list how often they are held, how long each session is, and a detailed description of how they are conducted.)
- a. *Case rounds: Five times weekly. Discussion of clinical cases will take place at the end of the day. Rounds may last up to one hour.*
 - b. *Journal club: 2 times per month the resident will present journal articles (including skin biology, dermatopathology and clinical dermatology) and lead a discussion with the Dermatology Service and visitors. 2 hours of duration each session.*
 - c. *Histopathology training/rounds. 2 times per month, the Service of Dermatology (board certified dermatologists, residents, interns) and Anatomical Pathology (board certified pathologists and their residents) held together dermatopathology rounds for reading the skin biopsies will review slides using Scopio software for remote videoconference discussions (as per current COVID19 safety policy) or multi-headed microscope (pre-COVID19) and discuss similar cases and the clinicopathologic correlates. 2 hours of duration each session.*

Basic science learning/didactic rounds. In order to ensure that the resident will gain a strong basic knowledge of structure and

function, immunology, internal medicine, pharmacology, parasitology, bacteriology, mycology, virology, oncology and nutrition in both large and small domestic animal species. The resident will attend Basic science learning and didactic rounds on a weekly basis including "Topics in Specialty Medicine" (Tuesdays), "Topics in Pathophysiology" (Thursdays), "Resident and "Varis Scholarship and Innovation seminar" (Fridays) and, bimonthly Resident and Intern Pathophysiology Board preparation" (Wednesdays). 1 hour of duration each session. Besides attending aforementioned rounds/seminars, updated version of different textbooks will be supplied to the resident as well and will include the following: *Skin Diseases of the Dog and Cat* (Gross et al.), *Muller & Kirk's Small Animal Dermatology* (Miller et al.), *Large Animal Dermatology* (Scott), *Cellular & Molecular Immunology* (Abbas), *Fitzpatrick's Dermatology in General Medicine* (Fitzpatrick), *Dermatology* (Drs. Jean L. Bologna, Julie V. Schaffer, and Lorenzo Cerron), *Infectious Diseases of the Dog and Cat* (Greene), and *Canine and Feline Endocrinology and Reproduction* (Nelson and Feldman).

In addition to the rounds, the resident will have also an additional educational opportunities by attending once a month the "Grand Dermatology Rounds" at Tufts Medical School Department of Dermatology.

It is planned for the attendance of the resident to EVCD Histopathology Workshop and ECVD Summer Camp for residents.

The resident will also benefit from the Tufts [Residents Enhanced Veterinary Education and Academic Learning \(REVEAL\) Program](#). This program, which was developed through an NIH education grant, focuses on veterinary residents, with the goal of attracting veterinarians to academic and research careers. The program is designed to first create the desire to pursue research, and then to nurture candidates with strong mentoring, programs and readily accessible research opportunities. The program includes:

1. Symposia on spontaneous animal models of human disease to provide greater interaction with researchers from other disciplines, and to increase opportunities for collaborative research;
2. A multi-function website to facilitate research including web-based courses on laboratory techniques and applied statistical methods;
3. An academic seminar series that includes topics to foster an interest in research and to facilitate research training;
4. Short-term introductory research electives;
5. Intensive research training electives; and

6. *An active mentoring program.*

For more information about the Tufts REVEAL Program please contact Dr Lisa Freeman (lisa.freeman@tufts.edu).

21. Resident's benefits: (Please give a general list of benefits and then whom a potential candidate should contact to get more specific information on salary and benefit packages)

Full medical, dental and vision insurance benefits (with co-pay). Contact individual Libby.Hanrahan@tufts.edu.

22. Does the program allow the resident to attend the NAVDF (North American Veterinary Dermatology Forum) meeting annually?

Yes. The resident is expected to attend the NAVDF and ESVD-ECVD annually, and world congresses (WAVD Congresses) held every four years.

23. Does the program pay for the resident to attend the NAVDF meeting annually?

Yes. The registration and all the travel expenses are covered by the program.

24. Average number of days a resident will spend on clinics per month:

16 days.

25. Average number of days a resident will spend on non-clinical pursuits per month (not including Sundays or holidays):

4 days.

26. Does the resident have to take general medicine emergency duty

No. Tufts has a large Emergency and Critical Care Service that covers all emergencies. Occasionally the Dermatologists are called for consultation about emergency cases but the resident will not be on duty.

27. Does the resident take Dermatology emergency duty? If so how often:

No. Tufts has a large Emergency and Critical Care Service that covers all emergencies. Occasionally the Dermatologists are called for consultation about dermatologic emergency cases but the residents will not be on duty and he is not expected to be physically present.

