



**centralcpd**

intelligent **veterinary** learning

# Postgraduate Certificate Programmes

## Small Animal Soft Tissue Surgery



# Welcome to Central CPD

## PGCert programmes



### **Introducing the Central CPD PGCert course in Small Animal Soft Tissue Surgery.**

The Central CPD Postgraduate Certificate in Small Animal Soft Tissue Surgery offers hands-on, practical training in both routine and more advanced soft tissue surgical procedures commonly encountered in practice. Designed to sharpen your problem-solving and clinical decision-making skills, the course will equip you with a structured approach to surgical challenges. You'll gain confidence in managing a wide range of soft tissue surgeries, including a dedicated day focused on ophthalmic procedures – a specialised area often missed in other programmes. Ideal for vets looking to develop their surgical proficiency and improve patient outcomes.

The course follows a blended learning format, combining online learning with in-person attendance at Central CPD's facilities in London.

You can choose from the following cohort lengths:

One-year part-time

Two-years part-time

The Postgraduate Certificate is designed with input from industry specialists, providing you with valuable connections and insights into current practices.

### **Course outcomes**

The PGCert (SASTS) is validated by the University of West London and is placed at master's Level 7 within the Quality Assurance Agency's higher education framework. It provides 60 transferable academic credits towards the 180 required for a master's degree. On completion, you'll be able to pursue further career opportunities in a range of settings.



# About us

Trusted for 15 years, our team of respected small animal and exotics experts delivers a fantastic programme of over 70 high-quality veterinary CPD courses throughout the year. As well as offering great value for money, we pride ourselves on our friendly service and small class sizes, which give delegates the opportunity to get plenty of practical experience and personal tuition from our lecturers.

Our PGCert will provide you with practical training to diagnose and manage complex medical cases commonly encountered in practice. Through the course, you'll refine your problem-solving skills and develop a logical, methodical approach to clinical challenges, enhancing your diagnostic capabilities. By completion, you'll be able to assess, manage, and treat internal medicine cases with greater expertise and assurance.

## Why choose Central CPD for your PGCert?

**Flexible course duration:** Complete the course in either one or two years, tailored to your schedule.

**Blended learning:** Benefit from a flexible mix of online learning and practical attendance sessions.

**Expert-led training:** Learn from leading veterinary specialists and benefit from 1-1 clinical mentorship sessions.

**Comprehensive resources:** Access an extensive range of materials through our On-Demand portal.

**Convenient location:** Easily accessible Central London venues.

**Career-boosting qualification:** Gain a PGCert that provides a career boosting qualification. We encourage you to consult with the RCVS for specific guidance on how this qualification can be used in your application for RCVS Advanced Practitioner status.

**Personalised support:** Enjoy small group sizes for tailored guidance and support throughout your learning journey.



*“The level of education is just top tier. I would give 6 stars if I could.”*

# What does the Central CPD PGCert offer?

Our PGCert in Small Animal Soft Tissue Surgery will give you practical training both routine and more advanced soft tissue surgical procedures commonly encountered in practice.

Through the programme, you'll sharpen your problem-solving and clinical decision-making skills, equipping you with a structured approach to surgical challenges.

You'll gain confidence in managing a wide range of soft tissue surgeries, including a dedicated day focused on ophthalmic procedures – a specialised area often missed in other programmes.

The course is ideal if you're looking to develop your surgical proficiency and improve patient outcomes.





# Course structure

The course comprises two modules and is delivered in a blended learning format, combining self-paced online learning with in-person practical sessions and expert-led teaching. Each online unit is designed to prepare you for the corresponding hands-on sessions, helping you build confidence and practical skills ahead of time.

## Module I (20 credits/200 hours of study)

### Key principles in Small Animal Soft Tissue Surgery

This module contains seven units, five of which are supported by in-person practical sessions at our central London venue, covering the following topics:

- Soft Tissue Surgical Essentials
- Wound Management and Surgical Oncology
- Abdominal and Gastrointestinal Surgery
- Urogenital and Perineal Surgery
- Head, Neck and Thoracic Surgery
- Ophthalmic Surgical Procedures
- Introduction to Laparoscopic and Minimally Invasive Surgery

You'll complete a final summative assessment at the end of Module I, which includes case-based MCQs testing core knowledge and its practical application.

## Module II (40 credits/400 hours of study)

### Case study portfolio

You'll need to submit four reflective case studies, showcasing a range of clinical topics/organ systems and demonstrating a logical approach to cases. Clinical mentorship evenings will be available for you to book to discuss your case studies and gain feedback.

The pass mark is 50%, with scores rounded to the nearest whole number.



