

Job title:	Clinical Lead for the National Audit for Post-operative Outcomes
Type of employment:	Part-time, voluntary
Location:	Remotely/ Site-Visits/ Belgravia House, Horseferry Road, London, SW1P 2AF
Reporting line:	Managerial: Head of Quality Improvement Clinical: Board of Trustees/Quality Improvement Advisory Board
Responsible for:	The Steering Group and the Advisory Committee for the National Audit for Post-operative Outcomes (NAPO)
Terms of office:	Four years. At the end of each term the Clinical Lead may stand for re-election.
Estimated time:	2 days a month to fit around the candidates other commitments.

RCVS Knowledge are seeking a Clinical Lead for a free-to-use auditing platform which aims to provide feedback to clinicians to evaluate which techniques and interventions lead to improved patient outcomes and minimised post-operative complications in UK small animal and equine patients.

The platform will allow clinical audit and benchmarking to take place on a national scale. The aim of this project is to create evidence-based insights into which interventions and techniques provide the best outcomes. Veterinary professionals will be able to make comparisons with anonymised data within the audit.

This project forms part of RCVS Knowledge's Quality Improvement Campaign which supports practice teams to embed continuous quality improvement (QI) techniques for a structured and evidence-based approach to animal care. Its purpose is to engage the wider veterinary community in the concepts and delivery of quality improvement, to drive a cultural change that is open to the prospect of analysis, change, and ultimately, improvement. NAPO will join other free to use, anonymised auditing tools provided by RCVS Knowledge including the Canine Cruciate Registry and the National Antibiotic Audit.

The Clinical Lead will be an enthusiastic individual who will develop, inspire, and motivate colleagues, veterinary teams, and organisations, to work collaboratively towards a common goal – playing a pivotal role and directly influencing continuous improvements in patient care.

Scope of the auditing platform

To collect data for national benchmarking to

1. Quantify types of post-operative complications and their prevalence following a variety of surgical procedures.
2. Measure the frequency of post-operative complications, including those occurring after discharge within a set timeframe.
3. Identify interventions and techniques which lead to improved outcomes.

The overall aim is to use anonymised evidence-based information to discourage interventions and techniques which result in post-operative complications and encourage those which lead to improved patient outcomes.

Role of the Clinical Lead

To provide clinical oversight and accountability for the delivery of the project, working with RCVS Knowledge, and delegating roles as required, in order to:

1. Lead the development of the auditing platform;
2. Identify and invite members to the Steering Group and Advisory Committee;
3. Lead the Steering Group and Advisory Group in authoring annual reports for publication in a peer-reviewed journal/s;
4. Encourage engagement and present results through events, written materials and social media;
5. Represent the project as the main clinical contact – the spokesperson for the Steering Group, Advisory Committee and the platform supplier, and providing their representation to RCVS Knowledge;
6. Attend and lead planning meetings, including providing agendas and key lines of inquiry;
7. Provide update reports as required and at least on an annual basis to the RCVS Knowledge Quality Improvement Advisory Board;
8. On request, the Clinical Lead may be required to report directly to the RCVS Knowledge Quality Improvement Advisory Board (QIAB) and Board of Trustees meetings;
9. Ensure appropriate mitigations against risk;
10. Horizon-scan for opportunities and threats, building networks to understand, for example, research and best practice from other similar organisations, and acting on this information appropriately.

Other

1. Work with RCVS Knowledge to agree work plans and report on progress
2. Work with the Project Officer and Communications and Digital team to finalise and promote materials
3. Work with the Library and Information Services to ensure materials are evidence-based
4. Undertake training and professional development as required
5. Act as a representative of RCVS Knowledge, ensuring positive regard for the organisation.
6. Contribute to the wider activities of RCVS Knowledge as appropriate
7. Undertake any other duties commensurate with the objectives of the post

Education and/or experience

• Essential

1. At least 5 years practising as MRCVS or RVN
2. Currently registered with RCVS and in good professional standing
3. Experience of leadership / management of projects
4. Currently working in first opinion practice with an interest in surgery
5. Experience in writing peer-reviewed articles and reports for the veterinary press and journals
6. Sound knowledge of [evidence-based veterinary medicine principles](#)
7. Sound knowledge of [clinical governance](#) and [quality improvement](#) principles
8. Successful experience of managing own workload and juggling priorities

• Desirable

1. Advanced Practitioner in Surgery or appropriate surgical postgraduate qualification/s.
2. Experience of providing training and CPD

Person specification

You will have excellent communication and interpersonal skills, sound judgement and credibility with the peers and audiences with which you interact. You will be practically minded and realistic in your approach. You will be diplomatic and tactful. You will work effectively with colleagues to get the best results. You will be persuasive and passionate about driving forward improvements in veterinary care and veterinary practice. You will be enthusiastic, positive, constructive and self-motivated. You will be in-touch with relevant hot-topics and political or contextual developments within the profession.

Application

Candidates should send a CV together with a letter of no more than two sides of A4 covering the following:

- a statement giving the reasons for their interest in the role
- an outline of how they meet the specifications of the role
- an outline of how the demands of this role would fit in with existing commitments
- any other comments that the candidate feels are relevant

Please send your application to the Head of Quality Improvement, Ashley Doorly:
ashley@rcvsknowledge.org by the 13th July 2020