

# Externship Orientation & Welcome Brochure

## Welcome to the Mid-Atlantic Equine Medical Center!



Thank you for choosing Mid-Atlantic Equine for your externship experience. We look forward to hosting you and want to make this an excellent learning experience. Please take a moment to read through this packet; it will provide you with helpful information regarding your externship, as well as the internship opportunities that we offer.

### About the clinic

Since opening its doors in 1986, the Mid-Atlantic Equine Medical Center has developed a reputation as one of the premier equine veterinary hospitals in the country. Our reputation has given us the opportunity to work on horses of various breeds and disciplines, from Kentucky Derby and Hambletonian winners, to Olympic athletes, and our local Hunterdon County equine friends. Our staff is comprised of dedicated individuals including board certified specialists in the fields of surgery and internal medicine, as well as a field services department that provides quality care at home. Our technicians, office, pharmacy and laboratory staff work in tandem with our doctors to ensure that both the patients and clients receive the highest level of care. At Mid-Atlantic Equine we are committed to resolving equine health issues and to communicating patiently and effectively with owners, trainers and their referring veterinarians 24 hours a day, seven days a week.



# Our Team



**Rodney L. Belgrave**

*DVM, MS, Diplomate ACVIM*

Board Certified Internal Medicine Specialist

Director of the Internal Medicine department at MAEMC since 2003. Interests include respiratory and neurological disorders, neonatology and gastroenterology.



**Janik C. Gasiorowski**

*VMD, Diplomate ACVS*

Board Certified Surgeon

Clinical interests include orthopedic and upper respiratory surgery, lameness diagnosis and nuclear scintigraphy. Dr. Gasiorowski has been focusing on the development of surgical techniques in the standing horse.



**Patricia S. Doyle**

*DVM, MS, Diplomate ACVS*

Board Certified Surgeon

Special interests include emergency abdominal surgery as well as lameness evaluation and its associated diagnostic and therapeutic approaches.



**Mary M. Durando**

*DVM, PhD, Diplomate ACVIM*

Board Certified Internal Medicine Specialist

Special interests include respiratory disorders, cardiology, exercise physiology and how disorders of the cardiopulmonary system relate to poor performance as well as neonatology and sepsis/endotoxemia.



**Jesse Tyma**

*DVM, Diplomate ACVS-LA, CVA*

Board Certified Surgeon

Clinical interests include the acute abdomen and emergency surgery and medicine, wound management, minimally invasive surgery, back disorders, and lameness and rehabilitation.



**Katy P. Sullivan**

*VMD, CVA*

Field Services Practitioner

Clinical interests include reproduction, dentistry and emergency medicine. In 2018, Dr. Sullivan completed her training in equine acupuncture at the Chi Institute and enjoys integrating Chinese medicine with traditional, western modalities.



**Kyle Clark**

*VMD, Clinical Track Sports Medicine and Rehabilitation Resident*

Field Services Practitioner

Clinical interests include sports medicine, diagnostic imaging and emergency medicine. He is a member of the International Society for Equine Locomotive Pathology (ISELP) and is working toward certification.

# General Information

Mid-Atlantic Equine offers a variety of services for both inpatient and outpatient cases. You are encouraged to spend time with each service to get the most out of your externship. If you will be applying for an internship, it is required that you participate in all of our departments (surgery, internal medicine and field services).

## Arrival

Please stop at the front desk upon your arrival to check in. If you arrive after hours, please visit the front desk at your first available opportunity the following day.

- Have your picture taken.
- Receive your name tag. Name tags must be worn at all times when working in the clinic. It will be color coded to indicate your year of study to help staff know what procedures you are allowed to perform.
- You will be given feedback and housing forms. Before departing, please hand in your forms to the front desk or to the appropriate mailbox, located in the kitchen of the main building.

## Parking

Please follow the driveway to the left side of the main building for parking. If you are unsure where to park, please ask an intern.

## Accommodations

- Co-ed extern dormitory that sleeps up to four people.
- Includes a small kitchen area with a microwave, hot plate and fridge. A large refrigerator is located downstairs for your use and the main building has a kitchen/lunchroom that you may also utilize.
- Laundry facilities are located in the new surgery building.
- Linens are provided. Before you leave, please place your linens in the laundry room hamper.
- Showers are located in the back barn and in the locker room of the new surgery building.
- The apartment is cleaned each Monday so we ask that you please vacate the area during this time.

## Dress Code

Business casual attire is required during the week when clients are likely to be around (example: khakis with collared shirt) and proper shoes for working with horses. If you are helping with evening or weekend treatments you may wear more casual but still barn appropriate clothing. Scrubs are necessary for surgical procedures; additional scrubs are available in the locker room.

