



RCVS

Inspiring confidence
in veterinary care

Evaluation of International Qualifications for entry to the UK Register of Veterinary Nurses

Form B Example

This document contains an example of a syllabus taken from a qualification delivered in the UK.

The areas of the syllabus for:

VND 1 Understanding the operational requirements of a veterinary practice

VND 8 Supporting the supply of veterinary medicines

VND 9 Veterinary nursing support of diagnostic imaging

These have been mapped to Form B sections 6 Diagnostic Imaging and & dispensing. You will also notice that the applicant has provided some details of their experience in the area at the bottom of each section.

When you complete application form B, you will need to access the syllabus followed in the qualification that you completed. Our assessors need as much information as possible.

If you were not taught a section you can leave it blank. This will be taken into consideration.

If you require further assistance please contact vnoverseas@rcvs.org.uk or 020 7202 0788.

Unit title:		VND 1 Understanding the operational requirements of a veterinary practice	
Unit code:		VND 1	
Credit value:		10	
Learning outcomes:		Assessment criteria:	
1	Understand the roles of members of the veterinary team	1.1	Compare and contrast the roles of a veterinary surgeon and a veterinary nurse
		1.2	Explain the role and functions of lay staff within a veterinary practice
		1.3	Outline the significance of the Veterinary Surgeons Act 1966
2	Understand the aims of effective health and safety within a veterinary practice	2.1	Explain the aims of health and safety practice
		2.2	Explain the principal risks in a veterinary practice, mentioning the environment, working hours, chemical and biological hazards
		2.3	Demonstrate how to move and handle animals and equipment safely, identifying risk factors and using ergonomic principles
		2.4	Explain the principles of handling and disposal of hazardous substances, to include sharps, biological and chemical materials
3	Understand how to use and maintain equipment in a veterinary practice	3.1	Describe the use of veterinary practice equipment, to include clinical furniture, powered and manual instrumentation, diagnostic imaging, laboratory and anaesthetic equipment
		3.2	Explain protocols for routine checking and maintenance of equipment by both internal practice staff and external agencies, to include frequency
		3.3	Explain how to identify equipment faults, to include action that should be taken in the event of malfunction
4	Understand how to maintain stocks of veterinary consumables and pharmaceuticals	4.1	Summarise the principles of stock control, mentioning record-keeping, storage conditions, stock rotation
		4.2	Identify the range of materials needed to support a veterinary practice, to include consumables, sterile supplies, pharmaceuticals, food
		4.3	Explain how to dispose of surplus and outdated materials, mentioning relevant legal requirements
5	Know the principles of record-keeping	5.1	Explain the principles of veterinary record-keeping, mentioning client and patient records, to include confidentiality, data protection, RCVS Guides to Professional Conduct

Unit title:		VN 8 Supporting the supply of veterinary medicines	
Unit code:		VND 8	
Credit value:		5	
Learning outcomes:		Assessment criteria:	
1	Understand the legal requirements in relation to the storage and supply of veterinary medicines	1.1	Explain the law in relation to veterinary medicines, to include: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ the Veterinary Medicines Regulations ▪ registration of premises ▪ legal categories of medicines ▪ veterinary prescribing cascade (food and non-food animals) ▪ storage and disposal requirements ▪ record-keeping
		1.2	Explain the role, remit and professional responsibilities of a Suitably Qualified Person (SQP)
2	Know how to supply veterinary medicines to clients	2.1	Explain the requirements for a legal veterinary prescription
		2.2	Interpret pharmacy terminology and abbreviations
		2.3	Summarise requirements for the packaging and labelling of veterinary medicines
		2.4	Summarise information that should be obtained from a client to enable an appropriate choice of medication for supply by an SQP
		2.5	Explain how to calculate and dispense appropriate quantities of medication
		2.6	Demonstrate how to dispense medicines safely and effectively, to include correct prescription, safe handling of medicines
3	Understand the principles of pharmacodynamics	3.1	Describe ways in which medicines act and are excreted, to include: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ action ▪ excretion ▪ common side effects ▪ handling precautions ▪ contraindications ▪ nursing implications
		3.2	Explain factors that can affect duration of action
		3.3	Explain the mechanisms for reporting adverse reactions
4	Know how to provide advice to clients on the administration of veterinary medicines	4.1	Summarise information that should be provided to a client concerning the administration of a prescribed medicine
		4.2	Demonstrate to clients suitable techniques for administering medicine, to include instruction, demonstration and written guidance

