



NPTC

Registered Charity No. 1096429

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**Level 2
AWARD
in the
SAFE USE OF
VETERINARY MEDICINES (QCF)**

ASSESSMENT SCHEDULE

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NPTC Level 2 Award in the Safe Use of Veterinary Medicines (QCF)

Candidate Information

Introduction

The scheme will be administered by NPTC.

NPTC will:

- Publish
 - scheme regulations
 - assessment schedule
 - assessment material
- Approve centres to co-ordinate and administer the scheme
- Set standards for the training of Verifiers and Assessors
- Recruit, train and deploy Verifiers
- Manage verification
- Issue certificates to successful Candidates

Certification

Qualifications will be awarded to Candidates who achieve the required level of competence in the outcomes to which their qualification relates.

Instruction

Attendance at a course of instruction is not a pre-requisite for an application for an assessment but potential Candidates are strongly advised to ensure that they are up to the standards that will be expected of them when they are assessed.

NPTC does **not** hold a register of instructors; however instruction will normally be available from recognised training providers and/or centres of further or higher education active in the areas covered by this certificate. Further information on training may be obtained from the local Assessment Centre.

Access to Assessment

Assessment Centres will be responsible for arranging assessment on behalf of a Candidate. Assessment may only be carried out by an Assessor approved by NPTC for that scheme. Under no circumstances can either instructors involved in the preparation of candidates, or the candidate's work-place supervisors, or anyone else who might have a vested interest in the outcome, carry out the assessment.

Assessment

Assessment is a process by which it is confirmed that the Candidate is competent in the outcomes within the award to which the assessment relates. It is a process of collating evidence about his/her capabilities and judging whether that evidence is sufficient to attribute competence.

The candidate must be registered through an NPTC approved Assessment Centre for this qualification, prior to assessment.

The result of the assessment will be recorded on the assessment report form.

The schedule of assessment contains the criteria relating to:

- Observation of practical performance
- Assessment of underpinning knowledge

Performance Evaluation

The result of each assessment activity is evaluated against the following criteria:

- 4 = Meets or exceeds the assessment criteria by displaying a level of practical performance and/or underpinning knowledge, with no 'minor' or 'critical' faults. (Competent).
- 3 = Meets the requirements of the assessment criteria for both the practical performance and the underpinning knowledge, with some 'minor' faults but no 'critical' faults. (Competent).
- 2 = Does not fully satisfy the requirements of the assessment criteria, being unable to perform the practical task satisfactorily or being deficient in underpinning knowledge leading to the recording of minor faults. (Not yet competent).
- 1 = Does not satisfy the requirements of the assessment criteria, being unable to perform the practical task satisfactorily or safely or being deficient in underpinning knowledge leading to the recording of a critical fault. (Not yet competent).

A list of registered Assessment Centres is available from NPTC. (www.nptc.org.uk)

Verification

Verification is a process of monitoring assessment; it is an essential check to confirm that the assessment procedures are being carried out in the way that NPTC has laid down. The overall aim of verification is to establish a system of quality assurance that is acceptable in terms of both credibility and cost effectiveness.

Approved Assessors will be subject to a visit by the Verifier at a time when assessments are being undertaken.

A selection of assessment reports completed by the Assessor will be evaluated by an NPTC approved Verifier.

Compliance with the verification requirements will be a pre-requisite of Assessors remaining on NPTC's list of approved assessors.

Complaints and Appeals

NPTC and its Assessment Centres have a formal Complaints and Appeals procedure. In the event of any dissatisfaction with the arrangements and conditions of assessment, the candidate should first contact the Assessment Centre through whom the assessment was arranged and submit the complaint in writing.

