



Workshop: What is Veterinary Nursing?

The Health Professions Council (HPC) regulates a number of different professions, including dietitians, radiographers and occupational therapists. The groups that wish to be regulated under the HPC have to meet certain criteria, as follows:

- Cover a discrete area of activity displaying some homogeneity
- Apply a defined body of knowledge
- Practise based on evidence of efficacy
- Have at least one established professional body which accounts for a significant proportion of that occupational group
- Operate a voluntary register
- Have defined routes of entry to the profession
- Have independently assessed entry qualifications
- Have standards in relation to conduct, performance and ethics
- Have Fitness to Practise procedures to enforce those standards
- Be committed to continuous professional development (CPD)

<http://www.hpc-uk.org/aboutregistration/newprofessions/criteria/>

For veterinary nursing to be regulated, we need to be able to define who we are, what we do and how we work. We would like your thoughts on the following definition and then ask you to write at least one sentence under the headings below in relation to defining veterinary nursing.

Veterinary nursing is...

The use of clinical nursing judgement in the provision of care to enable pets/animals to improve, maintain, or recover health, to cope with health problems, and to achieve the best possible quality of life, whatever their disease or disability, until death.

Defining aspects of veterinary nursing:

- ❖ Purpose
- ❖ Nursing interventions
- ❖ Values
- ❖ Commitment to overall care