

Externship Program



مستشفى دبي للخيول
DUBAI EQUINE HOSPITAL

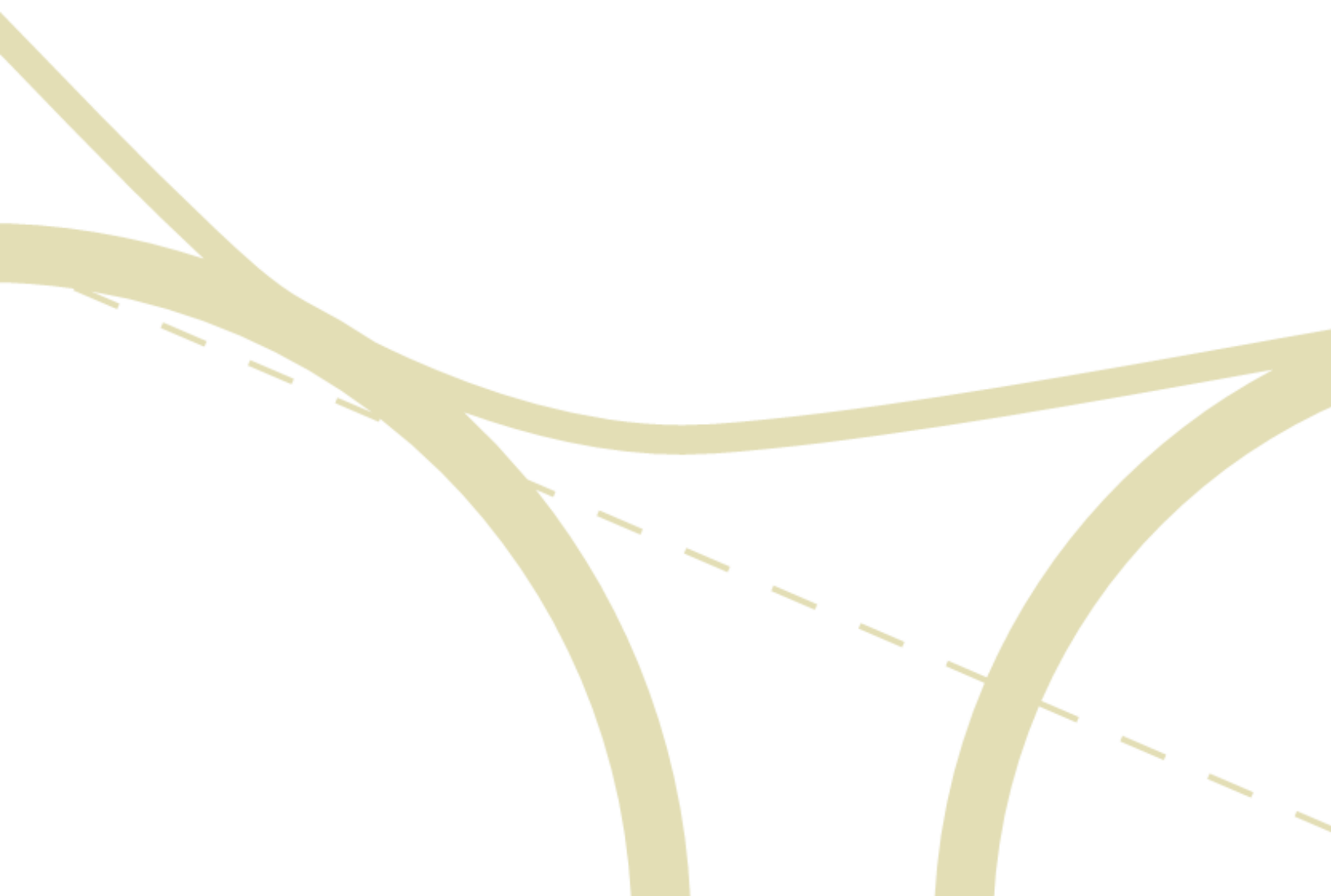
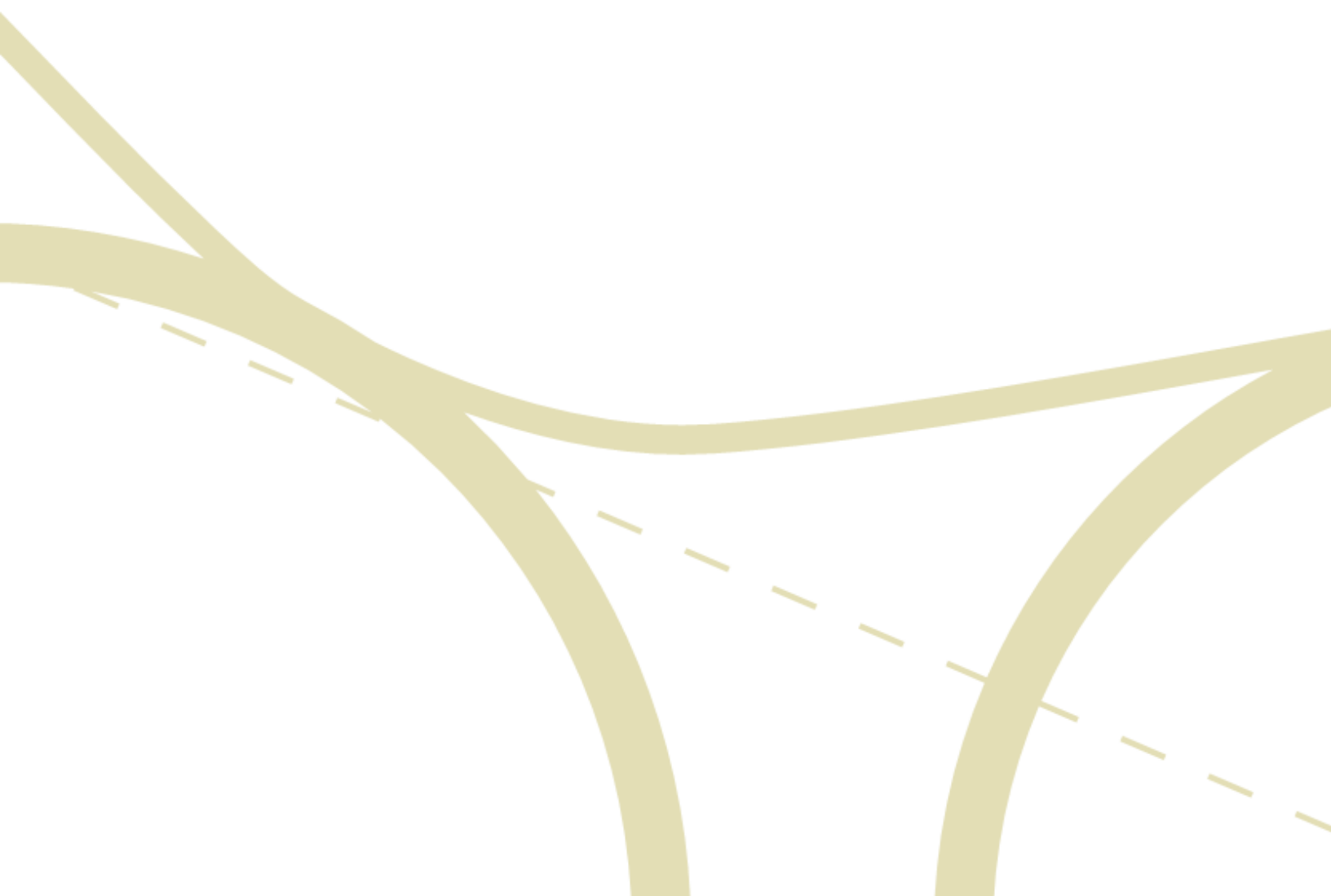