For further information on NPTC's Equal Opportunities Policy and Complaints and Appeals Procedures, please refer to www.nptc.org.uk

Topics covered

The candidate will be able to:

1. Comply with current, relevant health and safety legislation;
2. Follow an animal health management plan
3. Administer a range of veterinary medicine types, safely and humanely
4. Store and transport veterinary medicines correctly
5. Maintain the health of user, public and animals
6. Dispose of unwanted veterinary medicines safely
7. Record the use of veterinary medicines.
8. Prevent unnecessary pain and unnecessary distress to the animals
9. Identify signs of health and ill-health in animals

Qualifications and Credit Framework – Unit value

The Award in the Safe Use of Veterinary Medicines has a credit value of 5.

Guidance Notes for Candidates and Assessors

The assessment is divided into 3 compulsory outcomes:

1. Safely store and administer veterinary medicines - practices
2. Demonstrate knowledge of the principles of storing and administering veterinary medicines
3. Demonstrate knowledge of legislation and products of veterinary medicines

Outcome 1 is assessed by one-to-one oral questioning and observation of practical performance by an NPTC qualified assessor.

Outcomes 2 and 3 are assessed via a computer based multiple choice examination. Details of the test specification are included at the end of this Schedule.

Candidates must successfully achieve all assessment activities in all outcomes.

Qualification endorsement

The qualification certificate will be endorsed in the context of the grouping / species of animals with which the Candidate was assessed:

Grouping of animals:

01 Camelids	07 Poultry	13 Cats
02 Cattle	08 Sheep	14 Birds
03 Deer	09 Other (Named)	15 -----
04 Farmed Fish	10 Dogs	16 Reptiles
05 Goats	11 Horses	17 Rodents
06 Pigs	12 Rabbits	18 Ornamental Fish

Safe Practice

Appropriate Personal Protective Equipment must be worn at all times.

All equipment must be operated in such a way that the Candidate, Assessor, other persons, animals or other equipment are not endangered.

If these conditions are not observed this will result in the Candidate not meeting the required standard.

The use of modern veterinary medicines often requires the weight of animals to be treated, to be accurately known. It is therefore recommended that practical facilities where assessments are conducted have appropriate weighing facilities available. In the absence of such facilities it is imperative that the owner/keeper of the animals clearly agrees, in advance of the assessment, the following:

- (a) The animals to be used for treatment (real or simulated) are clearly identified.
- (b) The weights of these animals are agreed.
- (c) The types of veterinary medicines to be used are clearly established.

Validation of Equipment

Any item(s) of livestock and clinical equipment used for the assessment must comply with current legal and animal welfare requirements.

Additional Information

May be sought from the relevant manufacturer's instruction book, operators' manual, product label or any other appropriate training or safety publication.

Animal Welfare

Throughout this assessment a high emphasis is placed on animal welfare, which will underpin the whole of this qualification.

The "Five Freedoms" and their interpretation by the RSPCA appear at the back of this schedule, (Appendix 3).

During their assessment, candidates are reminded that they should carry out all the activities to comply with the animal welfare codes.

OUTCOME 1 – SAFELY STORE AND ADMINISTER VETERINARY MEDICINES – PRACTICES (compulsory)

Objective: The candidate can administer, store and dispose of veterinary medicines competently and humanely, in accordance with the animal health management plan for the safe use and storage of veterinary medicines.

Assessment Procedure:

- The candidate is to administer veterinary medicines to one, (or more), species of livestock following the animal health management plan for the outcome the assessment is being carried out on.
- The animal health management plan should be accessible for the assessor and candidate with a copy of the Risk and COSHH assessments covering the use and storage of veterinary medicines. The plan should include the following : details of medicine and equipment storage; details of transport box and transporting of veterinary medicines; COSHH and Risk Assessment; copy of animal treatments agreed with vet; method of disposal of unwanted medicines and clinical waste; treatment records
- The candidate must demonstrate competence for at least two of the following methods of administering veterinary medicines:
 - (i) orally
 - (ii) topically (on the surface)
 - (iii) injection (including intra-mammary infusion of cattle)

NOTE: If the assessment is with horses or small animals the candidate will not normally be expected to choose injection as one of the methods to demonstrate competence in.

