



Companion Animal Edu-Badge – Clinical Examination: Mentor guidance

Choice of mentor/coach

The candidate should work with a trusted mentor in their veterinary clinic, who already has proficiency in canine intubation, to work through the learning

As well as being a veterinarian, it is recommended that the trusted mentor/coach has some experience in successful mentoring and supervision. The skills recommended are:

- Ability to build rapport and relationships.
- Be able to guide the learning in small steps, building the candidates confidence.
- Be a good listener and intuitive to the candidates needs to develop their skill.
- Be able to ask effective questions to help guide the learning.
- Give constructive feedback on progress.

Learning guidance for candidate and mentor

The candidate should use the learning resources provided to support them through these steps. The mentor/coach should support the learner and check knowledge development at each stage.

1. Revise basic canine and feline anatomy

This section should be revision for the candidate as it is covered comprehensively in their qualification. However, coach/mentor should check the candidate's knowledge on canine and feline anatomy. There are guiding questions provided on the verification to work through.

2. Revise the clinical examination process and required record keeping

This section should be revision for the candidate as it is covered comprehensively in their qualification. However, mentor should check the candidate's knowledge on the clinical examination process before they move to a live patient. There are guiding questions provided on the verification to work through.

3. Carry out a clinical examination without a client present

Now it's time to progress to the practical application. Learning practically should be sequential and the candidate should gain proficiency at each step before progressing. The recommended steps for practical learning are observing that the candidate can:

This should include:

- Collecting subjective information about a patient
- Carrying out a distance examination
- Carrying out a physical examination methodically (e.g. nose to tail)
- Complete a clinical examination form accurately while gathering the information during each aspect of the companion animal clinical examination.

4. Revise knowledge of the consulting process

Next the mentor should check the candidate's knowledge of the consulting process with a client in terms of

- greeting the client and animal
- building a rapport
- listening carefully

5. Carry out a comprehensive clinical examination with a client present

This last aspect of skill development is when the candidate puts the whole process together. The mentor will need to complete the verification. Once the verification is complete this will be submitted along with feedback from three clients, using the template provided and a reflection completed by the candidate.