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EXTERNSHIP APPLICATION OVERVIEW

To be eligible for the externship at the Dubai Equine Hospital, you must be a veterinary student who has completed the theoretical part of your training. You must have started or be ready to start your clinical rotations. English is the language spoken by the doctors and staff. It is essential that you be able to speak, understand, and write in the English language.

Graduate veterinarians are not eligible. Our program is designed for students who seriously intend to enter equine practice. Dedication to the equine field should be demonstrated through experience listed in curriculum vitae and two letters of reference from equine veterinarians or faculty. Academic transcripts and the fully completed application form are also required. The application may be completed and sent via email with the references included. Reference letters should be signed by the referees. Applicants are encouraged to apply at least six months in advance and should indicate two or more months that they are available to participate.

The externship is for a period of one month, starting at the beginning of the month. One student is selected for each month, creating twelve externship opportunities each year. Because we strive for cultural diversity, applications are received from veterinary students worldwide. Generally, no more than two students are selected from a country each year. Acceptance is not influenced by gender of the applicant. These factors along with the quality of applicants make the program dynamic and competitive.

Each accepted extern student receives a visa, round-trip air ticket to Dubai from a major airport in their home country, and room and board at the hospital.

HOSPITAL AND PRACTICE DESCRIPTION

Dubai Equine Hospital is located in Dubai, one of seven emirates comprising the United Arab Emirates. The hospital was established in February 1995 and operates under the patronage of His Highness General Sheikh Mohammed bin Rashid Al Maktoum, Ruler of Dubai and Vice-President of the UAE. The Dubai Equine Hospital is the nucleus of a veterinary practice that is dedicated to serving the needs of the area's thriving equine industry.

Approximately 1000 Thoroughbred and Arabian racehorses are in training in the UAE divided among approximately 16 major stables and several smaller ones. The racing season runs from November to March and each year the Dubai World Cup is held at Meydan Racecourse which attracts top class racehorses from all over the world. Dubai Equine Hospital Veterinarians provide service for all race meets.

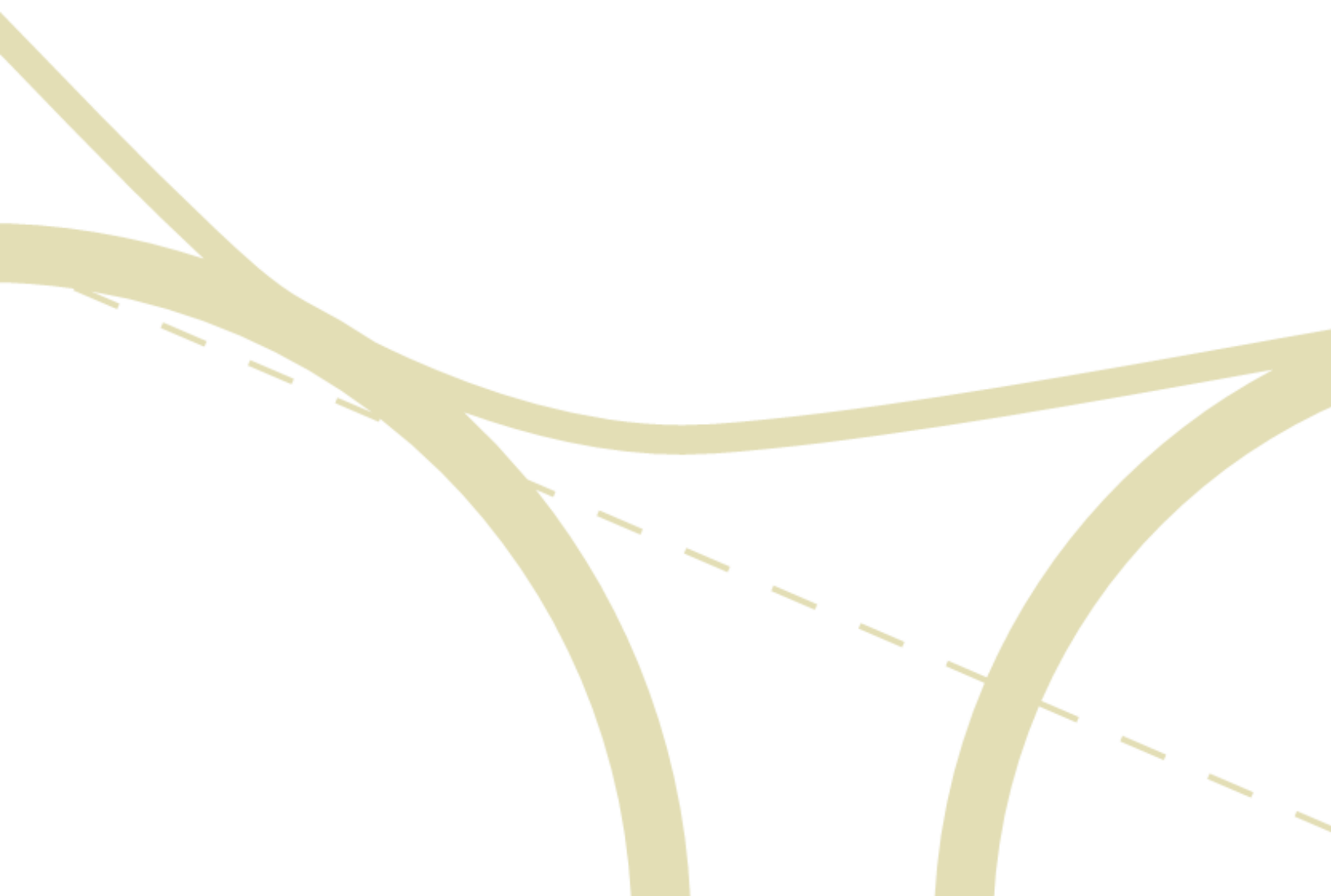
Endurance racing is also a prominent sport with approximately 3500 endurance horses based in the U.A.E. The Endurance World Championships was held here in 1998 & 2005 and Dubai hosts other international endurance events. FEI and local endurance rides occur weekly during the racing season: October-April.

