



Job Title:	Veterinary Prescribing Champions Clinical Lead (1 South Wales & 1 North Wales) (0.8 FTE)
Project:	Arwain DGC
Locations:	Any Mentera office or home based
Line Manager:	Veterinary Development Manager
Salary:	£47,229 pro rata

Arwain DGC - background

The aim of this project - which is funded through the Welsh Government - is to address antimicrobial resistance in animals and the environment. The project is in line with the aims and objectives of the Welsh Governments Antimicrobial Resistance (AMR) in Animals and Environment, and the UK National Action Plan.

The project will be delivered by the following partners – Mentera, WLBP (Welsh Lamb and Beef Producers), Aberystwyth University – Vet School, Bristol University, Iechyd Da and Milfeddygon Gogledd Cymru. The project will be led and managed by Mentera.

The Veterinary Prescribing Champions Network has been leading on responsible antimicrobial use in Welsh veterinary practices since 2019 and is a core element of the Arwain DGC project. The VPC Network have collectively developed a series of treatment and prescribing guidelines for key diseases of farm animals and a voluntary code of prescribing conduct for farm animal veterinary practices. VPC network participants also implement self-directed antibiotic stewardship initiatives within their own practice environments, representing the Network within their practices and acting as the voice of their practice with the Network.

Aim of the Role

This role will lead on and manage the Veterinary Prescribing Champion (VPC) Practices across north/south Wales. This role will involve travel across the region, working closely with north/south Wales VPCs to support them in disseminating their antibiotic stewardship initiatives within their individual practices. The role will develop and deliver face-to-face professional training in antimicrobial stewardship and Arwain DGC to practice teams, supporting VPC practices to engage with and implement the Arwain code of conduct and clinical guidelines in order to improve antibiotic prescribing across Wales. The role will lead on collecting antibiotic use data from practice management systems for the purposes of anonymous benchmarking, as well as collecting demographic data on the practices enrolled. The role will also support the

regular discussion groups, wider training programme and development of new resources provided for participating VPCs.

As part of the wider Arwain DGC team, the post holder will be expected to contribute to all aspects of the project, with a particular focus on supporting VPCs and Network practices. This role will involve travel across north /south Wales, and the role holder will be expected to manage their time effectively and independently. The role accommodates flexible working patterns

Main Responsibilities

- Lead on and manage the dissemination, engagement, influencing and implementation of the Arwain Code of Conduct and the Clinical Guidelines across north/south Wales' farm and mixed veterinary practices.
- Build an effective trusted relationship, and regularly visit VPC Network member practices in north/south Wales (approximately 23) to support the VPC Network activities.
- Develop face-to-face and online training materials for veterinary practice staff (vets, vet technicians and veterinary support staff) on Arwain DGC initiatives.
- Deliver face-to-face training to veterinary practice teams (e.g. during clinical clubs, CPD evenings) to be delivered within network member practices.
- Provide the point of contact and be the authority to support north /south Wales VPCs and support them to embed antimicrobial stewardship initiatives within their practice.
- Collect voluntary anonymous annual antimicrobial use and demographic data from participating practices.
- Liaise with project partners to process and analyse this data, and report it back to the practice.
- Collate feedback from VPC practices to inform improvements to the VPC Network activities.
- Support the delivery of quarterly discussion groups and the annual VPC event.
- Support the Veterinary Development Manager in other priority areas for the project that involve the Veterinary Prescribing Champions Network.
- Coordinate the Welsh Veterinary Prescribing Champions Network activities, including scheduling meetings and events, maintaining regular communications, facilitating discussion groups and other administrative tasks.
- Attend regular project meetings, public facing events (e.g. Royal Welsh Show).
- Produce reports on North/South Wales VPC Network activities.
- Work with all project partners and provide support as required to ensure effective delivery of the programme.
- Adhere to all relevant policies e.g. Biosecurity, Procurement, Health and Safety etc

- Assist the Contract Manager in the effective delivery of the contract and identify ways of continuously improving the service.
- Plan, implement and evaluate projects and trials.
- Provide accurate statistics and reports to the Project Manager and Welsh Government.
- Work closely with the Marketing Officer and provide information as required to ensure that information from projects are disseminated to the industry.
- Attend meetings as requested by the Project Manager and/or Director of Rural Programmes.

Other

- Ensure standards for quality, customer service, equality and diversity, health and safety and biosecurity are met.
- Accept other reasonable duties and responsibilities as required.
- Represent Mentera as required.

Skills and Experience

Essential

- Veterinary qualification registerable in the United Kingdom
- Practising Member of the Royal College of Veterinary Surgeons (MRCVS)
- Clinical experience working in farm animal veterinary practice
- Strong and engaging communicator
- Confident public speaker
- Experience presenting to a professional audience (for example at conferences, clinical clubs)
- Able to disseminate and communicate themes, research findings and programme content in a practical and clear manner relevant to the audience
- A self-motivator, accepting responsibility for setting and reviewing priorities for achieving targets, with a clear focus on quality
- Excellent oral and written communication skills
- An understanding of regulations relating to antimicrobial prescribing, sales and recording
- Understanding of veterinary practice management software
- Advanced standard of IT skills, including Word, Excel, PowerPoint, Email, Databases and Internet
- Full driving licence and use of a car (this role will require travel across North/South Wales)

Desirable

- Previous experience of working with Arwain DGC
- Further qualifications in training or education
- Previous experience of working within the Welsh veterinary sector

- An advanced understanding of antimicrobial stewardship policy and strategies
- Experience of facilitation and participatory development methods
- Recent experience of working with veterinary practices, academic organisations and/or institutions and technological companies
- Awareness of agricultural and animal health policy development, as well as Welsh Government strategies and policies
- Fluent Welsh Speaker

Additional Information

If you would like an informal discussion about this post, please contact Gwen Rees on 07538 405 048 or gwen.rees@mentera.cymru

The requirements of this role means that it has been categorised as follows:

- A driving licence and use of a car for business purposes:
 - Not required
 - Desirable
 - Essential ✓
- Welsh language ability:
 - Listening/Speaking: Level 1
 - Reading/Understanding: Level 1
 - Writing: Level 1

Mentera provides language skills training to every staff member who wishes to develop their use of Welsh.

How to apply

Applications for this post can be made by completing the enclosed application form and equal opportunities monitoring form and returning them to swyddi@mentera.cymru by 10 am, Monday, 19 May 2025

Interviews

We will hold the interviews for this position during the week beginning 26 May 2025. If this date is not convenient, please state so on your application form.

Equality and Diversity Declaration



Mentera is committed to supporting and promoting equality and diversity and to creating an inclusive working environment. We believe this can be achieved through attracting, developing, and retaining a diverse range of staff from many different backgrounds. We therefore welcome applicants from all sections of the community regardless of sex, ethnicity, disability, sexual orientation, trans identity, relationship status, religion or belief, caring responsibilities, or age. In supporting our employees to achieve a balance between their work and their personal lives, for most roles we will consider proposals for flexible working or job share arrangements.