PROGRAMME SPECIFICATION

1. Applies to cohort commencing in:	2022			
2. Degree Granting Body	University of London			
3. Awarding institution	The Royal Veterinary College			
4. Teaching institution	The Royal Veterinary College			
5. Programme accredited by	N/A			
6. Name and title	Postgraduate Certificate in Veterinary Clinical Studies (PG Cert VCS)			
7. Intermediate and Subsidiary Award(s)	N/A			
8. Course Management Team	Director of Intramural Rotations (IMR), Prof Daniel Chan			
9. FHEQ Level of Final Award	Level 7			
10. Date of First Intake	2015			
11. Frequency of Intake	May 2021 Intake			
12. Duration and Mode(s) of Study	Full-time, face to face.			
	At least 48 weeks with at least 22 weeks of intramural rotations (IMR)			
13. Registration Period	Full Time Part Time Minimum Maximum			

21. Relevant QAA subject benchmark

- Advise on animal management and welfare, and safeguard human, animal and environmental health (One Health); including principles of biosecurity, food safety, risk assessment & mitigation, zoonosis and surveillance.
- Recognise, prevent and diagnose diseases and disorders of animals.
- Be able to select and interpret appropriate diagnostic tests and formulate a treatment plan; considering pain management, client financial status & patient referral when indicated.
- Develop sound clinical reasoning skills including a logical problem solving approach in order to effectively solve clinical problems and make decisions.
- Demonstrate technical and procedural competence
- Apply scientific principles, method and knowledge to clinical practice and research.
- Proficiently search for and critically analyse literature and use evidencebased medicine to influence clinical decision-making.
- Explain how knowledge of the veterinary business environment influences the practice, its team, its clients, marketing and financial management
- Communicate effectively with the public, colleagues and other professionals both verbally and in writing; including constructing and updating clinical records and correspondence, using appropriate terminology for the audience concerned.
- Explain the principles and behaviours that underpin professionalism, teamwork and ethical decision-making (judgement) and apply these in a veterinary setting.
- Engage in life-long learning and selfreflection to improve overall competence.
- Recognise professional limits and seek support when needed.

Assessment of learning objectives to be integrated in Rotation Assessment – see below

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• Be able to cope with incomplete information and effectively use information services

Work-based Assessment on Rotations

Students will be formally assessed in 14 competencies during each rotation and must achieve competence by completion of rotations. The 14 competencies fall within the following categories

- Professional Activity
- Practical Skills
- Clinical Reasoning and application of Knowledge

A student will obtain one of the following for the overall rotation mark based on achieving competencies

- Pass
- Fail

All core and track rotations must achieve a pass to meet requirements

The types of knowledge, skills, attitudes and behaviours that guide assessment during rotations are summarised in the table on page 9.

Cause for Concern

If the clinical team have concerns regarding the overall performance of a student, but do not feel these concerns warrant a fail grade they are at liberty to record a "Cause for Concern" notification.

Direct Observation of Procedural Skills (DOPS)

Students will be required to be deemed competent in a published list of Day 1 competencies by the end of rotations.

An overall result of "Competent" will be awarded for an individual DOPS assessment when a student has gained no more than one 'Borderline Expected Competency' grade (BLEC) for any assessment component, with all others graded as competent. If a student gains a grade of 'Below Expected Competency' (BEC) or gains two 'Borderline Expected Competency' grades within a DOPS assessment, an overall result of "Not Yet Competent" will be awarded.