



## CONTINUING PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT REQUIREMENTS IN VICTORIA



Continuing Professional Development (CPD) is expected of registered veterinary practitioners in all States and Territories in Australia. All jurisdictions have agreed, through the Australasian Veterinary Boards Council (AVBC) and the Australian Veterinary Association (AVA), that a minimum of 60 CPD units must be attained over a consecutive 3-year cycle.

Many types of learning activities may contribute to professional development. An activity may be recorded as CPD if the activity resulted in the revision/retention of current knowledge and skills, and/or resulted in the acquisition of new knowledge and skills. The combined veterinary boards do not accredit CPD courses, conferences, workshops etc.

CPD units are described as either **structured** or **unstructured**:

- Structured CPD units are allocated to activities which can be externally validated such as attendance at conferences and workshops, completion of assessed courses and authoring or refereeing of peer reviewed articles. Over a consecutive 3-year cycle, at least 15 of the minimum 60 CPD units must be structured points.
- Unstructured CPD units are allocated to activities such as private reading, clinical rounds, mentoring and unassessed online courses.

CPD evidence to keep with your record could include course results and accreditation, signed certificates of attendance, copies of papers prepared/presented, names of journals read.

### STRUCTURED UNITS

(minimum of 15 units over a consecutive 3-year cycle)

| Activity                                                  | Time/format | Point   |
|-----------------------------------------------------------|-------------|---------|
| University continuing education courses                   | 1 hour      | 1 unit  |
| Postgraduate courses                                      | 1 hour      | 1 unit  |
| Conferences                                               | 1 hour      | 1 unit  |
| Seminars                                                  | 1 hour      | 1 unit  |
| Presentation of scientific papers*                        | 1 hour      | 1 unit  |
| Preparation of published paper*                           |             | 4 units |
| Other professional presentations                          | 1 hour      | 1 unit  |
| Distance learning/correspondence courses                  | 1 hour      | 1 unit  |
| Written assessment tests                                  | 1 test      | 1 unit  |
| Assessed audio-visual or computer-based course            | 1 test      | 1 unit  |
| Accreditation Program for Australian Veterinarians (APAV) | 1 chapter   | 1 unit  |
| AVBC Multiple Choice Questions (MCQ) trial test           | Each test   | 1 unit  |

\*The same material given as a presentation or prepared for publication can only be recorded once, i.e. for the first occasion it was prepared or presented.

### UNSTRUCTURED UNITS

(add these to structured units to make a total of at least 60 units per 3-year cycle)

| Activity                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                  | Time/format | Point  |
|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------|--------|
| In-practice training and instruction from professional colleagues and specialists (restricted to 20 units over 3 consecutive years. Common forms of in-practice training include the training given: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• to a new graduate for the first one or two years after graduation, by more experienced members of the profession</li> <li>• to an experienced veterinary practitioner who is moving from one type of veterinary practice to another, by their colleagues in the new field of work</li> <li>• to veterinary practitioners by other more experienced veterinary practitioners, e.g. specialists in the fields, and</li> <li>• documented discussion between professional colleagues, e.g. formal case presentations, medical or surgical rounds, journal article discussions or meetings to share knowledge gained at conferences, courses, seminars or workshops.</li> </ul> | 2 hours     | 1 unit |
| Reading of books and journals related to the chosen field of work                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                         | 2 hours     | 1 unit |
| Non-assessed audio-visual or computer-based materials                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                     | 2 hours     | 1 unit |