Draft RCVS post-registration framework for veterinary nursing
Draft post-registration framework for veterinary nursing

Background
1. This document sets out the detailed rules for the administration of the modular RCVS post-registration framework for veterinary nursing.

2. It has been written for the guidance of universities and other organisations and individuals who are planning their involvement with this scheme.

3. The framework serves two distinct purposes:
   a. to provide accessible, flexible and professionally recordable post-registration awards for veterinary nurses from any level of study in order to inform an enhanced level of veterinary nursing practice, and
   b. to provide a series of accessible specialised post-registration modules which may be studied independently and which are professionally recordable as advanced courses.

Introduction
4. The Graduate Certificate in Advanced Veterinary Nursing is set at the Quality Assurance Agency’s (QAA) Level 6 and the Postgraduate Certificate in Advanced Veterinary Nursing at Level 7. The following level descriptors are adapted from the QAA definition of qualifications at these levels, and should be used as an indicator of the level required for the modules within the respective qualifications.

The framework of qualifications
5. The post-registration framework at Annex 1 shows where the RCVS Graduate Certificate and Postgraduate Certificate in Advanced Veterinary Nursing sit in relation to different level registrable qualifications. The framework has been designed to provide progression via RCVS qualifications, allowing recognition of skills, competence and experience in a specialist field.

Qualification structure
6. The structure of the qualifications is set out in Annex 1. It is based on a credit accumulation and transfer system, where one credit equates to approximately 10 hours of activity by the candidate, and 60 credits are required for the full qualifications.

7. The ‘notional’ 10 hours per credit includes time spent on courses, private study and research as well as time spent putting together assignments, and other assessment related work. This is not a rigid time limit but should be used as a guide when

Graduate Certificate in Advanced Veterinary Nursing Level 6:

Candidates will need to demonstrate:
- a thorough understanding of key aspects of their field of practice, including acquisition of coherent and detailed knowledge, at least some of which is at, or informed by, the forefront of their area of professional practice;
- an ability to deploy accurately established techniques of analysis and enquiry within the field of practice;
- conceptual understanding that enables them to:
  - devise and sustain arguments, and/or to solve problems, using ideas and techniques, some of which are at the forefront of their area of professional practice;
  - to describe and comment upon particular aspects in their professional area, or equivalent advanced scholarship, in the discipline;
- an appreciation of the uncertainty, ambiguity and limits of knowledge; and,
- the ability to manage their own learning and to make use of scholarly reviews and primary sources, for example, refereed research articles and/or original materials appropriate to their area of professional practise.
Typically, holders of the qualification will be able to:

• apply the methods and techniques that they have learned to review, consolidate, extend and apply their knowledge and understanding, and to initiate and carry out projects;
• critically evaluate arguments, assumptions, abstract concepts and data (that may be incomplete), to make judgements, and to frame appropriate questions to achieve a solution - or identify a range of solutions - to a problem;
• communicate information, ideas, problems and solutions to both veterinary colleagues and non-veterinary audiences, including clients.

And will have the qualities and transferable skills necessary for professional veterinary nursing work requiring:

• the exercise of initiative and personal responsibility;
• decision-making in complex and unpredictable contexts; and
• the learning ability needed to undertake appropriate further training of a professional or equivalent nature

Postgraduate Certificate in Advanced Veterinary Nursing Level 7:

Candidates will need to demonstrate:

• a thorough understanding of the knowledge base and a critical awareness of developments at the forefront of their area of professional practice;
• a comprehensive understanding of techniques applicable to their own area of practice;
• originality in the application of knowledge, together with a practical understanding of how established techniques of research and clinical enquiry are used to create and interpret knowledge in their professional area;
• conceptual understanding that enables them to:
  - evaluate critically current literature and research in their professional area; and,
  - evaluate clinical methodologies and techniques, and develop critiques of them and, where appropriate to propose new approaches to professional practice.

Typically, holders of the qualification will be able to:

• deal with complex issues in an organised and creative manner, make sound judgements in the absence of complete data, and communicate their conclusions clearly to veterinary colleagues and non-veterinary audiences, including clients;
• demonstrate self-direction and originality in tackling and solving problems, and act autonomously in planning and implementing tasks in their professional area of work; and
• continue to advance their knowledge and understanding, and to develop new skills to a high level.