Assessment Activity	Assessment Criteria
<p>1. Identify the signs of health and any signs of ill-health in a group of the species of animals to be treated.</p>	<p>Signs of health e.g. cattle</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - moist nose - clean condition of mouth - full set of teeth for age - pricked ears - bright eyes - supple skin - shiny coat/shows bloom - teats free of sores - udder supple and pliable - normal feeding and drinking - cudging - urine straw-coloured <p>Signs of ill-health e.g. cattle</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - dry nose - slobbering mouth - teeth missing - drooping ears - dull eyes - head hung down - abnormal posture - grunting - lameness or uneven movement of front/back legs - sagging bag - tight skin - dull coat/ bare patches - sore teats - swollen quarter of udder - not feeding <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - dung consistent with diet - normal posture and movement of front and back legs - head in alert position - straight back - normal moving, actions and reactions - average temperature = 38.6C - respiration = even breathing - normal colour, e.g. pink mucus membranes - stays with herd/group - drinking too much or too little - blood in urine - dung abnormal colour (blood) and texture, - reluctant to move - slow or excited reactions - failure to get up - high or low temperature - respiration (noisy, erratic, fast) - abnormal colour e.g. mucus membranes pale or very red - abnormal discharges from eyes, nose, mouth, vagina, penis - sores on body - separate from herd
<p>2. Evaluate the Veterinary Medicines store to identify key safety features</p>	<p>Suitable storage:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - separate and designated - secure and able to contain spillages - complies with VMD codes of practice - complies with recommendations on label/data sheet - exhibits warning signs - relevant recording system
<p>3. Transport Veterinary Medicines and the application equipment from the store to the venue for administration</p>	<p>Transport:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - comply with the Animal Health Management Plan for the safe use of veterinary medicines - secure from theft - protected from damage during transit - able to contain spillages - complies with product label/data sheet - relevant product information provided - relevant recording system - appropriate PPE available

OUTCOME 1 – SAFELY STORE AND ADMINISTER VETERINARY MEDICINES – PRACTICES (continued)	
Assessment Activity	Assessment Criteria
<p>4. Administer veterinary medicines using at least two of the following methods:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. orally 2. topically (on the surface) 3. injection (including intra-mammary infusion of cattle) <p>NOTE: If the assessment is with horses or small animals the candidate will not normally be expected to choose injection as one of the methods to demonstrate competence in</p>	<p>Used safely to comply with:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Animal Health Management Plan - COSHH/Risk Assessment - first aid procedures - recommended quantity - maintenance of animal welfare e.g. handling and restraint recommendations - maintenance of hygiene - maintenance of aseptic techniques - operator health surveillance - product label/data sheet - Adequate humane restraint of animals - Adequate maintenance of equipment <p>For injections:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - select and use of equipment must include shrouds, guards and safety equipment where applicable - use of disinfectant kits where applicable
<p>5. Dispose of unwanted veterinary medicines (pharmaceutical waste) and equipment (clinical waste)</p> <p>Demonstrate knowledge of the correct methods for disposal of live animals, dead animals and animal products, when treated with veterinary medicines, (and still within the withdrawal period)</p>	<p>Proper disposal:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - safe disposal to comply with legislation and the management plan - use of waste disposal contractor - return to veterinarian - disposal of some medicines must be recorded - avoid environmental pollution - dispose of clinical and pharmaceutical waste separately <p>Disposal of live animals within the withdrawal period:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - humane slaughter and disposal as for a dead animal - do not send for slaughter for human consumption until the “withdrawal” period is complied with - sold but not for slaughter <p>Disposal of dead (farm) animals</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - incinerated, must comply with legislation to prevent pollution - obey planning permission rules for incinerator - Fallen stock disposal scheme <p>Disposal of dead (non farm) animals</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - through authorised agents - bury with veterinary surgeon’s consent <p>Disposal of animal products:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - disposed of safely with regard to self and other people and prevented from entering the food chain - agreed place for disposal should be established with the relevant authority
<p>6. Provide reliable data and maintain the recording system</p> <p>Demonstrate knowledge of the “withdrawal period” as stated on the product label/data sheet and products that may be affected</p> <p>Demonstrate knowledge of what defines a competent user of veterinary medicines</p>	<p>Records required by legislation:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - withdrawal period - record of veterinary medicine use/animal health - record of operator health - record of other people’s involvement - COSHH/Risk Assessment - Batch numbers <p>Records required for management purposes:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - As specified in the Animal Health Management Plan - To ensure that consumers of meat/fish or animal products are not affected by residues of veterinary medicines <p>Products that may be affected</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Milk - Eggs - Meat - Fish <p>A person who has:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - adequate instruction - adequate information - adequate training and updating - adequate work experience - appropriate certification

