

C-VGP.1 Veterinary Clinical Audit

Credits: 10 (100 hours)

Provider: Veterinary Postgraduate Unit – School of Veterinary Science

RCVS Content Covered

Click [here](#) to view the module content as outlined by the RCVS.

Aim of the Module

The aim of this module is to enable students to develop a clear overview of the theory and practice of clinical audit as well as its practical application within veterinary practice.

Learning Outcomes

At the end of the module, candidates should be able to:

1. reflect upon the theoretical and operational issues arising from the design and implementation of clinical audit within practice and compare and contrast it with clinical research;
2. undertake a clinical audit, including selecting an appropriate area to audit, forming a clinical audit team and collecting relevant data;
3. critically review the results of a clinical audit and report on the findings;
4. reflect upon developing a culture of continuous change and improvement.

Module Structure

Study Unit 1: Theory of clinical audit

- What clinical audit actually is
- How it differs from research
- The 'pros' and 'cons' of clinical audit within general veterinary practice
- The skills that are needed to undertake clinical audit.
- How issues with regard to the introduction of clinical audit should be addressed, including:
 - culture
 - communication
 - team working.

Study Unit 2: Application within practice

- Select appropriate areas for clinical audit within their practice
- Utilise evidence based veterinary medicine (EBVM) in clinical audit
- Apply the clinical audit cycle for planning and implementing clinical audit in veterinary practice
- Critically review audits
- Make real and sustainable change to their practice by the use of clinical audit.

Study Unit 3: Post-audit application

- Acting on an audit and developing a culture of continuous change and improvement

The module is available online with all applicable resources and readings embedded within the module pages. All of the guidance is available online.

Assessment Strategy

- **3 x 500-word discussion/short reflective essays covering the module content (30%)**
Comprises of a series of 3 discussions or [short reflective essays] of 500 words each for reflection on theoretical and operational issues arising from the design and implementation of clinical audit within practice covering the areas of:
 - a) Preparing for an audit;
 - b) Implementing an audit;
 - c) Acting on an audit and developing a culture of continuous change and improvement
- **1 x 2500-word clinical audit (70%)**
Clinical audit report

Assessments are submitted sequentially with feedback being given between assessments to aid in the development of writing skills.

PLEASE NOTE: It is your responsibility to ensure that you have access to sufficient appropriate cases where you were the primary decision maker to produce adequate material for the module. This may not be possible with some internship positions. You must also be aware of any limitations of your facilities that may make the accumulation of appropriate cases difficult or impossible.