And will have the qualities and transferable skills necessary for professional veterinary nursing work requiring:

• the exercise of initiative and personal responsibility;
• decision-making in complex and unpredictable contexts; and,
• the independent learning ability required for continuing professional development.
modules are being designed. Some candidates may need to spend more or less time on modules depending on their experience. Most modules are designed to be 10 credits, equating to around 100 hours of study time.

8. Modules may be taken on their own, or in combination with others. Candidates are free to take optional modules in any order, however guidance is provided for the sequence of core modules. Modules are divided into groups of A, B, C and D modules with D modules offering a wider range of subject areas.

9. In order to accommodate the range of level of primary veterinary nursing qualifications, the framework has two distinct academic levels. These two levels follow the same module pattern.

10. To achieve the full Level 6 Graduate Certificate in Advanced Veterinary Nursing, candidates must undertake Module A (10 credits) covering communication and professional reasoning and Module B (10 credits) covering reflection and professionalism. Candidates will make up the remainder of the 40 credits from elective group D modules.

11. To achieve the full Level 7 Postgraduate Certificate in Advanced Veterinary Nursing, candidates must undertake Module B at 10 credits covering reflection and professionalism and Module C at 10 credits covering communication and self-evaluation. Candidates will make up the remainder of the 40 credits from elective group E modules.

12. Candidates may choose any combination of D or E modules they wish. If they complete a broad range of D or E modules they will be entitled to apply for the Certificate in Advanced Veterinary Nursing (CertAVN) or the Postgraduate Certificate in Advanced Veterinary Nursing (PGCertAVN) respectively. Alternatively, candidates may follow a prescribed combination of modules to lead to a CertAVN or PGCertAVN with a designated title, such as Anaesthesia and Analgesia, Emergency and Critical Care, Management and Leadership etc, for example, PGCertAVN(ECC). For a list of proposed designated titles, please see Annex 3. The RCVS will define the combination of modules that are required for particular titles.

Accreditation of Universities

The assessment of candidates

13. Apart from some exceptional cases, the RCVS will not itself undertake the assessment of individual modules but will instead devolve responsibility for this to accredited universities and their providers. The aim is for the RCVS framework of modules to become integrated with other university courses and awards, which will both improve the coherence of CPD provision nationally, and also give candidates a greater range of progression pathways than has previously existed.

14. Candidates who complete the required number of modules for the CertAVN through accredited universities will be entitled to apply for the full qualification certificate from the RCVS. However, for certificates with a designated title, for example, CertAVN(Anaesthesia and Analgesia), candidates will also need to undertake a final RCVS ‘synoptic’ assessment in addition to the assessment of individual modules.

General principles

15. Universities are able to apply for RCVS accreditation to deliver and assess modules forming part of the RCVS framework for the CertAVN or PGCertAVN.

16. Accreditation is the process by which the RCVS evaluates prospective course providers for quality, based on given standards. This process is additional to the accreditation and quality monitoring processes undertaken by the national regulatory authorities (QAA, OFQUAL, SQA etc).

Accreditation standards

17. Standards for accreditation are set under the following:
   a. Institutional accreditation
   b. Finance
   c. Staff resources
   d. Physical resources and equipment
   e. Learning resources
   f. Course design
   g. Student support
   h. Assessment
   i. Course management and evaluation
   j. Course outcomes

Institutional accreditation

18. The course provider must be, or have an affiliation with, a UK university. The CertAVN and PGCertAVN
must be accredited at QAA Level 6 and Level 7 respectively.

19. The RCVS must be kept informed of proposed changes affecting the course provider’s ability to meet the standards of accreditation. The College will retain the right to withdraw accreditation if it considers that such changes might jeopardise the integrity or standard of the qualifications.

Finance
20. The course provider must provide evidence of sufficient and sustainable financial support for the programme.

Staff resources
21. Senior educational staff responsible for the course delivery must be identified, and the course provider must have sufficient and suitably qualified staff to deliver the proposed course and to provide appropriate levels of student support.

22. Active support for the continuing professional development of staff must be demonstrated. A policy to ensure that staff maintain their competence both in terms of educational and veterinary subject expertise, in accordance with the needs of the institution, must be in place.

Resources and equipment
23. Providers must possess a suitable environment, to include electronic and online resources, in which to deliver the proposed course. All aspects of the physical facilities must provide an environment conducive to learning in terms of space, maintenance and compliance with health and safety legislation.

24. Facilities must be provided for private interviews and for student relaxation and private study, in addition to classroom accommodation.

25. A range of demonstration and practical teaching equipment must be provided in order to support linkage between theory and practice. Practical equipment and facilities must reflect current veterinary practice and comply with relevant health and safety standards.