Unit title:		VND 9 Veterinary nursing support of diagnostic imaging	
Unit code:		VND 9	
Credit value:		10	
Learning outcomes:		Assessment criteria:	
1	Know the legal requirements for operating radiographic equipment in a veterinary practice	1.1	Describe the legal requirements for radiography in veterinary practice, to include: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Authorised personnel ▪ Health and safety
		1.2	Explain the requirements for exposure risk assessment and monitoring
		1.3	Summarise requirements for the use of personal protective equipment when dealing with radiation
2	Understand the principles of radiography	2.1	Describe the properties and effects of radiation, to include: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Function of equipment, to include tube head, light beam diaphragm ▪ Primary beam and scatter ▪ Absorption by different materials/tissues ▪ Effects of kV and mA
		2.2	Summarise types of image that can be produced using radiation, to include X-rays, scintigraphy and coaxial tomography (CT)
		2.3	Explain the features and use of cassettes and grids
		2.4	Summarise the design features and maintenance of a radiography facility, to include equipment
		2.5	Explain how to calculate and record exposure factors
3	Know the principles of MRI, endoscopy and scintigraphy imaging techniques	3.1	Summarise how images are produced using ultrasound
		3.2	Summarise how images are produced by magnetic resonance
		3.3	Explain the principles of endoscopy and the care, maintenance and storage of equipment
		3.4	Describe requirements for supporting imaging using radioactive isotopes (scintigraphy)
4	Understand how to take radiographs	4.1	Summarise methods of patient restraint for radiographic examination
		4.2	Demonstrate standard radiographic positions and the use of positioning aids, to include views (appropriate to species) of: <p>Limbs Head Spine</p> <p>Abdomen Thorax Pelvis</p>
5	Know how to process radiographs	5.1	Explain the principles of processing radiographs
		5.2	Explain the principles of digital imaging
		5.3	Evaluate and record the diagnostic quality of a processed radiograph

RCVS Day One Competences and Skills for Veterinary Nurses 2022 (small animal)

Section 1 - Legislation affecting practice

	Day One Competences	Title of module, chapter, syllabus or curriculum	Page
1.	<p>Be fully conversant with, and adhere to the <i>RCVS Code of Professional Conduct</i></p> <p>The RCVS Code of Professional Conduct is available on the RCVS website.</p>	<p>No evidence required</p> <p>Please ensure that before you enter the register you become familiar with the RCVS Code of Professional conduct</p>	N/A
2.	<p>Provide evidence to show that your veterinary nurse education taught you about the professional, ethical and legal responsibilities of the veterinary nurse in relation to patients, clients, the veterinary team, society, and the environment.</p>	Click here to enter text.	Click here to enter text.
3.	<p>Provide evidence to show that your veterinary nurse education taught you about veterinary practice as an organisation and legislation related to a veterinary business.</p> <p><i>This includes:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>knowing one's own and the employer's responsibilities in relation to employment, financial and health and safety legislation, safeguarding, the position relating to non-veterinary staff, professional and public liability</i> • <i>ability to work with various information systems in order to effectively communicate, share, collect, manipulate, and analyse information</i> • <i>understand the importance of complying with professional standards, protocols, and policies of the business</i> • <i>knowledge of legislation affecting veterinary businesses.</i> 	VND 1 Understanding the operational requirements of a veterinary practice	10
4.	<p>Provide evidence to show that your veterinary nurse education taught you how to promote, monitor and maintain health and safety in the veterinary setting;</p>	VND 1 Understanding the operational requirements of a veterinary practice	10

	demonstrate knowledge of systems of quality assurance; apply principles of risk management to their practice. <i>This includes:</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • knowledge and explanation of the procedure for reporting adverse incidents and the procedures for avoiding them. • following safe practices relating to the dangers in the workplace. • knowledge and understanding of Quality Improvement and clinical auditing procedures and be able to suggest improvements to their practice. 		
5.	Understand the requirements of Schedule 3 of the Veterinary Surgeons Act 1966 with respect to delegation	No evidence required Please ensure that before you enter the register you become familiar with the requirements of Schedule 3 of the Veterinary Surgeons Act with respect to delegation.	N/A
6.	Understand and demonstrate the ability to reflect on the emotional landscape of the veterinary nursing profession.	N/A	N/A
	Day One Skills Provide evidence to show that your veterinary nurse education covered the following practical skills.	Title of module, chapter, syllabus or curriculum	Page
7.	Comply with Health and Safety requirements and local risk factors	VND 1 Understanding the operational requirements of a veterinary practice	10
8.	Follow Standard Operating Procedures and manufacturer guidelines when using equipment and materials	VND 1 Understanding the operational requirements of a veterinary practice	10
9.	Take appropriate action and report injury involving self or others	Click here to enter text.	Click here to enter text.

