

Veterinary Nurse Patient Based Assessment – FAQs

What documents are the students required to complete and submit?

The VN-PBA Submission document contains case report and Day One Skills mapping templates. A word form version is available for ease of completion. Supporting evidence such as original care plans, laboratory reports and standard operating procedures can also be submitted. Please be aware that all supporting evidence must be original documents with the student's entries clearly highlighted. Any supporting evidence recreated retrospectively will be discounted.

Will students be assessed on their writing skills?

Students will not be assessed on their writing skills, spelling or grammar. The Patient Based Assessment focusses on the discussion with the examiner.

Can students only reference cases that they were involved in during the completion of the Day One Skills recording tool?

The case reports provided by the student should include only those cases that they were involved with since 1 June 2019. This may include, but is not limited to, cases that are recorded in the Day One Skills recording tool.

Who qualifies as the senior member of staff for the entrustability form?

Any senior RVN or MRCVS member of staff can fulfil this role e.g., Clinical Coach, Training Practice Principal.

What happens if the senior member of staff does not feel able to complete the entrustability form?

Where the senior member of staff is unable to complete the entrustability form, the student will not be eligible to apply to enter the Patient Based Assessment.

What happens if the Centre does not confirm the student has met the eligibility criteria?

Where the Centre is unable to confirm that all eligibility criteria is met, the student is unable to apply to enter the Patient Based Assessment.

What happens where a student has recently changed practices?

Students can submit evidence dating back to 1 June 2019. In cases where a student has recently moved practice, they may need to contact the previous practice to access case records and supplementary evidence, ensuring compliance with GDPR. It should be noted that where this happens, a senior member of the previous practice staff must complete the entrustability form.

How long will the Patient Based Assessment be available for?

This assessment is currently available to all students who should have completed the Objective Structured Clinical Examination between 1 March and 31 July 2020. Access to the Patient Based Assessment may be extended depending on Covid-19 and government guidance. The awarding

organisation or higher education institution will determine if they are utilising this assessment and will communicate that decision to their Centres.

What are the timescales for delivery of the Patient Based Assessment?

Delivery timescales, such as entry dates, examination dates, and publishing of results will be determined by the awarding organisation or higher education institution.

Who can undertake the Patient Based Assessment?

The awarding organisation or higher education institution will determine who can enter the Patient Based Assessment. It should be noted though; students following the Apprenticeship Standard are required to complete an end point assessment with an approved end point assessment organisation. City & Guilds is not an accredited end point assessment organisation. Students following the Apprenticeship Standard must speak to their awarding organisation. Some students may wish to wait and sit the OSCE at the next available opportunity.

How many opportunities will there be to undertake the Patient Based Assessment?

The awarding organisation or higher education institution will determine the number of attempts available for this assessment and whether taking this assessment counts as an attempt towards the summative assessment (OSCE).

How is this assessment standardised?

The test specification, marking rubric and examiner training has been developed by the RCVS to aid standardisation. The RCVS will also undertake quality monitoring activity to ensure processes outlined in the VN-PBA procedure document are adhered to. Additionally, two examiners are present during the examination which will improve validity and reliability, and all examiners are trained by the RCVS.

Should the case reports reference all of the Day One Skills?

A sample of the Day One skills is being assessed, as detailed in Table 1 of the Student Handbook. The case reports should cover the areas that the Day One Skills have been grouped into; examples have been provided, but these are not prescriptive. The case reports should be mapped to the Day One Skills that are referenced within the mapping matrix.

Do all of the guidance notes for each Day One Skill need to be covered?

No; the VN-PBA is aiming to sample student's competence in the Day One Skills and therefore not all of the guidance notes need to be referenced.

Do students need to include a range of species?

No; the VN-PBA is aiming to determine a level of competence, not assess a student in the same way as the Day One Skills recording tools.