OUTCOME 2 – DEMONSTRATE KNOWLEDGE OF PRINCIPLES OF STORING AND ADMINISTERING VETERINARY MEDICINES (compulsory)	
<p>Objective: The candidate knows the background principles behind the safe storing and administering of veterinary medicines. Assessment Procedure: This unit is assessed by a computer based multiple choice test</p>	
01 Administration Methods and Equipment	
Assessment Activity	Assessment Criteria
Demonstrate knowledge of the different methods of administering veterinary medicines	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. in feed/water 2. by injection 3. by mouth 4. by topical/surface treatment/pour on 5. by inhalation
<p>Demonstrate knowledge of the different methods of injection and examples of veterinary medicines that could be used for each method</p> <p>Demonstrate knowledge of the maintenance of re-usable pieces of veterinary equipment after use</p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 6. intra-muscular e.g. iron, vaccine, antibiotics 7. intra-venous e.g. rehydration, calcium 8. intra-mammary e.g. antibiotic 9. subcutaneous e.g. magnesium, vaccine, local anaesthetic <p>Maintained by:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 10. identifying faults and carrying out regular maintenance/replacement 11. cleaning according to manufacturer's instructions/data sheet 12. sterilising according to manufacturer's instructions/data sheet 13. hygienic storage, in equipment cupboard, following manufacturer's instructions, e.g. in sealed containers
02 Environment	
Demonstrate knowledge of how both sharps and disposable syringes should be disposed of safely	<p>Sharps should be:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. rendered unusable (only recommended with correct equipment) 2. stored in an appropriate container and returned to supplier or local authority 3. arranged with a private veterinary surgeon <p>Disposable syringes should be:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 4. rendered unusable 5. incinerated 6. returned to supplier 7. passed to authorised agent
<p>Demonstrate knowledge of how unwanted veterinary medicines should be disposed of safely</p> <p>Demonstrate knowledge of who should be informed if the environment is polluted by spillage of veterinary medicines</p>	<p>Unwanted veterinary medicines should be:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 8. returned to supplier 9. special waste transferred to appropriate authority with record made of action 10. stored safely and secured prior to disposal 11. taken to licensed disposal site 12. employer 13. Environment Agency 14. appropriate emergency service 15. local authority