10.	Critically evaluate a risk assessment for one area of the practice and suggest appropriate action where necessary	Click here to enter text.	Click here to enter text.
	Provide further information including any work experience (relevant to this section) you have.		
	Click here to enter text.		

Section 2 - Communication

	Day One Competences	Title of module, chapter, syllabus or curriculum	Page
1.	<p>Provide evidence to show that your veterinary nurse education taught you how to communicate effectively with clients, the public, professional colleagues, and responsible authorities, using language appropriate to the audience concerned.</p> <p><i>Effective communication includes both verbal and non-verbal communication, active listening and responding appropriately, and utilising the appropriate tone.</i></p>	Click here to enter text.	Click here to enter text.
2.	<p>Provide evidence to show that your veterinary nurse education taught you how to ensure informed consent is obtained.</p>	Click here to enter text.	Click here to enter text.
3.	<p>Provide evidence to show that your veterinary nurse education taught you how to prepare accurate clinical and client records, and laboratory reports, when necessary, in a format satisfactory to colleagues and understandable by the public.</p>	VND 1 Understanding the operational requirements of a veterinary practice	10
4.	<p>Provide evidence to show that your veterinary nurse education taught you how to work effectively as a member of a multi-disciplinary team in the delivery of services.</p> <p><i>This includes being familiar with and respect the roles and responsibilities of others in the team and be prepared to provide effective leadership when appropriate</i></p>	VND 1 Understanding the operational requirements of a veterinary practice	10
5.	<p>Provide evidence to show that your veterinary nurse education taught you about the economic and social context in which the veterinary nurse operates.</p> <p><i>This includes the need to appreciate the varying economic status and socio-cultural background of clients.</i></p>	Click here to enter text.	Click here to enter text.

6.	<p>Provide evidence to show that your veterinary nurse education taught you how to review and evaluate literature, current evidence-based research, and presentations critically.</p> <p><i>You are expected to be able to appreciate the difference in value to be attached to different sorts of literature and evidence, for example, recognising commercial and other forms of bias, and ensuring that the literature that informs their decision making is current and reliable.</i></p>	Click here to enter text.	Click here to enter text.
7.	<p>Provide evidence to show that your veterinary nurse education taught you how to and apply principles of clinical governance, and practise evidence-based veterinary nursing.</p> <p><i>This includes:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> critically analysing the current evidence for procedures used, reflecting on performance and critical events, learning from the outcome to make changes to one's practice. 	Click here to enter text.	Click here to enter text.
8.	<p>Provide evidence to show that your veterinary nurse education taught you how communicate clearly and concisely and collaborate with referral and diagnostic services, ensuring they receive an appropriate history from the veterinary team.</p>	Click here to enter text.	Click here to enter text.
9.	<p>Provide evidence to show that your veterinary nurse education prepared you to support owners and others for euthanasia of patients, with due regard for health and safety of those present. You should also provide evidence that you were taught how to sympathetically advise on the disposal of the patient.</p>	Click here to enter text.	Click here to enter text.
10.	<p>Provide evidence to show that your veterinary nurse education taught you how to advise clients on programmes of health and welfare, to include preventative medicine, appropriate to species and life stage and in accordance with legal requirements.</p>	Click here to enter text.	Click here to enter text.