## Restaurants and Grocery Stores

Flemington (6 miles north) and Lambertville/New Hope (6 miles west) have numerous grocery stores and restaurants. If you do not have your own vehicle, Uber is available in our area.

## Internet

Network: Guest Wi-Fi

Password: PASSport

The clinic phone number is 609-397-0078, should you need to provide it to anyone that may need to reach you.

*If you are unclear with any information in this packet, please reach out to the externship coordinator prior to your arrival.*

# Around The Clinic

## Reception Area

Please feel free to ask the front desk if you need assistance with anything. Try to refrain from having conversations around the reception area or discussing cases as clients may be in the restroom or in the vicinity. Confidentiality of patient/client information is critical.

## Clinical Lab

The lab is staffed 8am-5pm Monday through Friday. If you are asked to submit a sample to the lab, please place a note of what test is required on a lab submission form. The forms are located to the right when you walk in the door.

## Pharmacy

The pharmacy has video surveillance and electronic locks that are active at all times. You must find an intern or technician if you need to obtain any items from the pharmacy. Medications need to be signed out and are billed appropriately by the responsible intern.

## Barns and Exam Rooms

There are five barns with varying protocols for handling, care and clean-up; please be aware of signs such as “boots and gloves”. Interns, externs and technicians are responsible for feeding and filling water buckets at treatment times. Water buckets should be checked and filled as needed throughout the day. Please help keep the barns and treatment and exam rooms clean and tidy: sweeping whenever bedding or hay is tracked into the aisles, wiping down counters, discarding trash and sharps, and keeping the floor and equipment clean and disinfected between examinations/patients.

## Paddocks

We have designated paddocks for medicine, surgery and isolation cases. If you are asked to turn out a horse, please be certain the horse goes into the correct paddock. If a horse becomes loose, ***immediately*** pick up a phone, hit the page button, the number “1” and say “Please close the gates”. The perimeter of the hospital is fenced, once staff is alerted the entrance gates will be closed.



1. Main Office
2. Old Surgery
3. Surgery Exam
4. Surgery Barn
5. Med Exam
6. Med Barn
7. Extern Dorm
8. Bone Scan Room
9. Back Barn
10. Pharmacy
11. New Surgery
12. New Exam
13. Long Barn
14. Isolation
15. Isolation Paddock
16. Arena

# What to Expect and What is Expected of You

Staying on site offers you the best opportunity to be involved in a variety of emergency cases after hours. Should you choose to commute for your externship, you are expected to be here from 8am through 6pm treatments. If you are commuting, coming in after hours and for emergencies is at your discretion. Please inform an intern if you would like to be called in for those cases. Should an emergency arrive during treatments and there are multiple externs, we ask that you rotate between treatment and emergency duties. When owners or trainers are present for an appointment or emergency, no more than two externs may be involved at a time. If you have difficulty scheduling rotations with your fellow externs or are not sure where you can go, please check with an intern. **If you choose to stay on site, you will be on call to help with emergencies 24/7. This is recommended for externs seeking university credit or applying for an internship.**

## Typical Daily Extern Schedule

**7am:** The overnight intern meets with the daytime interns to round on hospitalized patients; your participation is optional. Your assistance may be requested for catheter placement or other early morning procedures.

**8am:** Meet in the intern office to start the day. This is usually when senior clinicians will start their morning rounds.

**8am-4pm:** Observe and help with cases. Please coordinate with your fellow externs to ensure that you are able to spend time with each service. When owners and/or trainers accompany the horse, we ask that no more than two externs are present at a time.

**4pm-6pm:** Help with p.m. treatments, unless you are involved with a case.

**6pm-10pm:** Once p.m. treatments are completed, check with the intern on duty (secondary or overnight) to see if your assistance is required. If not, barring any emergencies, you are free until midnight treatments begin.

**10pm-12am:** Meet with the overnight technician or intern to help with midnight treatments. Please be sure to check in with the overnight intern to round on the cases that you examined prior to going to bed.

**12am-8am:** You will be asked to help with emergencies admitted overnight. When mares are at the clinic and being monitored for ovulation/breeding, it is greatly appreciated if externs take turns assisting the doctor after hours.

## Treatment Allowances for Externs

1st year students: Physical exams on adult patients.

2nd and 3rd year students: Physical exams on adult patients, oral medication administration.

4th year students: Physical exams on adult patients, oral and IV medication administration.