03 Operator Health and Safety	
Assessment Activity	Assessment Criteria
Demonstrate knowledge of the responsibilities of an employee under Health & Safety Executive (HSE) legislation in respect of the use of veterinary medicines	<p>Employees must:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. the safety of self and others 2. the correct use of drugs and equipment as instructed by management and manufacturer's data sheets 3. reporting faulty equipment 4. wearing correct PPE 5. ensuring PPE is maintained in good condition 6. comply with training and instruction 7. co-operate with employer to comply with legislation
Demonstrate knowledge of the safety checks that should be made during the use and storage of veterinary medicines, in order to ensure the safety of oneself and others	<p>Check that:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 8. Comply with Risk/COSHH assessments 9. Comply with manual handling regulations <p>Veterinary medicines are:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 10. correctly labelled 11. stored as instructed e.g. powders above liquids 12. correctly transported 13. used as instructed 14. recorded
Demonstrate knowledge of the requirements for the safe transportation of veterinary medicines	<p>Transport requirements:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 15. Correct PPE that fits is worn 16. Animals are properly restrained 17. Accident procedure is known and complied with 18. Secure from theft 19. able to contain spillages 20. vehicle suitable for the purpose 21. separation from passengers, animals, feedstuffs, other equipment and unwanted veterinary medicines and equipment 22. stored to prevent damage during transit 23. protected from excessive sunlight, heat and cold 24. relevant information about each product/medicine 25. PPE for handling and emergencies 26. unloaded from the vehicle and returned to store each night 27. Hygiene
Demonstrate knowledge of zoonoses, including common examples and how the problem can be limited	<p>28. Zoonoses are diseases carried by animals which can affect people</p> <p>Control by:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 29. applying good hygiene and bio security e.g. isolation of infected animals 30. wearing PPE 31. being aware of the infectious diseases 32. vaccination – national disease eradication programmes 33. avoiding infective animals and/or their products at susceptible times 34. slaughter of infected animals
Demonstrate knowledge of accidental contamination with veterinary medicines which may occur to humans whilst they are being administered, <u>and</u> the action(s) which should be taken in each case	<p>Accidental contamination could happen by:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 35. human inhalation = get into fresh air and go to doctor taking the data sheet 36. self injection = go to doctor taking the data sheet 37. splashed onto human skin / eyes / or swallowed = wash off and go to doctor taking the data sheet
Demonstrate knowledge of the consequences of accidental self-injection and the action that can be taken to minimise the risk	<p>Consequences of self-injection and measures to prevent ill health:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 38. Adverse reaction to active ingredients/ chemicals 39. Infection with bacteria/zoonoses 40. Local tissue damage/puncture wounds 41. Prevention by use of needle guards 42. Use of needle disinfection devices 43. Prompt medical attention and reporting of incidents

OUTCOME 3 – DEMONSTRATE KNOWLEDGE OF THE LEGISLATION AND PRODUCTS OF VETERINARY MEDICINES (compulsory)	
<p>Objective: The candidate knows the legislation associated with veterinary medicines and information about veterinary medicines products. Assessment Procedure: This unit is assessed by a computer based multiple choice test</p>	
01 Legislation	
Assessment Activity	Assessment Criteria
<p>Demonstrate knowledge of the records which should be kept to comply with veterinary medicines legislation and/or to aid management</p> <p>Demonstrate knowledge of the requirements of a veterinary medicines store</p> <p>Demonstrate knowledge of the ways to prevent unnecessary suffering to animals during treatment with veterinary medicines</p>	<p>To comply with veterinary medicines legislation</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. disposal of livestock and their products affected by veterinary medicines e.g. end date of withdrawal period 2. veterinary medicines used in treating farm animals 3. duplicate list of veterinary medicines in store 4. disposal of sharps, chemical waste, unwanted medicines 5. Movement Book 6. completion of Accident Book 7. Batch number <p>To aid management</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 8. bought in and used veterinary medicines 9. animals treated and their veterinary history 10. response to treatment 11. costs 12. correct identification of animals <p>Store requirements:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 13. designated and labelled 14. secure 15. able to contain spillages 16. sufficient size 17. complies with recommendations on label/data sheet 18. exhibits warning signs 19. to withstand 30 minutes of fire 20. not located in an office, staff room or feed store 21. separate areas for medicines and equipment 22. Hygiene 23. Record of medicines stored <p>By using veterinary medicines:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 24. at correct dose rate 25. at correct timing 26. with correct method of application 27. before "use by" date <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 28. By quiet and confident handling 29. By adequate restraint with appropriate equipment 30. By checking animal response
02 Product Knowledge	
<p>6 Demonstrate knowledge of the reasons why it is important to give the recommended dose of veterinary medicines</p> <p>Demonstrate knowledge of the term "expiry date"</p> <p>Demonstrate knowledge of the information which should be found on the data sheets or labels for veterinary medicines</p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. it is dangerous to livestock and/or people if the dosage is too high 2. could have high residue levels beyond the withdrawal period if dosage is too high 3. it is uneconomic if the dosage is too high or too low 4. under dosing may be ineffective and set up resistance 5. to aid fast recovery 6. to reduce/prevent suffering <p>7. The latest recommended date for the safe use of the product</p> <p>Data sheet/label information:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 8. chemical composition 9. dose rate 10. method of administration 11. expiry date 12. storage condition 13. safety precautions 14. withdrawal period 15. type of animal to be treated 16. trade name 17. contra indications 18. product license 19. form of medicine, i.e. pill, powder, liquid 20. Batch number

