

Saturday 22nd August | 15:30-16:30

Speaker: Flick Caldwell BSc(Hons) CVN (ECC) DipHECVN DipAVN RVN

Session Title: Advancing Nursing Clinical Skills – VN Utilisation within Schedule 3



Flick is an experienced referral RVN in surgery, including anaesthesia & ICU nursing. Alongside her clinical work, she has obtained the RCVS DipAVN (Small Animal) & a BSc(hons) top-up degree in Clinical Vet Nursing.

Flick is also an experienced educator, mentor, and university lecturer within vet nursing & animal biosciences. Flick has her own company, VSNPM Education LTD, providing training in surgical nursing & perioperative medicine. Currently, she is studying toward a CertEd & an MSc degree with two PgCertAVN qualifications in surgery and pain management.

Joining Flick is her Labrador co-worker, Bowie, a Medical Alert Assistance Dog who helps in managing POTS & dysautonomia.

Synopsis:

Advancing veterinary nurse (RVN) utilisation sits at the centre of modern practice, with Schedule 3 providing a framework for delivering complex patient interventions across surgical, medical, and critical care settings. Within this ever-evolving role, the RVN applies advanced clinical skills to optimise patient outcomes.

Principles of minor surgery underpin this practice, including suturing techniques for wound and skin closure. Alongside this, the management and monitoring of patients requiring advanced support, such as feeding tubes, tracheostomy tubes, and thoracic or abdominal drains, requires high levels of clinical awareness and critical thinking.

Through comprehensive assessment and early recognition of complications, RVNs enhance patient safety, team efficiency, and professional identity.

This theoretical lecture will be supported by a practical workshop.

Learning Objectives:

1. Critically evaluate the application of Schedule 3 within advanced veterinary nursing practice across surgical, medical, and critical care contexts.
2. Analyse and justify appropriate suturing techniques for wound and skin closure based on clinical principles and case considerations.
3. Apply evidence-based principles of nursing care and monitoring for patients requiring advanced tubes and drains.
4. Recognise early clinical indicators of complications, supporting timely intervention and improved patient outcomes.