In addition, there are equestrian centers for pleasure, show jumping and dressage and several polo clubs. Thoroughbred and Arabian horses are bred in the U.A.E.

The Dubai Equine Hospital itself serves as a base for an all-encompassing practice of veterinarians and large support staff representing thirteen different nationalities. The broad field practice is integrated with the hospital which serves as a referral facility. The hospital is the only one of its kind in the Gulf and is fully equipped with state-of-the-art diagnostic and surgical equipment offering comprehensive care and treatment for surgical, medical and soundness problems.

It features orthopedic and soft tissue operating rooms, clinical pathology laboratory, radiography, scintigraphy and MRI units, videoendoscopy, diagnostic ultrasound, and Nd: YAG-laser. It is professionally staffed by three ACVS Board Certified surgeons, ACVIM Board eligible internist, veterinary technician, anesthetist, MRI technician, two laboratory technicians, two interns, extern, and 14 veterinary care technicians. The hospital has capacity for 45 patients that includes a four-stall isolation facility.

Because of the generosity of H.H Sheikh Mohammed bin Rashid Al Maktoum, the Dubai Equine Hospital is able to offer an externship program which provides a unique opportunity for selected veterinary students to gain experience at an equine referral facility.



DUTIES AND EXPECTATIONS

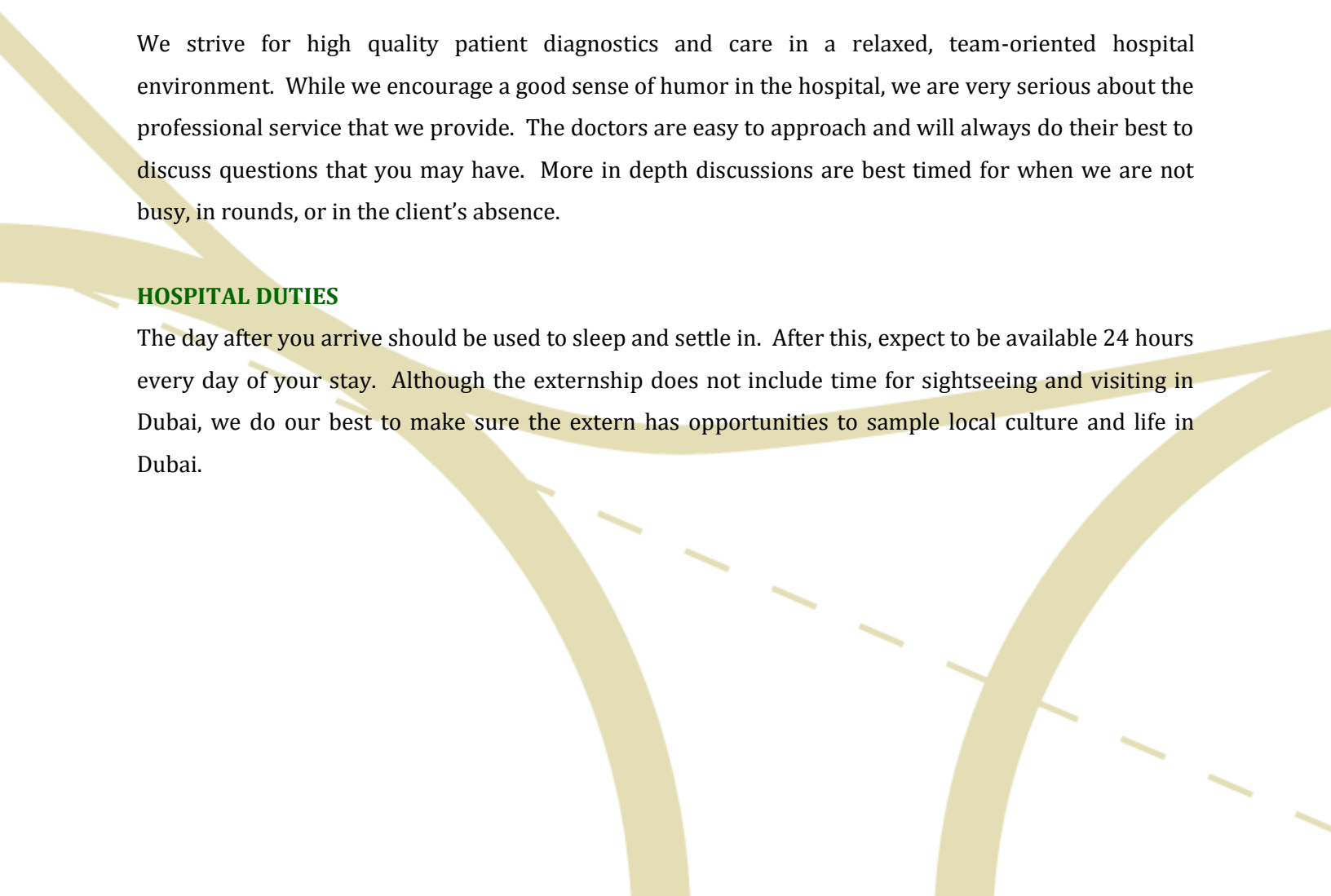
This externship may at times involve long hours and commitment, but for the motivated student, it will be a great educational experience in a state-of-the-art equine referral hospital practice. Therefore, the extern “shadows” and assists the intern doctors for many of the routine tasks and patient care in the hospital.

The Dubai Equine Hospital regards the externship as an opportunity to be with clinicians that have training and experience in specific fields. The role of the extern will be to observe the outpatient and inpatient diagnostics, surgery, and treatment procedures, assisting where appropriate. Additionally, their duties will include monitoring and treatments of surgical and non-surgical hospitalized patients. Good discussions of clinical findings during diagnostic work ups and treatment strategies for case management are integral components of the extern program.