# Student support

**You'll be fully supported through your learning journey with Central CPD with comprehensive resources including:**

- Full access to Central CPD On-Demand – over 2,000 veterinary videos and associated documents, covering a range of clinical and non-clinical topics
- Course notes and documents available both online and for attendance lectures
- Recommended reading lists to signpost important research and scholarly materials
- Career development and advice
- Mentorship sessions
- Optional access to online discussion forums for peer-mentoring, including our popular Small Animal Case Discussions group – a supportive community of over 6,000 vets and vet nurses
- Advice on how to access mental health and disability support



# Your PGCert tutors

The lecturers for the PGCert (SASTS) and clinical mentors for the course are all recognised veterinary specialists- RCVS, ECVS or board certified ACVIM Diplomates – and hold specialist qualifications in the small animal soft tissue surgery field or a specific unit topic. The course is led by Matteo Rossanese.

## **Matteo Rossanese (course leader)**

DVM SPSA CertAVP MSc Dip. ECVS PGCertVetEd  
FHEA FRCVS - EBVS and RCVS Specialist in Small  
Animal Surgery

## **Anna Frykfors von Hekkel**

BVetMed (Hons) PGDipVCP MVetMed PGCertVetEd  
DipECVS FHEA MRCVS

## **Alex Krekis**

BVetMed DipECVS MRCVS  
RCVS-recognised Specialist in Small Animal Surgery  
Diplomate of the European College of Small Animal  
Surgery

## **Rufus Hammerton**

BVetMed DipECVS MRCVS  
EBVS® European Specialist in Small Animal Surgery  
(Orthopaedics and Soft Tissue Surgery)

## **Mickey Tivers**

BVSc PhD CertSAS DipECVS MRCVS  
Diplomate of the European College of Veterinary  
Surgeons RCVS Specialist in Small Animal Surgery

## **Laura Owen**

BVSc CertSAS AFHEA DipECVS MRCVS

## **Benito de la Puerta**

Ldo CertSAS DipECVS MRCVS  
European and RCVS Specialist in Small Animal Surgery

## **James Rushton**

PhD, DECVO, MRCVS EBVS®

## **Barney Dean**

BVSc PGDip(VCP) CertAVP PGCertVetEd DipECVS  
MRCVS

# Course delivery

The course follows a blended learning format, with a mix of online learning, and in-person attendance at Central CPD's facilities in London.

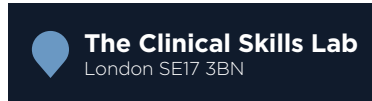
## Online learning

Your online learning will take place via our online portal - Central CPD On-Demand - which boasts over 2,000 RACE® approved online videos available to watch anywhere and at any time.



## In-person learning

The in-person attendance sessions will be hosted at our Clinical Skills Lab in Central London, which offers comfortable lecture facilities and fully kitted-out dry and wet skills labs on-site.





# Eligibility

- Applicants must hold a veterinary qualification (i.e. BVM&S, BVetMed, BVSc, BVMSci, VetMB)
- Applicants must be registered as a member of the Royal College of Veterinary Surgeons (MRCVS)
- Applicants must have spent a minimum of one year in veterinary practice and should have completed the RCVS Professional Development Phase of Veterinary Graduate Development Programme (veterinary surgeons graduating before 2007 are exempt)
- Applicants must be currently practicing veterinary surgeons, as the course involves case-based learning that requires access to clinical cases
- As the course is taught and assessed in English, applicants are required to be proficient in the English language (6.5 - minimum 5.5 in each individual element)

If you are an international vet interested in the PGCert, please contact us for more information.



# How to enrol and fees

## Fees

The fees are **£10,700 +VAT**, which includes:

- Attendance at each of the in-person sessions and associated course notes
- Access to over 2,000 veterinary videos and associated documents via Central CPD On-Demand
- All online modules
- Case discussion sessions
- Assessments
- Academic and pastoral support
- Registration with The University of West London
- One year's free Central CPD Membership - which gives you free and discounted access to our attendance CPD courses

## How to enrol

Visit **[www.centralcpd.co.uk/pgcert](http://www.centralcpd.co.uk/pgcert)** to enrol.





## Keep in touch



[enquiries@centralcpd.co.uk](mailto:enquiries@centralcpd.co.uk)



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@Central CPD LTD

## FAQs

### How many hours of study is the PGCert?

The PGCert requires you to undertake 600 hours of study through seven units, five of which are supported by practical sessions at our London venue, and additional hours spent working up cases, reading, revision and conducting research for your case study portfolio.

### How will I be assessed?

You will be assessed via in-person MCQs and a case study portfolio.

### Can I use the PGCert to apply for Advanced Practitioner status?

We encourage you to consult with the RCVS for specific guidance on how this qualification can be used in your application for RCVS Advanced Practitioner status.

### How much is the course?

The PGCert costs £10,700+VAT which includes all fees and assessments.

### How do I reserve my place?

Visit [centralcpd.co.uk/pgcert](https://centralcpd.co.uk/pgcert) to reserve your place.



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