Learning resources
26. A range of learning resources must be provided in order to support formal teaching and foster an ethos of enquiry and independent learning amongst students. Learning resources must be freely accessible to students.

27. Course providers must demonstrate a policy of regular review in order to ensure that learning resources remain current and relevant.

Course design
28. Course design must reflect the RCVS post-registration framework. The curriculum should reflect the learning outcomes identified in the component accredited modules. A wide range of course delivery methods will be encouraged, including distance learning and flexible part-time provision.

29. Modules may form part of other qualifications awarded by the university, for example Master’s degrees.

30. In cases where subject matter is not already covered by a module previously defined by the RCVS, universities and other institutions may submit their own modules for accreditation as part of the RCVS framework. Where approval for a new module is being sought, the RCVS will seek to ensure that this does not lead to proliferation or duplication of modules covering essentially the same area. Once accredited by the RCVS, the module (its syllabus and learning objectives) will become part of the RCVS framework and available for other accredited providers to use.

31. Providers will normally be expected to follow the RCVS specification for the module, but may expand this by the provision of further curriculum details, more specific learning objectives and guidance to candidates. They may also propose alternative assessment methods to those suggested, provided these are still a valid means of assessing the module’s objectives.

Student support
32. An admissions policy, taking into account entry criteria for the CertAVN and PGCertAVN , health and safety, data protection and equal opportunities, must be demonstrated.

33. Arrangements must be in place for the identification and support of students with special educational needs.

34. Adequate opportunity must be afforded for the provision of individual tutorial and/or pastoral
student support. Progress and achievement must be reported back to the RCVS regularly.

**Assessment**

35. The university must apply its usual quality-assurance arrangements to the modules it assesses, including arrangements for appointing, coordinating, standardising and training assessors/examiners, to ensure fair assessment and maintenance of standards over time. Internal assessment activities must be appropriate, valid and fair. A range of assessment methods should be employed, both formatively and summatively.

36. Reasonable adjustment, mitigating circumstances, fitness to practise and an appeals procedure must be in place.

37. The provider must maintain auditable assessment records, and allow the RCVS confidential access to these to enable periodic audits of the process to be undertaken if required.

38. Course providers will be required to allow access to assessment to external candidates not otherwise enrolled on the university programme. This is to enable those who so wish, to undertake private studies to achieve credit points towards the RCVS CertAVN or RCVS PGCertAVN certificates.

**Course management and evaluation**

39. Quality standards, and arrangements for effective monitoring, must be in place for all aspects of course delivery.

40. Effective communication must be demonstrated between members of the teaching team and, where appropriate, with the senior management staff of the educational establishment.

41. Regular and effective course evaluation by students, teaching staff and employers must be demonstrated. Evaluation must demonstrably inform teaching practice, course development, administration and review.

**Course outcomes**

42. Course providers must evaluate the outcome of their programme through the monitoring and investigation of attrition and the recording of achievement, both of the professional award and the academic awards in which modules may be embedded. Course providers must, additionally, conduct periodic graduate and employer surveys in order to determine the destination of CertAVN and PGCertAVN holders and the value of this qualification, and its associated academic awards, in veterinary and related practice.
Eligibility rules for candidates

43. Candidates must demonstrate the following prior to registration for the CertAVN or PGCertAVN or their accredited modules.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Qualification</th>
<th>Potential candidates must be an RVN.</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Experience</td>
<td>Candidates must have a minimum of 18 months’ post-registration experience (taken from the date of first registration with the RCVS) and be able to demonstrate sufficient CPD for that period, prior to registration with both the RCVS and the chosen provider.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Access to placement</td>
<td>During studies, candidates must be employed in, or have agreed access to placement in, a suitable professional environment.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>• Clinical environment</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>• Education establishment</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>• Managerial establishment</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Students studying clinical option modules will benefit from arranged placements in specialist referral practices or larger veterinary hospitals in order to participate in more advanced clinical care and extend their applied knowledge and skills.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Awarding of the Graduate Certificate or Postgraduate Certificate in Advanced Veterinary Nursing in a designated subject area

44. The candidate will need to:
   a. hold a registerable veterinary nursing qualification and be on the Register of Veterinary Nurses;
   b. have the equivalent of at least 2.5 years’ experience post registration;
   c. have previously enrolled for the programme with the RCVS;
   d. have achieved a total of 60 credits through RCVS accredited providers, with the approved combination of modules.

