



## ACVD WEBSITE SUMMARY

1. Program name and location:

Dermatology Residency Training Program

Veterinary Dermatology Specialists, operating from Perth Veterinary Specialists (PVS)

Address: 305 Selby street, Osborne Park, WA, 6017

2. Has the program ever been placed on ACVD Probation within the past 8 years? No

3. Mentor(s):

a. Name: Samantha Crothers, BSc BVMS DipACVD

1. Years in ACVD: 2008 – present day

2. Years as Mentor: 3

b. Name: Fiona Scholz, BSc BVMS MANZCVS DACVD FANZCVS (Veterinary Dermatology)

1. Years in ACVD: 2017 – present day

2. Years as Mentor: 0

4. Specific requirements for applying to the program:

- Be a graduate of an approved veterinary school or college
- must have (or hold ability to obtain) a veterinary license in Western Australia. This is required from the point of employment and throughout the residency.
- Be a member of a national veterinary medical association (i.e. ACVSc).
- must provide proof of identity
- should have a keen interest in all aspects of dermatology
- Fulfill any other requirements of candidature of the ACVD as specified on the ACVD website ([www.acvd.org](http://www.acvd.org))
- will ideally have specialist internship experience and/or private practice experience (encouraged but not required)

5. Length of residency in years: 3

6. Is a Master's degree or PhD required? No

7. Is the program Provisional or Established? Provisional

a. When was the residency first offered? 2024

b. Has it been continuous since then? NA



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- c. If not continual, what years was the residency active? NA
8. Is the program funded by the parent institution or an external source? (if external, name the funder): parent institution
- A. Is a post-residency commitment required? No
- B. What is the annual resident salary? YEAR 1 - \$70,000
- C. Year 2 - \$75,000
- D. Year 3 - \$80,000
- E. Other resident benefits: (Please give a general list of benefits and then whom a potential candidate should contact to get more specific information on benefit packages)
- Fear free training
  - Allowance to attend the NAVDF (North American Veterinary Dermatology Forum) – paid for by parent institution
9. How many residents does the program train concurrently? 0
- A. How many residents have been accepted into the program since inception? 0
- b. How many of these have become board certified dermatologists?
10. What is the average annual dermatology caseload for the institution over the past 5 years?  
470 new cases (and 1000 rechecks) in a year.
11. What is the average total caseload seen the entire residency?  
1410 cases (average cases annually multiplied by the number of years of residency)
12. On average, how many new patients, rechecks and consults does the program see per year? (actual numbers of cases)
- a. New cases 470
- b. Rechecks 1000
13. On average, what percentage of the program's cases are dogs and cats?



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- a. Dogs 80
- b. Cats 15

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

- a. Exotics 1 (2020 – 2023 = 3)
- b. Equine 4 (2020 – 2023 = 16)
- c. Farm animals 0

15. What percentage of time is the mentor physically in clinics with the resident while the resident is seeing cases during the resident's

First year: 98%

Second year: 90%

Third year: 80%

16. Does the program have access to other specialists? Yes:

The following PVS specialists will be accessible during the VDS residency programme:

- Surgery
  - Dr Tim Caporn, BSc BVMS MVS FANZCVS
  - Dr Carla Appelgrain, BVSc, MANZCVS, GradDipEd, MVetClinStud, MVetSurg, DipECVS
  - Dr Kadie O'Byrne, BSc BVMS MANZCVS (SAS) MVS Dip.ECVS
- Oncology
  - Dr Ken Wyatt, BSc BVMS FANZCVS
  - Dr Jessica Finaly, BVSc (Hons) FANZCVS
- Cardiology
  - Dr Rita Singh, BSc BVMS DipVetClinStud FANZCVS Dip ACVIM
- Anaesthesia
  - Dr Louise Bass, BSc. BVSc. (Hons.)
  - Dr Bernadetta Crivellari, BSc. BVSc. (Hons)
- Imaging
  - Dr Nola Lester, BSc BVMS (Hons)
  - Dr Adrien Hespel DVM, MS, DACV

17. Please describe your library access:

Our onsite reference library is based in the office, with a selection of veterinary texts in dermatology and other fields, alongside a selection of human dermatology texts.