28. Is time allotted for externships in other subspecialties or at other dermatology practices? If so explain:

Yes. We have allocated three weeks per year for externships (9 weeks in total). The place of the externship will be decided according to the educational needs of the resident. We are considering visiting a dermatology service with high equine caseload or a dermatologist with high caseload of exotic animals. The resident will also have additional training (2 weeks per year, 6 weeks in total) at TVETS (a vet school private specialty practice that provides resident training in a busy private practice environment) mentored by Stephanie Abrams.

29. How much time is allotted off clinics for board preparation?

Any off-clinic time from April to July of 3rd year of residency may be used for board preparation, as credentials process should be already completed by that time. In addition, the residency activities are designed to help prepare the resident for their study period which will take place following completion of the residency.

30. How much time is allotted to carry out a research project (grant writing, data collection, paper preparation) during the residency (please report in number of weeks)?

16 weeks.

31. What are the other responsibilities/duties of the resident?

Aside from case responsibility, when on clinics and preparing/leading the Journal Clubs, the resident will also be required to supervise and instruct senior veterinary students during their clinical rotations and lead rounds discussions daily. Other teaching duties include the preparation of seminars as per Foster Hospital for Small Animals does for all residents, one, 2-hour didactic dermatology lecture for the sophomore veterinary class each year and the participation as co-instructor in two, 4-hour junior and sophomore dermatology techniques and cytology laboratories.

32. How many residents has the program had over the past 10 years?

Two.

33. How many/what percentage of the above residents (question 31) passed credentials on the

- First submission: 100%
- Second submission
- Third submission or more
- Never passed credentials

34. How many/what percentage of the above residents (question 31) sat boards for the first time

- The year they finished their residency: 100%
- One year after finishing their residency
- Two or more years after finishing
- They never took boards

35. How many / what percentage of the above residents (question 31) passed the board exam on their

- First time taking the exam: 100%
- Second time taking the exam
- Third time or more taking the exam
- Never passed

36. Is your residency program reviewed by an outside committee at your university? If yes how often?

The Department of Clinical Sciences has a committee that evaluates twice a year the residency programs. The residents also have to evaluate the program.

37. Please list the papers published by your last 5 residents.

Dengler B, Mendoza-Kuznetsova E, Nikolaeva L, Rieger A, Mueller RS. Evaluation of a clinical scoring system for canine demodicosis. *Vet Dermatol.* 2021 Aug;32(4):311-e84.

Falk E, Lange CE, Jennings S, Ferrer L. Two cutaneous horns associated with canine papillomavirus type 1 infection in a pit bull dog. *Vet Dermatol.* 2017

Aug;28(4):420-421.

Falk EF, Lam AT, Barber LG, Ferrer L. Clinical characteristics of doxorubicin-associated alopecia in 28 dogs. *Vet Dermatol.* 2017 Apr;28(2):207-e48.

Ferrer L, Kimbrel EA, Lam A, Falk EB, Zewe C, Juopperi T, Lanza R, Hoffman A. Treatment of perianal fistulas with human embryonic stem cell-derived mesenchymal stem cells: a canine model of human fistulizing Crohn's disease. *Regen Med.* 2016 Jan;11(1):33-43.

Zewe CM, Altet L, Lam ATH, Ferrer L. Afoxolaner and fluralaner treatment do not impact on cutaneous *Demodex* populations of healthy dogs. *Vet Dermatol.* 2017 Oct;28(5):468-e107.

Lange CE, Diallo A, Zewe C, Ferrer L. Novel canine papillomavirus type 18 found in pigmented plaques. *Papillomavirus Res.* 2016 Dec;2:159-163.

Sastre N, Francino O, Curti JN, Armenta TC, Fraser DL, Kelly RM, Hunt E, Silbermayr K, Zewe C, Sánchez A, Ferrer L. Detection, Prevalence and Phylogenetic Relationships of *Demodex* spp and further Skin Prostigmata Mites (Acari, Arachnida) in Wild and Domestic Mammals. *PLoS One.* 2016 Nov 1;11(11):e0165765.

Zewe CM, Graham J, Lam ATH, Ferrer L. Demodicosis in a ferret caused by *Demodex canis*. *Vet Dermatol.* 2017 Oct;28(5):528-529.

38. Names of your last 5 residents and whether they are willing to be contacted by potential residents:

Yes, they can be contacted:

Dr. Elizabeth Falk

Dr. Christine Zewe

Dr. Lyubov Nykolaeva