



## APHA Briefing Note 27/17

### CHANGES TO REQUIREMENTS FOR REVALIDATION OF OCQ(V) STATUTORY SURVEILLANCE

#### Purpose

1. To inform Official Veterinarians (OVs) that the requirements for revalidating OCQ(V) SS have changed.

#### Background

2. OCQ(V) SS incorporates knowledge and skills associated with dealing with anthrax, bovine brucellosis and sheep scab. APHA and Improve International are aware that some OVs who are approaching the requirement to revalidate statutory surveillance skills are worried about the requirement to produce the five casebooks based on cases completed. As a result, candidates will be offered a modified approach to providing proof of skills.
3. If you have case reports, they can still be used. However, you can also submit two other forms of evidence:
  - You can submit a report on a case where you considered notifiable disease as a differential diagnosis, but decided, on the weight of evidence and your knowledge of veterinary medicine, that the possibility of disease could be ruled out without notifying APHA. You must provide clear evidence for your decision.
  - You can choose to provide a response to one or more scenarios. The scenarios provide a short description of the situation, and there is a template provided, to help you structure your response. You should provide 100-500 words in total in your response, and please choose a variety of different diseases if you want to use this option. Twelve different scenarios will be offered; four on each disease.

4. Detailed information is provided when you access the revalidation module.

### **Further Information**

- The Improve International site is located at <https://www.improve-ov.com/contact>
- Further information is also available from Linda Smith, e-mail [linda.smith@apha.gsi.gov.uk](mailto:linda.smith@apha.gsi.gov.uk), or phone 07854 893 739.

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