	Day One Skills Provide evidence to show that your veterinary nurse education covered the following practical skills.	Title of module, chapter, syllabus or curriculum	Page
11.	Communicate effectively using a variety of different methods <i>Communicate with clients, work colleagues, other veterinary professionals, and the public, considering diverse needs and requirements.</i> <i>Communication models should be considered.</i>	Click here to enter text.	Click here to enter text.
12.	Create accurate and legible written communications/documentation according to practice policy <i>Records to include patient records and reports, laboratory reports, admission and consent forms, client home care plans and instructions.</i>	VND 1 Understanding the operational requirements of a veterinary practice	10
13.	Access and store client and practice records according to practice policy and data protection laws	VND 1 Understanding the operational requirements of a veterinary practice	10
14.	Admit patients <i>Obtain written and verbal informed consent; respond appropriately to economic status of clients to include insurance and referrals; develop care plans as appropriate.</i>	Click here to enter text.	Click here to enter text.
15.	Conduct effective nursing consultations <i>History taking and appropriate examination; Identifying patients for referral to a veterinary surgeon or veterinary nurse; Application of treatments; programmes of preventative medicine.</i>	Click here to enter text.	Click here to enter text.
16.	Implant a microchip	Click here to enter text.	Click here to enter text.
17.	Provide discharge information and guidance to clients <i>Discuss home care plans with clients, to include advising clients on safe and correct routes of administration and potential side effects; Demonstrate to clients safe</i>	Click here to enter text.	Click here to enter text.

	<i>techniques for administering medication; Advise clients on the storage and disposal of medication; Wound care advice; Bandage advice; Advise clients on out of hours services.</i>		
18.	Complete appropriate documentation for referral and diagnostic services <i>To include laboratory samples, clinical histories and hereditary tests for example elbow and hip scoring, genetic testing, and blood tests.</i>	Click here to enter text.	Click here to enter text.
19.	Review and discuss evidence-based nursing <i>Discuss an area of veterinary practice with members of the veterinary team; Appraise literature; consider cases in accordance with reviewed literature; Discuss and disseminate findings with practice team.</i>	Click here to enter text.	Click here to enter text.
20.	Identify and collaborate on quality improvement within the practice setting <i>Review definition of quality improvement, discuss unexpected medical or surgical complications with the veterinary team, examples of which may include serious complaint, accident or anaesthetic death; Consider circumstances; Ensure effective protocols are in place; Discuss proposed improvements with the veterinary team.</i>	Click here to enter text.	Click here to enter text.
21.	Demonstrate compliance with practice protocols in regard to health and wellbeing of personnel. <i>Discussion of health and wellbeing concerns which may be experienced by any member of the veterinary team, and the protocols in place to prevent and mitigate them. These should include reference to mental and emotional health concerns, as well as those relating to physical safety and health.</i>	VND 1 Understanding the operational requirements of a veterinary practice	10
22.	Communicate effectively expressing appropriate empathy and sympathy <i>To include preparing the owner for loss; supporting the owner through the euthanasia process; providing follow-up support for a bereaved owner; maintaining and adapting a professional approach to the circumstances.</i>	Click here to enter text.	Click here to enter text.

	Provide further information including any work experience (relevant to this section) you have.		
	Click here to enter text.		

Section 5 - Laboratory techniques

	Day One Competences		Title of module, chapter, syllabus or curriculum	Page
1.	Provide evidence to show that your veterinary nurse education taught you how to collect, preserve, and prepare samples for safe transportation, prepare appropriate diagnostic tests, understand the limitations of the test results and identify the significance of spurious results.		Click here to enter text.	Click here to enter text.
	Day One Skills Provide evidence to show that your veterinary nurse education covered the following practical skills.		Title of module, chapter, syllabus or curriculum	Page
2.	Discuss the patient with the veterinary surgeon and prepare for an appropriate sampling strategy <i>Strategy to include: personal protective equipment (PPE), clipping and preparing sample site, preparation of patient and equipment; calibration of equipment. strategies prepared for: blood, urine, faeces, skin/hair and tissue biopsies.</i>		VND 1 Understanding the operational requirements of a veterinary practice	10
3.	Safely and effectively take appropriate samples <i>Samples to include blood, urine, faeces, skin, hair pluck, bacterial swabs.</i>		Click here to enter text.	Click here to enter text.
4.	Carry out haematological analysis <i>To include biochemistry, haematology, packed cell volume, total solids (protein) and smear.</i>		Click here to enter text.	Click here to enter text.
5.	Carry out urinalysis <i>To include urine reagent strips, specific gravity, sediment analysis.</i>		Click here to enter text.	Click here to enter text.
6.	Carry out faecal analysis <i>May include; gross visual analysis; microscopic analysis; quantitative examination; commercial test kits.</i>		Click here to enter text.	Click here to enter text.