We strive for high quality patient diagnostics and care in a relaxed, team-oriented hospital environment. While we encourage a good sense of humor in the hospital, we are very serious about the professional service that we provide. The doctors are easy to approach and will always do their best to discuss questions that you may have. More in depth discussions are best timed for when we are not busy, in rounds, or in the client’s absence.

HOSPITAL DUTIES

The day after you arrive should be used to sleep and settle in. After this, expect to be available 24 hours every day of your stay. Although the externship does not include time for sightseeing and visiting in Dubai, we do our best to make sure the extern has opportunities to sample local culture and life in Dubai.



Extern duties will depend somewhat upon the time of the year of their externship. Externs participate in hospital night duties and emergencies. We make every effort to vary the routine so that externs may spend some time with doctors in the field practice.

Extern's specific duties and expectations are outlined and explained on their first day during an orientation briefing.

Some general areas of responsibility are as follows:

WORK STATIONS - There are two workstations in the exam area. Although the hospital has an excellent daily janitorial service, each workstation should be checked and kept clean and tidy several times daily.

SURGERY DUTIES - After each surgery, while the horse is in recovery, the extern should help with cleaning instruments.

HEMATOLOGY LABORATORY – Externs are oriented to laboratory protocols and procedures by the Lab Technician and intern. They are encouraged offer their assistance or may be asked to perform certain blood analyses for after-hours emergencies.

RACE MEETS – For flat race meets that our practice attends, the extern generally has the opportunity to accompany a doctor in the patrol car. Additionally, they will have an opportunity to work in the treatment facility at one or more endurance rides during the racing season.

PERFORMANCE EVALUATION

At the end of each externship, externs are given a letter verifying their participation in the program, a description of their role in our hospital during their visit, and an overall assessment of their performance.