45. The candidate will need to have met the conditions as described in paragraph 44, plus they will need to have achieved the requisite number of credits in the approved combination of modules.

46. Providers are free to accept other candidates onto their courses that do not fulfil the above eligibility rules, but such candidates will not have their achievements recorded as RCVS credits, or be awarded either the CertAVN or the PGCertAVN.

47. Candidates who have achieved the CertAVN/PGCertAVN, and who wish to work towards a designated title will need to achieve any additional modules required for the subject area, and apply to RCVS for the synoptic assessment. Similarly, candidates who achieved a CertAVN/PGCertAVN with one designated title, and wish to take further modules that would entitle them to a second or further designation will need to take at least one further module and apply for a further synoptic assessment for the new subject area concerned.

48. If successful at the synoptic assessment, candidates will be able to use the appropriate postnominals to indicate their qualification, for example, CertAVN (ECC) or CertAVN (AA).
RCVS enrolment process for candidates

49. Enrolment with RCVS for a full CertAVN or PGCertAVN without a particular designation will involve an administrative check on the candidate’s eligibility, as above, plus a check on the combination of modules offered to ensure that it is a valid route towards certification. Candidates will be required to specify which modules they intend to follow and the centres where they propose to be assessed.

50. Where a candidate wishes to work towards a designated certificate, for example, CertAVN(ECC), their application may need to be considered by a panel of subject experts to consider the proposed plan of study, and whether the proposed combination of modules is a valid route to the qualification. The extent to which applications may need to be considered by a subject panel will depend on the subject area concerned.

51. Candidates who have completed other recognised qualifications in subject areas directly relating to one or more RCVS modules may claim ‘equivalence’ for credits at the College’s discretion.

52. Candidates claiming equivalence will be required to enrol for a whole certificate and have their claims validated by the RCVS.

53. Candidates enrolling for a full qualification will be asked to specify the accredited centre where they plan to take the modules, but will be able to transfer to other centres at any time by notifying the RCVS.

54. It is anticipated that initial enrolment for the CertAVN or PGCertAVN will be available throughout the year and will not be limited to any specific deadline.

55. Registration for the CertAVN and PGCertAVN or any designated Certificate will be valid for up to five years. To claim the full qualification, all modules must have been achieved within the previous five years.

56. It is expected that registration for the full subject designated CertAVN/PGCertAVN will be available throughout the year, BUT applications that need to be approved by a subject panel may in some cases need to wait up to three months to be considered.

Accreditation of prior learning (APL)

57. The RCVS will permit accredited HEIs to take into consideration prior certificated learning (via an APL process) in relation to the CertAVN and PGCertAVN. Such APL must be formally awarded through the APL mechanisms in place with the university concerned.

58. APL will be allowed only against accredited learning which:
   a. can be directly and substantially matched against the outcomes of accredited CertAVN and PGCertAVN modules, ie specific credit rather than general credit;
   b. demonstrates currency, achieved within the five years prior to CertAVN/PGCertAVN enrolment; and
   c. has not already formed part of a licence to practise qualification in veterinary nursing, a degree, foundation degree or HND which has contributed towards initial qualification as a veterinary nurse.

59. Candidates may offset a maximum of one third (20 credits) of the certificate or postgraduate certificate award via APL.

Theoretical instruction and accreditation of course providers

60. Candidates must have access to theoretical instruction in support of the qualification.
outcomes. This will be achieved by attending a programme of studies provided by an RCVS-accredited course provider. The RCVS criteria for the accreditation of a course provider can be found on page 5.

61. Accredited programmes of study may employ a variety of means of delivery, for example, full-time academic programmes, part-time attended courses, open-learning programmes.

Support for enrolled candidates
62. The RCVS will hold a database with details of all accredited modules – including detailed subject content and information about assessment methods, together with a list of all providers accredited to offer each module, and course details provided by universities. Outline information will be provided on the RCVS website (www.rcvs.org.uk) for all potential candidates to help them choose between providers and modules.

Fees
63. As the RCVS Graduate Certificate and Postgraduate Certificate qualifications system needs to be self-financing, RCVS will charge a fee to providers for accreditation, and to candidates to cover costs of running the framework. Enrolment fees for candidates will be kept low enough to encourage people to enrol and engage with the system. Candidates will also need to pay fees to the university for module assessments, as well as any courses they wish to attend.

64. Candidates enrolling for a whole qualification, but claiming ‘equivalence’ in lieu of taking some individual modules may be required to pay a fee for consideration of their equivalence claim.

