Error management training (EMT) creates an active, exploratory learning environment whereby trainees are explicitly encouraged to make errors. Students aware of these errors can identify and improve upon deficiencies in technique and knowledge; EMT students are also better at applying expertise to unfamiliar scenarios (adaptive transfer). Blood smear evaluation might be well suited EMT methods due to inherent complexities associated with technique and interpretation. Adaptive transfer skills are also necessary for effective interpretation of unknown clinical case material. The aim of this study is to determine the efficacy of EMT in a veterinary clinical pathology training environment. We hypothesize that EMT results in improved performance in adaptive transfer tasks, as compared to a proceduralized, error-avoidant training method. Our secondary hypothesis is that groups taught by EMT have improved long-term performance in transfer tests, as compared to a proceduralized training method.