Level 2 Award in the Safe Use of Veterinary Medicines (QCF)

Outcome 2 – Demonstrate knowledge of the principles of storing and administering veterinary medicines

Outcome 3 – Demonstrate knowledge of the legislation and products for veterinary medicines

Computer-based online assessment (GOLA) Test Specification

Pass mark = 24/30

Activity	Group/Assessment criteria	Items per test	Total per activity
Outcome 1			
01 Administration Methods & Equipment	01.01-01.05 Demonstrate knowledge of the different methods of administering veterinary medicines	2	5
	01.06-01.09 Demonstrate knowledge of the different methods of injection and examples of veterinary medicines that could be used for each method	2	
	01.10-01.13 Demonstrate knowledge of the maintenance of re-usable pieces of veterinary equipment after use	1	
02 Environment	02.01-02.08 Demonstrate knowledge of how both sharps and disposable syringes should be disposed of safely	2	5
	02.09-02.16 Demonstrate knowledge of how unwanted veterinary medicines should be disposed of safely / Demonstrate knowledge of who should be informed if the environment is polluted by spillage of veterinary medicines	3	
03 Operator Health and Safety	03.01-03.07 Demonstrate knowledge of the responsibilities of an employee under Health & Safety Executive (HSE) legislation in respect of the use of veterinary medicines	1	9
	03.08-03.17 Demonstrate knowledge of the safety checks that should be made during the use and storage of veterinary medicines, in order to ensure the safety of oneself and others	2	
	03.18-03.27 Demonstrate knowledge of the requirements for the safe transportation of veterinary medicines	2	
	03.28-03.34 Demonstrate knowledge of zoonoses, including common examples and how the problem can be limited	2	
	03.35-03.37 Demonstrate knowledge of the of accidents which may occur to humans with veterinary medicines whilst they are being administered, <u>and</u> the action(s) which should be taken in each case	1	
	03.38-03.43 Demonstrate knowledge of the consequences of accidental self-injection and the action that can be taken to minimise the risk	1	
Outcome 2			
01 Legislation	01.01-04.12 Demonstrate knowledge of the records which should be kept to comply with veterinary medicines legislation and/or to aid management	2	6
	01.13-04.23 Demonstrate knowledge of the requirements of a veterinary medicines store	2	
	01.24-04.30 Demonstrate knowledge of the ways to prevent unnecessary suffering to animals during treatment with veterinary medicines	2	
02 Product Knowledge	02.01-05.06 Demonstrate knowledge of the reasons why it is important to give the recommended dose of veterinary medicines	2	5
	02.07 Demonstrate knowledge of the term “expiry date”	1	
	02.08-05.20 Demonstrate knowledge of the information which should be found on the data sheets or labels for veterinary medicines	2	
		30	30

Format for letter to act as 'witness testimony' for a Candidate applying for the NPTC Level 2 Award in the Safe Use of Veterinary Medicines

Letter to be from a **qualified Veterinary Surgeon** to provide extra evidence for Outcome1, (Assessment Activity 4), in addition to the practical/oral assessment of the rest of Outcome 1 conducted by the NPTC Assessor. (For example: if the animals available for the assessment do not require treatment by veterinary medicines, or to provide evidence for additional species of animals).