65. Candidates will need to pay a fee to RCVS when they claim their CertAVN/PGCertAVN.

Certification Procedures

Awarding the CertAVN and PGCertAVN
66. A synoptic assessment will normally be required for all certificates with a designated subject, unless otherwise determined by the relevant RCVS committee. Candidates claiming a CertAVN or PGCertAVN without a designated title will not be required to undertake a further synoptic assessment.

67. The final certificate awarded to candidates by the RCVS will list the modules achieved.

68. In cases where a synoptic assessment is not required for award of a full qualification, candidates will still be required to apply to the RCVS for their certificate, confirming which modules they have achieved and the providers that awarded them. A CertAVN/PGCertAVN will be issued after the claim has been verified against RCVS records.
The university accreditation process

69. The accreditation process and sequence of events is summarised in the following table:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Stage 1</th>
<th>Submission of Notification of Intent to the RCVS</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Stage 2</td>
<td>RCVS considers application and then</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>• Requests further information and/or</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>• Arranges consultation site visit and confirms</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>date of accreditation event</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Stage 3</td>
<td>Full course approval application submitted to</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>the RCVS a minimum of six weeks prior to the</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>planned accreditation event</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Stage 4</td>
<td>Accreditation event</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Stage 5</td>
<td>Accreditation report and status</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Stage 6</td>
<td>Ongoing annual quality monitoring</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Notification of Intent

70. Notification of Intent is the first stage in gaining RCVS accreditation. It alerts the RCVS to your proposed provision and enables your full accreditation application and visit to be appropriately timed.

71. It is important that you complete and return the Notification of Intent as soon as you begin the development process of a new course, or the substantial review of an existing provision. You should note that the Notification of Intent must be received by the RCVS at least six calendar months in advance of the proposed course development date.

72. On receipt of your Notification of Intent, the RCVS will contact you in order to request any further supporting information, to offer a consultation visit and confirm the accreditation event date.

Accreditation application

73. A full application for accreditation, along with all supporting documentation, must be received by the RCVS at least six weeks prior to the planned accreditation event. Delay in submitting this documentation may jeopardise the accreditation process and lead to cancellation of the visit.

74. Once a full application for accreditation has been received, the RCVS may contact you for further information prior to the accreditation visit. Please ensure that such information is provided promptly in order to fully inform the RCVS visiting team.

Accreditation status

75. Following the accreditation visit, any issues to be addressed will be discussed with you and a suitable action plan drawn up. Accreditation will depend upon the satisfactory resolution of any major issues for concern. If all of the necessary facilities, resources and support systems for the proposed programme(s) are in place, accreditation will be offered as set out below:

a. Full accreditation for five years is given to programmes that meet, or exceed, all criteria for accreditation;

b. Full accreditation for a shorter period if significant deficiencies are identified: accreditation will be subject to the deficiencies being addressed within a specific time period. The RCVS will normally undertake a full programme review before the end of the accreditation;

c. Accreditation denied where RCVS considers that deficiencies are so serious that they are unlikely to be rectifiable within a reasonable period of time;

d. Terminal approval may apply where the university is unable to meet RCVS accreditation standards, or if they voluntarily close. The procedures for terminal accreditation must be followed.

Ongoing monitoring and annual reporting

76. The RCVS requires a self-monitoring report to be provided annually. This must list all non-compliances identified in the last RCVS visit report and any areas of weakness against the accreditation standards which you currently perceive. It must also provide detailed information about the recruitment, retention and outcomes of students both currently and in comparison with previous years. A format for the report will be provided.

77. The RCVS will conduct quality monitoring site visits in relation to post-registration courses as deemed necessary.
Annex 1

CertAVN

Level 3 Diploma (or previous equivalent)
Level 4 Diploma
FdSc
+ 18 months’ post registration experience and sufficient CPD