VDS has access to the ACVD online digital library and Murdoch Library services which has



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subscriptions to all major journals including: Veterinary Dermatology, British Journal of Dermatology, Journal of American Veterinary Medical Association. The internet is used to keep up to date with the latest articles (via Pub Med and veterinary and human dermatology email listservs and early view alert). The dermatology library also contains most relevant references from the past 10 years including core texts and journals and is constantly being updated.

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

Yes, will be arranged as required

19. Does the program have direct access to any basic science or clinical science laboratories that the resident can use for research purposes?

The hospital laboratory includes: Pro-Cyte Dx Haematology Analyse, Catalyst Dx Biochemistry Analyser, Coag Dx Coagulation Analyser, Siemens Rapidpoint 500E Blood Gas Machine, IDEXX Sedivue Dx, Pro-Vet Centrifuge (blood, urine and fluid analysis, Urinalysis dipsticks and refractometer

Blood profiles and culture swabs and other clinical pathology samples are regularly sent off to the following accredited laboratories: Novavet and VetPath Laboratory Services and histopathology samples sent to the accredited IDEXX Laboratory. Resident will have access to these facilities for research purposes.

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:

Will be held daily with supervisor, as well as occurring patient-side throughout the clinical day. During this time there will be review of each case of the day and a chance to clarify any queries/gaps in knowledge.

b. Journal club:

Will be held 2 hours a fortnight (4 hours/monthly)

- 4-6 appropriate journal articles will be critique and reviewed with particular attention to topics relevant to the Certifying Exam
- The resident and mentors will prepare exam style questions relative to the reading. This format will allow the resident, if motivated, to create a study guide and reference library to prepare for the ACVD Certifying Examination.

c. Histopathology training:

Will be held 1 hour once a week (4 hours/monthly)



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- Histopathologic descriptions and images will be evaluated by direct microscopy by the resident for any biopsy specimens obtained from all of their clinical cases
- This training will provide a foundation in histologic principles as well as a recognition of normal cutaneous anatomy of domestic species. The resident will also become familiar with histopathology stains and immunohistochemistry principals and will become familiar with cutaneous cell types and their functions. The resident will be trained in pattern analysis to recognize non-neoplastic cutaneous conditions. The resident will also learn basic dermatohistopathology of cutaneous neoplasms in domestic species with more in-depth knowledge of lymphohistiocytic neoplasms.
- As the resident progresses in their residency, they will be expected to evaluate and morphologically describe histopathologic slides from their primary cases when applicable. The resident will also be expected to describe one to two additional slides from a study set per week. The mentors will provide instruction and constructive feedback on their reports. The resident will also complete readings in histopathology texts.
- Assigned readings will be given from *Skin Diseases of the dog & cat: Clinical Histopathologic Diagnosis – Gross et al, 2<sup>nd</sup> edition, 2006* with human comparative information attained from *Fitzpatrick's Dermatology in General Medicine – Freedberg et al, vols I & II, 6<sup>th</sup> edition, 2003*.
- Unknown slides will be presented to the resident for review & write-up on a monthly basis
- Direct live histopathology training will take place with the mentors

### d. Basic science learning rounds:

Will be held 2 hours every fortnight (4 hours a month)

- The residency program will provide the necessary training in basic and applied sciences to develop a firm foundation in the subjects of dermatology, internal medicine and dermatohistopathology. Areas covered will include immunology, bacteriology, mycology, virology, parasitology, endocrinology, pharmacology, embryology, genetics, nutrition, oncology, and physiology.
- Didactic rounds are used to supplement the learning and provide depth to

the topic of discussion. The mentors and the resident will create a reading schedule at the beginning of the program, with structure and function topics covered within the first year. The resident and mentors may wish to

integrate readings such that subjects are covered in blocks (example- parasitic skin disease) and chapters from multiple relevant texts are covered. These rounds consist of book reviews and structure/function rounds consisting of dermatologic anatomy/physiology, immunology, internal medicine, and comparative veterinary dermatology. These rounds are conducted for a minimum of two hours on a fortnightly basis, but may be expanded on an as-needed basis.



