



The College of
Animal Welfare

Student Veterinary Nursing Congress

Tuesday 27 January 2026
9.30am - 4.30pm



FREE



for all
SVNs



Student Veterinary Nursing Congress Programme

9.15am - 9.30am	Online Registration
9.30am - 9.35am	Welcome from the Chair <i>Lauren Norton MScCAB BSc (Hons) RVN Cert VNECC FHEA</i>
9.35am - 9.40am	Guest Introduction from Julie Dugmore, RCVS <i>Julie Dugmore RVN</i>
9.40am - 10.30am	Stop Kidney-ing Around: How to give great care to your renal patients as an SVN <i>Laura Jones BSc(Hons) DipAVN(SA) ISFMDipFN VTS(IM-SA)RVN</i> <p>Kidney disease is one of the most common medical conditions we see - and there's a LOT we can do to support these patients. In this session, we'll demystify the kidneys - what they do, what happens when they're not working properly, and how to nurse renal patients confidently. We'll cover common kidney conditions like acute and chronic kidney disease, what they look like in practice, and share practical nursing tips to support these patients day-to-day. From fluid therapy considerations to monitoring hydration, weight, and blood pressure, nurse clinics and more, you'll leave this session understanding what kidney disease is, and how to give these patients the best care. The following learning outcomes will be covered: Understand the key functions of the kidneys, recognise common renal diseases in practice, learn practical nursing interventions to support renal patients</p>
10.30am - 11.15am	Demystifying Blood Pressure Monitoring <i>Liza Ebeck RVN NCert Anaesth. CVLM</i> <p>This lecture will cover what comprises blood pressure along with desired parameters in dogs and cats. We will also go through the different methods used for blood pressure monitoring with tips and tricks to get the most out of your machine. We will also cover monitoring under anaesthesia and how to trouble shoot hypotension. Learning outcomes include: Understand how to use different blood pressure monitors; Understand what comprises blood pressure in dogs and cats; Have confidence in trouble shooting problems maintaining blood pressure under general anaesthesia.</p>
11.15am - 11.35am	Live Q&A Panel Present questions to the speakers
11.35am - 12.05pm	Morning Break and Exhibitor Promos
12.05pm - 12.50pm	Making Life Better for the Rabbits and Guinea Pigs in your Practice <i>John Chitty BVetMed CertZooMed MRCVS</i> <p>Many small mammal diseases are stress-related, and stress in the clinic can not only limit success of treatments but directly affect survival rates especially related to anaesthesia. This talk will focus on rabbits and guinea pigs and will look at how the veterinary team can make the clinic a less hostile place for them with tips that can be done in any clinic as well as what can be aspired to when building/ designing new facilities. It will also look at advice to be given to owners to reduce husbandry stress and, therefore, disease incidence.</p>

12.50pm - 1.15pm	Live Q&A Present questions to the speakers
1.15pm - 2.15pm	Lunch break, Exhibitor Promos and Expo Booths
2.15pm - 3.00pm	Recognising Pain in Cats <i>Alexandra Taylor RVN CertSAN ISFMDipFN & AdvCertFB</i> <p>In this session we will cover why cats are so good at hiding signs of acute and chronic pain, how pain can influence their behaviour and why this can make providing effective nursing care challenging at the veterinary clinic. We will explore the sensory and emotional aspects of pain and what veterinary nurses can do in a clinic setting to ensure they minimise any pain and distress experienced by their feline patients during examinations and procedures. We will look at the different ways of recognising and assessing pain in cats, as well as how we can encourage caregivers to assess cats for pain in the home environment.</p>
3.00pm - 3.45pm	Cooperative Care for Canines - Low Stress Handling <i>Dr Julie Ashton BSc(Hons) BVSc, MANZCVs (V.Behaviour)</i> <p>During this session, Dr Julie Ashton will cover the following key points: Providing a low stress approach to vet visits, cooperative care and how it can work alongside low stress approaches, and medication options for fearful patients.</p>
3.45pm - 4.05pm	Live Q&A Panel Present questions to the speakers
4.05pm - 4.10pm	Chairs Close
4.10pm - 4.15pm	Closing Recap <i>Barbara Cooper Hon Assoc RCVS Cert Ed Lic IPD DTM RVN, The College of Animal Welfare</i>
4.15pm-4.30pm	Event Close

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