Module A
Level 5; 10 credits

Elective Group D
Level 6; 10 credits

Elective Group D
Level 6; 10 credits

Elective Group D
Level 6; 10 credits

Elective Group D
Level 6; 10 credits

Elective Group D
Level 6; 10 credits

Elective Group E
Level 7; 10 credits

Elective Group E
Level 7; 10 credits

Elective Group E
Level 7; 10 credits

Elective Group E
Level 7; 10 credits

PGCertAVN

BSc/BSc (Honours)
+ 18 months’ post registration experience and sufficient CPD

Module B
Level 6; 10 credits

Module C
Level 7; 10 credits
### Certificate in Advanced Veterinary Nursing

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>1. Title:</th>
<th>Module A</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2. Module Author:</td>
<td>RCVS Post-registration Working Party</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3. Module type:</td>
<td>Core</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4. Subject Area:</td>
<td>Academic writing and literature review</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5. Code:</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6. Level:</td>
<td>5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7. Credits:</td>
<td>10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8. Study hours:</td>
<td>100</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

| 9. Co- and Pre-requisite modules (or equivalent APL): |
| 1. | Pre | Two years’ post-registration experience |
| 2. | Pre | Associate membership (RVN) |

| 10. Learning outcomes: | **On successful completion of this module students will be able to:** |
| 1. | Conduct a literature review using a variety of sources |
| 2. | Produce a research-based project/report which demonstrates accepted conventions of academic writing |
| 3. | Appraise the validity and relevance of literature in relation to veterinary nursing practice. |

| 11. Summary for students: |
| This module encourages students to develop transferable research skills, including analysis, problem-solving, and communication. These skills will aid the student to gain an appreciation of research and the ability to access information from a variety of sources. Students will acquire the skills to be able to evaluate literature and apply relevant and valid research to their chosen study area. |

| 12. Delivery Method: |
| **Course providers to complete details** |

| 13. Assessment Method: |
| **Course providers to complete. Please give details of formative and summative assessment methods** |
Certificate in Advanced Veterinary Nursing

| 1. Title: | Module B |
| 2. Module Author: | RCVS Post-registration Working Party |
| 3. Module type: | Core |
| 4. Subject Area: | Reflective Professional Practice |
| 5. Code: |  |
| 6. Level: | 6 |
| 7. Credits: | 10 |
| 8. Study hours: | 100 |

9. Co- and Pre-requisite modules (or equivalent APL):

| 1. | Pre | Module A (equivalent APL would include RVNs with a BSc) |
| 2. | Pre | Associate membership (RVN) |

10. Learning outcomes: On successful completion of this module students will be able to:

1. Evaluate their own strengths and weaknesses and demonstrate the importance of maintaining and developing professional competence.
2. Analyse legal, ethical, welfare and professional principles of practice.
3. Demonstrate reflective skills that enable understanding of the issues raised in professional practice.

11. Summary for students:
This module develops reflective and decision-making processes required for advanced professional practice. Allowing students to interpret and appraise their obligations towards animal welfare and professional conduct. It is intended to assist students to evaluate their own strengths and weaknesses effectively in order to achieve their professional objectives.

12. Delivery Method:
Course providers to complete details

13. Assessment Method:
Course providers to complete. Please give details of formative and summative assessment methods
Certificate in Advanced Veterinary Nursing

| 1. Title: | Module C |
| 2. Module Author: | RCVS Post-registration Working Party |
| 3. Module type: | Core |
| 4. Subject Area: | Information and research evaluation |
| 5. Code: | |
| 6. Level: | 7 |
| 7. Credits: | 10 |
| 8. Study hours: | 100 |

9. Co- and Pre-requisite modules (or equivalent APL):

| Pre | Module B |
| Pre | Associate membership (RVN) |

10. Learning outcomes: On successful completion of this module students will be able to:

1. Critically evaluate information and research quality in the context of study design and result analysis.
2. Effectively interpret information to draw valid and appropriate conclusions.
3. Integrate theory and research to produce a comparative critical literature review.

11. Summary for students:

Research increasingly seeks to contribute to real-world solutions and evidence-based practice. Assessing the quality and validity of this research is vital. Understanding how to source and extract the key messages effectively is paramount. This module will develop skills and techniques required for information sourcing, retrieval, management, analysis, critique and presentation of information.

12. Delivery Method:

Course providers to complete details

13. Assessment Method:

Course providers to complete. Please give details of formative and summative assessment methods
Annex 3

Designations
This is not an exhaustive list and may be amended from time to time as required.

- Anaesthesia and analgesia
- Animal welfare
- Behaviour and training
- Dentistry
- Diagnostic imaging
- Education and teaching
- Farm animal nursing to include TB testing
- Laboratory diagnostics
- Management and leadership
- Medical nursing
- Nurse consultation, communication and bereavement counselling
- Pharmacology
- Rehabilitation and physiotherapy
- Research
- Surgical nursing and theatre practice
- Triage, critical care and emergency nursing
- Wellness and preventative health
- Wildlife, exotic and zoo animal nursing