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- When possible, an integrated approach to learning will be encouraged. Selected didactic readings will be supplemented with primary literature and relevant histopathologic slides. The resident will be encouraged to expand their library of primary literature relative to the subject as it is studied. The mentors and resident will attempt to cover related subjects in journal club if a current, relevant primary literature study or current review is available. The mentors and resident will review the ACVD study guide on a fortnightly basis relative to the subjects covered to identify any areas of weakness or additional study.
- Internal medicine and oncology will be covered in directed reading reviews and journal club. If the mentors identify a weakness in general knowledge of internal medicine, rotations with the appropriate specialists will be scheduled. Texts for review will include relevant chapters in the available texts (e.g., “Current Veterinary Therapy XII, XIII, and XIV” by Kirk/Bonagura, “Textbook of Veterinary Internal Medicine” by Ettinger, and “Canine and Feline Endocrinology and Reproduction” by Feldman and Nelson, etc.).
- Cutaneous oncology will be covered in directed reading reviews, journal club and relevant chapters in and “Small Animal Oncology” by Withrow.
- Cutaneous diseases of horses, production animals, and exotic animals will be covered in directed reading reviews and journal club articles. When a disease condition of small animals is studied, the resident will be encouraged to review manifestations of this disease in other species utilising other resources, and to expand their library by obtaining primary literature references as well. Texts for review will include “Skin Disease of Exotic Pets” by Patterson, “Pascoe’s Principles and Practice of Equine Dermatology” by Knottenbelt, “Farm Animal Dermatology” by Scott, and relevant chapters of “Large Animal Internal Medicine.” by Smith. At least one human dermatology text will be utilized for comparative histology.
- The directed reading list will vary depending on topic, but foundational texts (e.g. “Dermatology in General Medicine” by Fitzpatrick, “Current Veterinary Therapy XII, XIII, and XIV” by Kirk/Bonagura, “Muller and Kirk’s Small Animal Dermatology” by Scott, “Small Animal Dermatology” by Hnilica, “Textbook of Veterinary Internal Medicine” by Ettinger, “Canine and Feline Endocrinology and Reproduction” by Feldman and Nelson, “Infectious Diseases of the Dog and Cat” by Greene, “Cellular and Molecular Immunology” by Abbas, “Veterinary Immunology: Principles and Practice” by Day, and “Veterinary Pharmacology and Therapeutics” by Riviere and Papich) will be utilized.
- Multiple disciplinary rounds are also held by the VDS hospital once a month with rotating topics between each department presented followed by question and answer sessions and discussion. Study collaboration with residents in other subject



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areas is not required but encouraged.

20. 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:

- Four weeks annual leave (plus loading) per year exclusive of required CE meeting attendance
- Up to 10 days' personal/carer's leave per year
- Contribution to superannuation fund as regulated by the government mandate.

Contact Dr. Sam Crothers for more detailed information (call: 08 9204 0400 or email: [admin@vetdermspecialists.com.au](mailto:admin@vetdermspecialists.com.au))

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

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

23. Average number of days a resident will spend on clinics per month: 20 days

24. Average number of workdays a resident will spend on non-clinical pursuits per month (based on a 5-day workweek) 16 hours

25. Does the resident have to take general medicine emergency duty? No

26. Does the resident take Dermatology emergency duty? No

27. Is time allotted for externships in other subspecialties or at other dermatology practices? Yes

4 weeks of externships can be undertaken. Any clinical externship site must be staffed by a dermatology specialist recognised by the American College of Veterinary Dermatology as a mentor for dermatology residents. Externships are strongly encouraged as a means to gain further knowledge and experience in an area of the resident's choosing. Externships will be focused on areas where the primary facility may lack the ability to provide training e.g. exotic or equine dermatology, dermatohistopathology.

28. 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)? 1 week

Weekly/monthly Schedule	Total hours monthly
1hr a fortnight	2

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



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- Provide support & assistance to the Dermatology Team: Nursing staff & Dermatologists

30. How many residents has the program had over the past 6 years? 0

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

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

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

34. Is your residency program reviewed by an outside committee at your university? No

35. Please list the papers published by your last 5 residents. NA

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