7.	Carry out skin and hair analysis May include: hair pluck, skin scrapes, tape strips and coat brushings.	Click here to enter text.	Click here to enter text.
8.	Use a microscope to examine laboratory samples <i>To include: low magnification, high magnification and oil immersion.</i> <i>Record Vernier Scale readings.</i>	Click here to enter text.	Click here to enter text.
9.	Prepare samples for external analysis <i>To include: accurate completion of documentation, correct packaging and labelling, correct preservation and storage in line with current legislation.</i>	Click here to enter text.	Click here to enter text.
10.	Record laboratory test results and communicate accurately to the appropriate member of the veterinary team	VND 1 Understanding the operational requirements of a veterinary practice	10
Provide further information including any work experience (relevant to this section) you have.			
	Click here to enter text.		

Section 6 - Diagnostic imaging

	Day One Competences	Title of module, chapter, syllabus or curriculum	Page
1.	<p>Provide evidence to show that your veterinary nurse education taught you to understand how to prepare and conduct diagnostic and other imaging techniques carrying out the procedure in accordance with health and safety and current regulations.</p> <p><i>This competence includes how to take images of diagnostic quality, as well as setting up the equipment safely (eg ionising radiation regulations) in accordance with best practice ('ALARA' principle – as low as reasonably achievable). 'Different modalities should include, for example, radiography, ultrasound and endoscopes, but a newly registered veterinary nurse would not be expected to perform an MRI or CT scan.</i></p>	<p>VND 1 Understanding the operational requirements of a veterinary practice</p> <p>VND 9 Veterinary nursing support of diagnostic imaging</p>	<p>10</p> <p>49</p>
	Day One Skills	Title of module, chapter, syllabus or curriculum	Page
	Provide evidence to show that your veterinary nurse education covered the following practical skills.		
2.	Prepare and use radiography equipment to produce a diagnostic image	<p>VND 1 Understanding the operational requirements of a veterinary practice</p> <p>VND 9 Veterinary nursing support of diagnostic imaging</p>	<p>10</p> <p>49</p>
3.	Use appropriate personal protective equipment (PPE) and radiation monitoring equipment in accordance with practice local rules	VND 9 Veterinary nursing support of diagnostic imaging	49
4.	<p>Position a patient to obtain a diagnostic image of the area of interest</p> <p><i>A variety of species and positions would be expected.</i></p>	VND 9 Veterinary nursing support of diagnostic imaging	49
5.	Produce images according to practice procedure	VND 9 Veterinary nursing support of diagnostic imaging	49

6.	Record exposures and results of images including appraising the quality of the image. according to practice procedure	VND 9 Veterinary nursing support of diagnostic imaging	49
7.	Prepare and support animals during ultrasound investigation <i>To include setting up equipment.</i>	Click here to enter text.	Click here to enter text.
Provide further information including any work experience (relevant to this section) you have.			
Click here to enter text.			

Section 7 - Dispensing

	Day One Competences	Title of module, chapter, syllabus or curriculum	Page
1	Provide evidence to show that your veterinary nurse education taught you how to access the appropriate and reliable sources of data on licensed medicines. <i>This competence includes the appropriate use of relevant and reliable Compendiums and the VMD website.</i>	VND 8 Supporting the supply of veterinary medicines	44
2.	Provide evidence to show that your veterinary nurse education taught you how to dispense medicines correctly and responsibly in accordance with veterinary surgeon direction, legislation, and current guidance.	VND 8 Supporting the supply of veterinary medicines	44
	Day One Skills Provide evidence to show that your veterinary nurse education covered the following practical skills.	Title of module, chapter, syllabus or curriculum	Page
3.	Ensure safe handling and management of pharmaceuticals in accordance with legislation and manufacturer guidelines <i>To include; Storing, handling and disposing of medicines in line with legislative guidelines and specific requirements found in the Summary of Product Characteristics (SPC) and with reference to their drug category.</i> <i>Also to include: Controlled drugs and hormone based medicines which require special handling and disposal.</i>	VND 8 Supporting the supply of veterinary medicines	44
4.	Interpret prescriptions and prepare medicines for dispensing <i>To include; Calculating drug dosages and confirming them with an appropriately qualified member of the veterinary team; Packaging and labeling in accordance with legal requirements.</i>	VND 8 Supporting the supply of veterinary medicines	44

5.	Maintain appropriate records in relation to dispensing medication <i>To include medicines records, Controlled drugs (CDs), withdrawal periods and hospital charts.</i>	VND 8 Supporting the supply of veterinary medicines	44
Provide further information including any work experience (relevant to this section) you have.			
Click here to enter text.			