

Residency in Cardiology: Program Specifics

Please see “House Officer Programs: General Information” for basic information common to all internship and residency programs. The following information highlights specific program requirements of the Cardiology residency program.

Program Director: Dr. Kristen Poplawski (kvpoplaw@iastate.edu)

Faculty Diplomates serving as supervisors and potential advisers of the program:

- Dr. Melissa Tropf, DVM, MS, DACVIM (Cardiology)
- Dr. Jessica Ward, DVM, DACVIM (Cardiology)
- Dr. Kristen Poplawski, DVM, DACVIM (Cardiology)

Specialty College: American College of Veterinary Internal Medicine (Cardiology)

- Requirements for candidate registration, certification, and examination are outlined in the ACVIM Certification Manual (CM) (www.acvim.org).
- Echocardiography logs, education logs, and catheterization logs must be submitted to ACVIM annually by dates specified by the ACVIM.
- The resident must make application/registration for sitting for the ACVIM General Examination (Year 2) and submit credentials and register for the ACVIM Specialty Examination (Year 3) according to the timeline set by the ACVIM (www.acvim.org).

Clinical program requirements

Activity	Year 1	Year 2	Year 3
Cardiology (direct supervision)	42 +/- 2 weeks	36 +/- 4 weeks	34 +/- 4 weeks
Clinical electives @ ISU (Internal Medicine, Diagnostic Imaging, ECC, Anesthesia)	0-2 weeks	0-2 weeks	0-2 weeks
Off-site rotations (NCSU-CVM, U. of Iowa, other programs by arrangement)	0-2 weeks	0-4 weeks	0-4 weeks
Off-clinics time (research, boards study)	4 weeks research	4 weeks research 4 weeks board study	3 weeks research 1 week “Heart Camp” 6 weeks board study
Vacation	2 weeks	2 weeks	2 weeks

Seminar/Rounds requirements

Rounds type	Frequency	Day/Time	Commitment
HO Seminar/Case Presentation	Weekly	Thursdays @ 8am	Required
Cardiology Journal Club	Weekly	Mondays @ 8am	Required
Cardiology Book Club	Monthly	3 rd Tuesday @ 8am	Required
Cardiology Resident Rounds (faculty-led didactic rounds)	Monthly	1 st and 4 th Tuesday @ 8am	Required
Morbidity & Mortality Rounds	Monthly	2 nd Tuesday @ 8am	Required
HO ECG Rounds	Monthly	4 th Wednesday @ 8am	Required
Physiology Phriday Rounds	Weekly	Fridays @ 8am	Required
NCSU Board Prep Rounds	Weekly April-June	Fridays @ 7:30am	Required

Scholarship requirements

- The ACVIM requires Cardiology residents to complete a research requirement which may involve research-related coursework, grant proposal submission, abstract presentation, and/or manuscript preparation (as outlined in the candidate Certification Manual, www.acvim.org).
- The individual resident must choose how they intend to fulfill the ACVIM research requirement by December of their first year, and must create and implement a plan for successful completion of this requirement. Successful completion of the ACVIM research requirement is considered sufficient research exposure to meet the VCS requirement for resident participation in scholarly activity.

Other program specifics that differ from ISU-CVM “House Officer Programs: General Information”

- **External rotations:**
 - Residents may participate in 2-6 weeks of rotations at external veterinary cardiology training sites during their residency. Iowa State has a pre-existing agreement with NC State for our residents to participate in a 2 week rotation once during the residency. Residents may also elect to participate in rotations at other training sites, but must facilitate their own arrangements at those locations.
 - While rotating at an external veterinary training site, the ISU resident will perform all clinical, procedural, and didactic responsibilities as expected of residents at the host location. These duties will include primary case responsibility, echocardiography and other diagnostic testing, interventional procedures, participation in rounds and journal club, teaching of veterinary students, and emergency on-call responsibilities (if deemed appropriate by the host institution). The ISU resident will be required to obtain either veterinary licensure or a temporary permit to practice veterinary medicine in the state of the external training site, as outlined by the respective state veterinary medical board.
 - Residents may also participate in a 2-week observational experience at the University of Iowa Pediatric Cardiology Center. Iowa State has a pre-existing agreement with University of Iowa to facilitate this exchange. As this experience does not involve direct patient care or medical practice, no licensure is required. However, residents must submit to all requirements of the University of Iowa both before and during the experience, including health clearance and vaccination, background check, and confidentiality agreement.