

## **OSCE Code 7457-350 Laboratory Diagnostics 04 (Blood smear) for Unit 309**

**This station covers the following RCVS Day One Skills: 1.1, 1.2, 3.3, 8.3**

This OSCE will be used to assess the awards indicated

<b>Award</b>	<b>Award Reference</b>	<b>Pathway</b>
<b>7457 – Level 3 Diploma in Veterinary Nursing</b>	<b>600/6052/6</b>	<b>Small Animal</b>
<b>7457 – Level 3 Diploma in Veterinary Nursing</b>	<b>600/6052/9</b>	<b>Equine</b>

### **Scenario**

You are nursing a patient that is showing signs of anaemia.

The veterinary surgeon has asked you to prepare and stain a blood smear from a blood sample which has just been obtained from the patient.

- a. Demonstrate how you would prepare the smear.
- b. Check and comment on the quality of the smear you have prepared.
- c. Stain the blood smear provided by the examiner using the Diff-Quik™ solutions.

<b>You will be expected to:</b>	
1.	Wear gloves
2.	Select microscope slide
3.	Select spreader slide
4.	Select EDTA sample
5.	Gently mix sample
6.	Select a plain capillary tube
7.	Insert tube into blood sample
8.	Draw up small amount of blood into the tube
9.	Place a finger over top of tube or keep tube horizontal to prevent leakage of blood
10.	Remove tube from sample
11.	Dot a small amount of blood near one end of slide
12.	Discard capillary tube into appropriate waste bin
13.	Clean and dry the spreader surface of the slide
14.	Hold blood sample slide firmly on work surface
15.	Place spreader on opposite end of the slide to the blood
16.	Draw spreader back to the drop of blood
17.	Allow blood to spread along edge of spreader
18.	Push spreader away from blood drop
19.	Use a single, smooth motion
20.	Smear produced of reasonable diagnostic quality (EDTA sample selected and smear with edge and tail)
21.	Rapidly air dry the slide
22.	Label the slide
23.	Check and comment on the quality of the smear
24.	<b>Diff-Quick™ technique:</b> Slide dipped into the fixative solution (pale blue)
25.	Dipped five times for one second each time

26.	Excess fluid allowed to drip back into the jar
27.	Slide dipped into stain solution 1 (red)
28.	Dipped five times for one second each time
29.	Excess fluid allowed to drip back into the jar
30.	Slide dipped into stain solution 2 (purple solution)
31.	Dipped five times for one second each time
32.	Excess fluid allowed to drip back into the jar
33.	Slide rinsed with distilled water
34.	Slide placed vertically and left to dry
35.	Smear correctly stained
36.	Safe practice: Gloves worn and no contamination of self with blood sample or stain solutions