## Note on Treatments

Due to the varying degrees of experience of our externs, shadowing of the interns and/or technicians during treatments is required before undertaking any treatment responsibilities unsupervised. **Your vet school year and clinical comfort will dictate the level of responsibility assigned.** If you are unfamiliar or uncomfortable with performing certain treatments, please ask a technician or intern.

# What to Expect and What is Expected of You

## Patient Handling

We understand that everyone has a different amount of experience when it comes to handling horses. Please let the interns and clinicians know what you are comfortable with and what you are not. We do not want to have people or horses injured. If you are uncomfortable with any treatment or patient, **do not** hesitate to speak to an intern or technician.

## Physical Exams

Externs are asked to help perform daily physical exams, including TPR's, on all inpatients. TPR's include heart and respiratory rates, temperature, characterizing mucous membranes, borborygmi, digital pulses, noting appetite, manure and water production, checking for any limb edema and that bandages, ice boots or standing wraps are in place. Before starting exams, please discuss call parameters with an intern. You will be shown how to utilize our computer system so you can enter your exam notes into the medical record. If you find **any** problem with a case (e.g. temperature of 101 or greater, diarrhea, laminitis, colic, etc.), please immediately contact an intern, technician or senior clinician to report your findings.

## Guidelines for Administering Medication to Patients

1. Be certain you are clear about the amount of drug to give and its route of administration. If the treatment orders are unclear, ask a clinician or technician for clarification. Ensure that the drug quantity in the whiteboard matches the quantity in the syringe or bag.
2. Some medications are located in treatment rooms or the patient's treatment box. During foaling season, most medications for foals are kept on individual patient treatment carts located outside of each stall.
3. Please sign and date anything written in the medical record and be sure to put your notes and initials in the patients record in the computer system.
4. When administering IV medications, always use a clean needle to draw up the medication. Turn off IV fluids if they are running. Flush the IV catheter and extension set with 8-10cc of heparinized saline flush solution, then slowly administer your IV drug followed by another flush with heparinized saline. Flush before, between and after all medications. It is important to thoroughly flush IV lines when giving medications to prevent catheters from clogging and to prevent drugs from interacting or precipitating with one another within the IV lines.
5. Discard all needles and syringes, except oral catheter-tipped dose syringes, in the red plastic hazardous waste receptacles available throughout the clinic.
6. Once you have administered a medication, please mark off the treatment as being given in the whiteboard.
7. If cases are critical or receiving IV fluids, please walk by and check them as frequently as time permits as well as when required in the whiteboard. If a patient is running low on IV fluids or is tangling the fluid lines, please inform an intern or technician.
8. Whenever you are administering drugs through a catheter, always check to be certain there is no evidence of abnormal swelling, heat or pain at the catheter insertion site. Please notify the intern on the case of your findings.

# What to Expect and What is Expected of You

## **Surgery & Diagnostic Services**

Externs are welcome and encouraged to observe surgeries. If you are invited to scrub in, clean scrubs will be provided. While you are here you may see many different procedures including colic, arthroscopic, orthopedic, laparoscopic and respiratory surgeries. We also offer advanced diagnostic services you can observe including Nuclear Scintigraphy, MRI and CT.

## **Internal Medicine**

Our Internal Medicine department specializes in the diagnosis and treatment of a wide variety of conditions including disorders of the lower respiratory tract, ophthalmological, gastrointestinal, cardiovascular, and central nervous and urinary systems. We have access to an extensive range of diagnostic technology to ensure a complete and thorough work up of our patients' conditions. Such diagnostics include digital radiography, myelography, upper and lower respiratory tract endoscopy, lower urinary tract endoscopy, gastroscopy and ultrasonography. We also provide mobile diagnostic services catering to local racetracks or owners unable to bring their horses into the clinic for evaluation.

## **Neonatal Intensive Care Unit**

Over the past 15 years, Mid-Atlantic Equine has established itself as the premier private practice NICU in the Northeast. We provide round-the-clock care to critically ill neonates and are equipped with specialized stalls, radiant heat beds, timed intravenous fluid delivery systems and intranasal oxygen therapy. If you are completing your externship from January through June, there is a good chance you will see and participate in the care of NICU patients.

## **Field Services**

We provide full service field care including general and preventative medicine, sports medicine, acupuncture, dentistry and reproductive services. Our field services team is available 24 hours a day, 7 days a week to provide on the farm emergency care. During breeding season, our field services team may have mares in clinic for artificial insemination. **Please talk with one of the interns to arrange riding with one of our Field Services clinicians. This is especially important for those applying for an internship.**

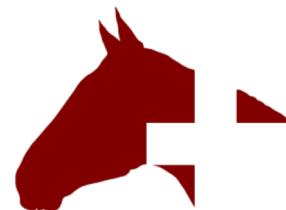
## **Rotations For University Credit**

You must fulfill the requirements of your University to receive a passing grade.

