



## CPD REQUIREMENTS FOR VETS

The CPD Standards Office is a unique organisation and was founded with the vision of understanding and enabling positive and successful CPD and learning experiences. As a highly specialised expert team, our university led research has equipped us with extensive expertise on all things CPD.

Between the work of the Professional Development Consortium and the CPD Standards Office dual CPD research and accreditation activities sharpen our knowledge and expertise. This enables us to work with individual coaches, training providers, employers, and 'membership organisation's as a collaborative CPD network & community.

## CPD Requirements for Vets

### The Royal College of Veterinary Surgeons (RCVS)

The main professional body for Vets is the Royal College of Veterinary Surgeons (RCVS).

#### Who must do it and why?

There are around 20,000 Vets and Veterinary Nurses working in the UK. All practising veterinary surgeons and veterinary nurses (VNs) listed on the RCVS Register must complete the minimum CPD requirement, regardless of whether they are working full-time or part-time.

The RCVS Codes of Professional Conduct state that all vets and VNs are obliged to maintain and continue to develop their professional knowledge and skills. CPD is therefore mandatory for all vets and VNs and should be seen as the continuous progression of capability and competence in order to effectively deliver veterinary services to animals.

#### How much do you need to do?

Vets need to undertake a minimum of 105 hours of CPD in any three-year period with an average of 35 hours per year. VNs need to complete a minimum of 45 hours of CPD in any three-year period with an average of 15 hours per year.

#### What counts as CPD?



Most vets and VNs engage in a wide range of CPD activities. Any activities undertaken in order to further professional competence as part of a planned development programme can be counted towards CPD.

## The following activities can count towards formal CPD for Vets...

- Attending organised courses, lectures or seminars
- Shadowing someone or being mentored in your own practice or in another practice
- Participating in 'learning sets' - informal networks of colleagues who learn together, for example, by comparing and discussing case reports
- In-house training
- Secondments to other practices
- Critical reading of veterinary journals and other relevant publications - keeping a reading diary or notes
- Research, including research in preparation for giving lectures/seminars/presentations

## Other Professional Bodies

There are many professional bodies and associations for Vets and Veterinary Nurses, below lists a few of the main ones. Professional bodies are also CPD course providers and a good source of information to find out how to meet annual CPD requirements.

**British Veterinary Association (BVA)** - The BVA has a membership base of over 16,000 and offer a range of courses to complete CPD. Their comprehensive national CPD programme, developed in association with In Practice, features clinical courses across disciplines and a range of non-clinical courses to develop businesses and personal skills.

**British Veterinary Nursing Association (BVNA)** - Already Registered Veterinary Nurses (RVNs) will be complying with the RCVS required amount of CPD. This states that RVNs should complete an average of 45 hours of continuing professional development (CPD) over a three-year period.

**British Small Animal Veterinary Association (BSAVA)** - The BSAVA offers a range of courses to complete CPD and members can also book onto a webinar and take part in our Professional Key Skills online CPD.

## Events for Vets and Veterinary Nurses

The British Veterinary Association (BVA) has a section on their website which lists all the upcoming events and CPD events for the year. This is a good way to see a selection of what's on and to fulfil your CPD requirements for the CPD year.



Vet Festival is held in Loseley Park in Surrey in June each year. It is an annual event for the veterinary world to come together to hear, learn and network with the very best practitioners, visionaries and thought leaders of the world to discuss small animal veterinary medicine. This event is certified by the CPD Standards Office. If you attend the 2-day conference it is 14 CPD hours and if you attend just 1 day it is 7 CPD Hours. Certificates are issued onsite at the event, which can then be kept by the individual to show the CPD hours gained from attending.

## Magazines for Vets and Veterinary Nurses

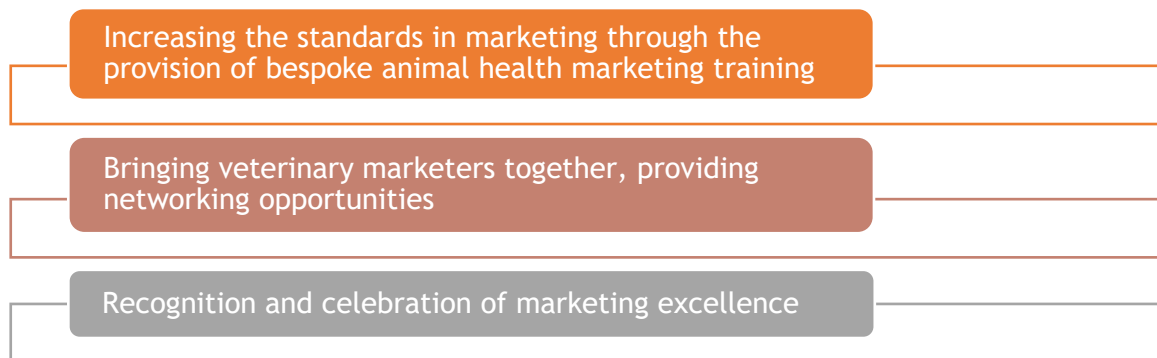
There are a variety of magazines that Vets can read and provide some CPD reading. Here is a list of the best ones:

- Veterinary Practice
- Vets Times
- Official Vet Magazine

## Marketing for Vets and Veterinary Nurses

Veterinary Marketing Association - The Veterinary Marketing Association is the representative body for professionals who make it their business to stay in touch with what's happening in animal health marketing today, and to achieve excellence in their marketing of animal health products and services.

The VMA is a national non-profit membership organisation comprised of marketers from over 50 companies, dedicated to enabling VMA members to achieve marketing excellence by:



## Training Providers and Vets CPD

- Vets and Veterinary Nurses are a great profession to train. CPD is not topic specific and have annual/regular reviews, so there is a big demand for it.
- New forms and delivery markets are being developed for CPD activities, e.g. Vets Festival. So, the Professional Development Consortium encourages training providers to think outside traditional models.
- As a training provider, you may well know a local vet, so don't hesitate to have a conversation and find out their training and CPD needs.



The CPD Standards Office part of  
THE PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT CONSORTIUM LTD  
T: 0203 745 6463 W: [www.cpdstandards.com](http://www.cpdstandards.com)

- Every Vet Practice is a mini business with sales, operational and financial needs. ***How can your training help out?***

We hope you have found this factsheet helpful.

Please see [www.cpdstandards.com](http://www.cpdstandards.com) for more information on our accreditation services or call 0203 745 6463 for further advice.