

# Practice Standards Scheme updates January - March 2024 - Changes list

PSS



This document contains details of all the updates made in Version 3.2 (Version 3.3 for Equine) of the PSS Modules and Awards documents, published in March 2024.

For each update, the previous wording is listed alongside the new wording for ease of comparison.

Species type / requirement number	Accreditation level	Previous wording (version 3.2 (3.3 for Equine))	New wording (version 3.3 (3.4 for Equine))
<b>carrying firearms</b> (Amendment to guidance notes to add further clarity)			
Small Animal 16.1.35  Farm Animal 14.1.34  Equine 15.1.35	Core Standard	<p><b>Standard</b></p> <p>Where firearms are stored on the premises and / or used in the course of practice business firearms certificates for each individual using the equipment must be shown.</p> <p><b>Guidance notes</b></p> <p>The practice must pass inspection by a Duty Firearms Officer in respect of any firearms/tranquillizer and dart guns. Individual veterinary surgeons must have been issued with the relevant firearms certificate. These should cover adequate storage arrangements.</p> <p>The authorised licenced users must have an SOP in place to highlight the safety measures taken whilst transporting a firearm to comply with government guidance. Including but not exclusive to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Where vehicles in which firearms are carried for professional use, are not fitted with immobilisers or alarms, then aftermarket systems should be fitted should be fitted.</li> <li>- Firearms should always be stored in the locked boot or other secured, preferably unglazed, load carrying area of the vehicle.</li> </ul>	<p><b>Standard</b></p> <p>Where firearms are stored on the premises and / or used in the course of practice business firearms certificates for each individual using the equipment must be shown.</p> <p><b>Guidance notes</b></p> <p>All applications for a firearms licence in respect of any firearms/tranquilizer and dart guns, for example are subject to standard police checks and an interview by a firearms enquiry officer (FEO) at their home and or practice address. Each application is assessed on a case-by-case basis. Individual veterinary surgeons must have been issued with the relevant firearms certificate. These should cover adequate storage arrangements and any other conditions attached to the licence.</p> <p>The authorised licenced users must have an SOP in place to highlight the safety measures taken whilst transporting a firearm to comply with government guidance. Including but not exclusive to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Where vehicles in which firearms are carried for professional use, are not fitted with immobilisers or alarms, then aftermarket systems should be fitted.</li> </ul>

		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>-The firearm and ammunition should not be stored together. Where the boot or load carrying area is the most practical place, ammunition should be locked in an appropriate container, secured to the vehicle.</li> <li>- If a handgun, it should be kept in a locked container secured to the vehicle.</li> <li>- Provision should be made for the securing of other firearms to the vehicles structure, e.g. security case, cage, cable or clamp</li> </ul> <p><a href="https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/firearms-security-handbook">https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/firearms-security-handbook</a></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Firearms should always be stored in the locked boot or other secured, preferably unglazed, load carrying area of the vehicle.</li> <li>-The firearm and ammunition should not be stored together. Where the boot or load carrying area is the most practical place, ammunition should be locked in an appropriate container, secured to the vehicle.</li> <li>- If a handgun, it should be kept in a locked container secured to the vehicle.</li> <li>- Provision should be made for the securing of other firearms to the vehicles structure, e.g. security case, cage, cable or clamp</li> </ul> <p><a href="https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/firearms-security-handbook">https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/firearms-security-handbook</a></p> <p>Any other arms such as captive bolts, not caught by the legal definition of a firearm must have an SOP and risk assessment in place to highlight the safety measures in place, for staff, animals, safe storage, and transportation.</p> <p>The Assessor may ask to see an SOP and risk assessment in the day of assessment.</p>
<b>PSS Under Care Changes – (Amendment to guidance to explain ‘a responsible approach to prescribing’)</b>			
Small Animal 10.1.30	Core Standards	<b>Standard</b>	<b>Standard</b>