Letter must be on official Veterinary Practice headed paper.
(including practice name, address and telephone numbers)

date

To Whom it may Concern

Safe Use of Veterinary Medicines

Evidence towards Outcome 1, Assessment Activity 4 of the NPTC Level 2 Award in the Safe Use of Veterinary Medicines (QCF)

I have assessed <...*Candidate's name*...> and found that s/he is competent at catching, restraining and treating:

- 1. orally
- 2. topically / on the surface
- 3. by injection
(including intra-mammary infusion of cattle)

without causing unnecessary pain or unnecessary distress, for the following species:

- <...list of species as per the NPTC list in Appendix 2 of the Assessment Schedule e.g.: Cattle (02)...>
- <...list of species as per the NPTC list in Appendix 2 of the Assessment Schedule e.g.: Pigs (06)...>
- <...list of species as per the NPTC list in Appendix 2 of the Assessment Schedule e.g.: Sheep (08)...>

Signed:

Vet's name and qualifications

**AWARD
in the
SAFE USE OF VETERINARY MEDICINES**

ENDORSEMENT OF CERTIFICATE

Bearing in mind the wide spectrum of animals to whom veterinary medicines are administered and in order to provide some means of identification of field of use, a broad based endorsement system has been devised. The Award will be endorsed in the context of the grouping / species of animals with which the Candidate was assessed.

Grouping of species:

01 Camelids	07 Poultry	13 Cats
02 Cattle	08 Sheep	14 Birds
03 Deer	09 Other (Named)	15 -----
04 Farmed Fish	10 Dogs	16 Reptiles
05 Goats	11 Horses	17 Rodents
06 Pigs	12 Rabbits	18 Ornamental Fish

Applicable to Farmed Animals

The Five Freedoms

The 'Five Freedoms' as defined by the Farm Animal Welfare Council, define ideal states, but provide a comprehensive framework for animal welfare on farm, in transit and at the place of slaughter.

They are:

- **Freedom from fear and distress**
- **Freedom from pain, injury and disease**
- **Freedom from hunger and thirst**
- **Freedom from discomfort**
- **Freedom to express normal behaviour**

What the Five Freedoms mean:-

FREEDOM from fear and distress by providing conditions and care, whether on farm, in transit or at the abattoir, which avoid mental suffering. For instance, staff involved in handling livestock need to be aware of the welfare problems associated with animal handling and understand the behaviour characteristics and likely reactions of the species in question, so that potentially stressful events such as loading/unloading and moving animals can be carried out quietly and calmly.

FREEDOM from pain, injury and disease by prevention or rapid diagnosis and treatment. The design of accommodation for farm animals should be such that a high or regular occurrence of injury and disease as the consequence of poorly designed facilities is avoided. Stock-keepers should be sufficiently skilled and alert to detect incidents of injury and disease early, to act appropriately to reduce or avoid them in future.

FREEDOM from hunger and thirst by providing ready access to fresh water and a diet to maintain full health and vigour. Feed must be satisfying, appropriate for the species/age of animal and safe. Other measures (such as minimizing bullying and competition at feed time by ensuring appropriate placement and numbers of feeders/drinkers) should also be employed to achieve this 'freedom'.

FREEDOM from discomfort by providing an appropriate environment including shelter and a comfortable resting area. The provision of a safe, clean, dry bedded lying area helps to achieve this and space allowances should ensure that all animals have adequate space to lie comfortably, groom themselves, get up and get down easily without injuring themselves or others. The design of flooring and unbedded areas along with drainage and manure handling should be such that they do not result in injuries or diseases of the feet.

FREEDOM to express normal behaviour by providing sufficient space, proper facilities and company of the animals' own kind. The proven needs of different species of animals must be met. For example, the provision of straw bedding or other material for manipulation for pigs, can not only provide a comfortable lying place, but also enriches a potentially barren environment by providing an opportunity for pigs to satisfy their strong instinct for exploration, rooting behaviour and play. Allowing expression of natural behaviour helps to reduce the occurrence of unnatural, potentially harmful behaviours and improves mental wellbeing.