## **Time Off**

Barring emergencies, each weekday from completion of 6pm treatments to the start of 12am treatments is time that you may spend as you wish. We do ask that you help with procedures and treatments throughout the day on weekends as well. You are allotted one weekend day off if you are here for a two week period or two weekend days off if you are here for a three week period. Please coordinate these days off with your fellow externs so that only one person is off per day. It is important to let an intern know which day(s) off you have taken.

Thank you for applying for an externship at Mid-Atlantic Equine Medical Center. We appreciate your time and effort and sincerely hope you have an excellent learning experience. If you have any questions, comments or concerns please do not hesitate to let us know.



# Internship Program Information

Mid-Atlantic Equine Medical Center offers a rotating internship for veterinary graduates to obtain further training in emergency and elective equine surgery, anesthesia, lameness, diagnostic imaging, internal medicine, neonatology, reproduction and general practice. The clinic currently offers 6 intern positions and is designed to prepare interns for residency training or to enter private practice. Interns are exposed to a wide variety of patients including racehorses, sport horses, pleasure horses and breeding animals. Our program provides strong mentorship by board certified specialists in surgery and internal medicine as well as field services veterinarians. Previous interns have been placed into various residency programs including surgery, medicine, anesthesia, theriogenology and diagnostic imaging.

Interns rotate every two weeks through our two surgery services, internal medicine, field services, anesthesia/swing and overnight emergency and inpatient care.

## **Medicine/Surgery**

Work under senior clinicians to coordinate and implement diagnostic and treatment plans of inpatients, outpatients and emergencies. On the weekend, one intern from surgery and one from medicine, along with technical staff, are responsible for the care of the inpatients and any emergencies that arrive.

## **Anesthesia/Swing**

Evaluate all patients undergoing anesthesia and come up with an appropriate anesthetic protocol. Monday through Thursday the intern on duty, along with the technical staff, performs sedation/anesthesia on procedures for the surgical and medicine services. The intern is off on Friday and then assists the overnight intern with inpatients and emergencies from 12am to 12pm Saturday and Sunday. During the week the interns on surgery, medicine and anesthesia/swing rotate being secondary and anesthesia on-call after hours. For the first few months, the anesthesia on-call intern is supervised by a technician. When the intern is deemed competent and comfortable running anesthesia alone, he or she performs anesthesia after hours without direct supervision.

## **Overnight**

Responsible for monitoring and treatments of inpatients, as well as working up emergencies that arrive from 6:30pm until 7am. This rotation affords primary responsibility for initial emergency workup prior to the arrival of a senior clinician. The intern is also responsible for communicating with clients and referring veterinarians who call in to the after hours answering service. A technician or swing intern is on premises with the overnight intern at all times and additional technicians are called in for emergency intake and surgery as needed.

## **Field Services**

Accompanies field services veterinarians on scheduled and emergency farm calls. The intern is also tertiary on call for the clinic after hours and on the weekends. This rotation can include primary care of emergency cases at the discretion of the ambulatory clinician. If the intern is the primary clinician on an emergency case, he or she receives 25% of the emergency fee.

## **On Call**

Each weeknight two interns are off and the remaining interns rotate through secondary, anesthesia (initially with an anesthesia technician until he or she is comfortable to perform on their own) and field services. The field services intern is always on call for their service and tertiary for the clinic.



# Internship Program Information

## Details

- Internships begin June 1st and end mid June the following year with an approximately two week overlap with incoming interns.
- State licensure in New Jersey and Pennsylvania is required; the cost of obtaining licensure is covered by the clinic.
- The salary is \$30,000, including relocation allowance and year end bonus upon satisfactorily completing the program.
- A continuing education stipend of \$1000 is provided.
- Interns can earn emergency fee bonuses as the primary clinician on an emergency case.

## Benefits

- Health, dental and vision benefits are available; interns are covered by the clinic's liability service.
- Business cards and a clothing allowance are provided.

## Housing

Housing for up to five interns is available for rent on a first come, first served basis.

## Time Off

- Interns have 10 weekends off for the year, which are to be taken while on the surgical services. One weekend may be taken while on the anesthesia/swing service.
- Each intern has one major holiday off: Memorial Day, July 4th, Labor Day, Thanksgiving, Christmas Day and New Years Day.
- Interns are allotted 10 paid days for personal time including CE attendance and job/internship/residency interviews.



*For internship inquiries, please contact Lori at [externships@midatlanticequine.com](mailto:externships@midatlanticequine.com)*