		<p>A practice must be able to demonstrate that when using Endoparasiticides, it does so responsibly, and is accountable for the choices made in such use.</p> <p><b>Guidance notes</b></p> <p>As regards prescribing Endoparasiticides, please see Under Care new guidance: 'Under care' - new guidance - Professionals (rcvs.org.uk)</p> <p>Endoparasiticides are linked to various environmental concerns such as the development of resistance. In particular, the resistance to anthelmintics in animals is serious and on the increase; veterinary surgeons must use these products responsibly to minimise resistance development.</p> <p>Examples of what assessors might look at include: policy, medical records, poster, meetings where anthelmintics has been discussed. Assessors will also talk to practice team members.</p> <p>Resources for companion animals:  <a href="https://www.esccap.org/guidelines/">https://www.esccap.org/guidelines/</a></p>	<p>A practice must be able to demonstrate that when using Endoparasiticides, it does so responsibly, and is accountable for the choices made in such use.</p> <p><b>Guidance notes</b></p> <p>As regards prescribing Endoparasiticides, please see Under Care new guidance: 'Under care' - new guidance - Professionals (rcvs.org.uk) Endoparasiticides are linked to various environmental concerns such as the development of resistance. In particular, the resistance to anthelmintics in animals is serious and on the increase; veterinary surgeons must use these products responsibly to minimise resistance development. A responsible approach includes considering the specific needs of each animal (taking into account lifestyle factors, owner/household vulnerabilities and so on) before prescribing POM-V and POM-VPS products. A blanket approach should not be taken. Examples of what assessors might look at include: policy, medical records, poster, meetings where anthelmintics has been discussed. Assessors will also talk to practice team members. Resources for companion animals:  <a href="https://www.esccap.org/guidelines/">https://www.esccap.org/guidelines/</a></p>
Equine 9.1.30	Core Standards	<p><b>Standard</b></p> <p>A practice must be able to demonstrate that when using Endoparasiticides, it does so responsibly, and is accountable for the choices made in such use.</p> <p><b>Guidance notes</b></p>	<p><b>Standard</b></p> <p>A practice must be able to demonstrate that when using Endoparasiticides, it does so responsibly, and is accountable for the choices made in such use.</p> <p><b>Guidance notes</b></p>

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Small Animal 10.1.31		<p><b>Standard</b></p> <p>A practice must be able to demonstrate that when using ectoparasiticides, it does so responsibly, and is accountable for the choices made in such use.</p> <p><b>Guidance notes</b></p> <p>As regards prescribing ectoparasiticides, please see Under Care new guidance: '<a href="https://www.rcvs.org.uk/under-care/new-guidance-professionals">Under care' - new guidance - Professionals (rcvs.org.uk)</a></p> <p>Ectoparasiticides are linked to various environmental concerns such as the development of resistance and damage to ecosystems. A recent study highlighted</p>	<p><b>Standard</b></p> <p>A practice must be able to demonstrate that when using ectoparasiticides, it does so responsibly, and is accountable for the choices made in such use.</p> <p><b>Guidance notes</b></p> <p>As regards prescribing ectoparasiticides, please see Under Care new guidance: '<a href="https://www.rcvs.org.uk/under-care/new-guidance-professionals">Under care' - new guidance - Professionals (rcvs.org.uk)</a></p> <p>Ectoparasiticides are linked to various environmental concerns such as the development of resistance and damage to ecosystems. A recent study highlighted ectoparasiticides as a source of pollution</p>

		<p>ectoparasiticides as a source of pollution for aquatic ecosystems (<a href="#">Potential role of veterinary flea products in widespread pesticide contamination of English rivers - ScienceDirect</a>).</p> <p>Resources for companion animals: <a href="#">Homepage   ESCCAP</a></p>	<p>for aquatic ecosystems (<a href="#">Potential role of veterinary flea products in widespread pesticide contamination of English rivers - ScienceDirect</a>).</p> <p>A responsible approach includes considering the specific needs of each animal (taking into account lifestyle factors, owner/household vulnerabilities and so on) before prescribing POM-V and POM-VPS products. A blanket approach should not be taken.</p> <p>Examples of what assessors might look at include: policy, medical records, poster, meetings where anthelmintics has been discussed. Assessors will also talk to practice team members.</p> <p>Resources for companion animals: <a href="#">Homepage   ESCCAP</a></p>
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