Externs who fail to maintain the standards outlined in this guide or who abuse our hospitality, will have their externship terminated and will receive an assessment reflecting our dissatisfaction.

GENERAL INFORMATION

1. DRESS

As with all the staff at the hospital, you will be expected to maintain a neat, clean, and professional appearance. Jeans and sneakers are fine provided they are not ripped, frayed, or worn out. Ironed Polo shirts without slogans are permissible. Women should be aware of the conservative culture in this Islamic country. Tank tops, shirts with low necklines, or short shirts exposing the midriff are not appropriate. Shorts are not acceptable during the workday in the hospital.

The sun is quite strong every day of the year so sunglasses and sunscreen are highly recommended. Nights and early mornings can be chilly and it may rain occasionally during the winter (December until March). If you are visiting during this period, plan to pack a jacket and sweatshirts. By contrast, the temperatures during the summer months (May to September) generally exceed 100 °F so cool clothing is recommended.

Racing at Meydan racetrack is held 1-2 nights each week from November to late March. People dress very nicely for racing and you will be expected to also.

2. CUSTOMS / CULTURE

Arabic is the official language of the UAE, but English is widely used. In Muslim countries, Friday is a holy day and day off. Schools, banks, post office, and most shops are closed. Our hospital, however, is fully operational seven days a week. On other days, shops and businesses are open from 9:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m. and from 4:00 p.m. - 9:00 p.m. Gambling is illegal. Alcohol is available in Hotels and selected clubs. Alcohol is not permitted within the hospital compound.

The month of Ramadan is observed here and is a special holy time. Muslims practice fasting and other associated customs according to Islam during Ramadan. Non - Muslims are forbidden to eat, drink, or smoke in public during daylight hours of Ramadan as well.

3. APARTMENT

The hospital has a comfortable apartment on the grounds for externs to stay in during their visit. Externs are expected to leave the apartment in the same condition as when they arrived. Any problems with the apartment should be reported immediately. Smoking is not permitted in the apartment or any other part of the hospital. All smoking must be done outside. Overnight visitors are not permitted in the apartment.

4. TELEPHONES

Each apartment has a phone that can call local numbers. Press 9 to get an outside line then dial the number. Each veterinarian and technical staff has a mobile phone and can be contacted easily. If you need to call home after you arrive, it can be arranged with the receptionists or the interns after hours.

5. LAUNDRY

The hospital has a staffed laundry facility. Externs can use this service for their personal clothes. A word of warning however, our laundry man is used to washing hospital linens. If you have delicate clothes or items that are especially valuable to you, you may want to wait until you return home to have them cleaned or they can be sent out locally. The hospital does not accept responsibility for the well-intentioned mistakes of our laundry man.

6. MEALS

The hospital has a cook and an assistant. Meals are provided during your stay. We serve Indian cuisine. If the food is too spicy, the cook will prepare your meals differently if you speak to him. The apartment is supplied with basics such as tea, coffee, sugar, milk, cereal, etc. If you wish to prepare food in the apartment, you may purchase goods at a nearby supermarket at your own expense.

7. VISA AND AIRTICKET

The hospital arranges for a 30-day visit visa and round trip airline ticket for each extern from a major airport in their home country. These are issued specifically for an externship and, once issued, cannot be altered. Do not expect to extend your stay in Dubai or change your travel itinerary.

8. TRANSPORTATION

A hospital driver will meet you at the airport when you arrive and drop you off when you depart. The drivers are very busy and their duties do not include driving externs. If you wish to sightsee in Dubai, taxi service is inexpensive and readily available. Should you need to go to the supermarket for supplies, please speak to the interns as they often will accommodate the student.

Externs are not allowed to drive hospital vehicles under any circumstances.

9. COURTESY

Externs are considered guests at the hospital and are expected to treat all personnel courteously and with respect. It takes a large staff of people in different roles to run a hospital. Externs should not only be helpful but also maintain a good attitude and high level of professionalism.

10. MEDICAL

Externs must be fully vaccinated for tetanus and rabies before they arrive in Dubai.

Dubai Equine Hospital does not accept any responsibility for injury or accident, so externs should be covered by their own medical insurance.

11. VISITORS

Family or friends of the extern are not allowed in the hospital without prior approval from Dr. Felix.

