GENERAL GUIDANCE NOTES
The following applies to all C modules.

Before embarking on this, or other modules, candidates must fulfil the following criteria:

   a) Be a member of RCVS, or hold a registrable degree.
   b) Have at least 1 year’s postgraduate experience working as a veterinary surgeon
   c) Be enrolled with RCVS if intending to take the Certificate in Advanced Veterinary Practice (enrolment will be valid for 10 years)
   d) It is also recommended that candidates who graduated after 2007 will have already declared themselves competent in their ‘Year One Competencies’, by completing the Professional Development Phase (PDP) before enrolling for any modules.

PREPARING FOR A C MODULE
Before embarking on any module, the candidate is advised to plan a structured programme of continuing professional development to help them achieve their objectives. Involvement in ‘learning sets’ and networks of other candidates working towards the same or similar modules is encouraged; this could be a service provided by CPD providers, or could be initiated by the candidate themselves on a less formal basis. RCVS and the University of Edinburgh consider that a candidate will need advisers/mentors to support them through the programme. The candidate is free to choose their own advisers/mentors, or they may wish to enrol on a course offered by a university or by other CPD providers, where tutorial or supervisor support is available.

GUIDANCE FOR THIS MODULE
Candidates working towards the designated Certificate in Advanced Veterinary Practice (Sheep) will need to complete the following modules: A-FAVP.1 Foundations in Advanced Veterinary Practice, B-PAP.2, C-S.2 and at least two other C modules (from designated sheep modules) plus one other B or C module. Upon completion of all the necessary modules, a further synoptic assessment will also be required.
AIMS
The objective of this module is to promote a scientific, evidence based approach to sheep health and production, and to help candidates develop both practical and theoretical skills in the field. The candidate is expected to build on the foundation skills developed when undertaking the A and B modules, and to demonstrate progression towards advanced practitioner skills. The candidate will be able to evaluate their own standards of practice and develop strategies for continuous improvement in the future.

LEARNING OUTCOMES
At the end of this module candidates should be able to:

- Describe the husbandry and management of sheep in the UK and to evaluate the relative merits of the systems used, on the basis of the health, welfare and productivity of the animals, and the safety and quality of the food produced

- Formulate simple diets, assess and provide advice on the adequacy of diets and feeding of sheep in relation to their nutritional requirements

- Assess and provide advice on the adequacy of the housing and environment of sheep in relation to their health, welfare and productivity

- Assess and provide advice on the welfare of sheep ‘on-farms’, during transport and at slaughter

- Explain the aetiology, pathology, diagnosis, differential diagnosis, treatment, prognosis and control of the principal diseases of lambs in the UK

- Describe the principal causes of reproductive failure in sheep

ASSESSMENT STRATEGY FOR THIS MODULE
The assessment is in two parts – a case log submitted online, and an examination held at Edinburgh.

1. Case log
The candidate is required to submit a case log of fifty cases for this C module.

- These cases should not be used for any other modules the candidate may take.
- The log should comprise a list of cases seen (single or groups of animals treated) by the candidate, dates when the cases
were seen and outcome of each case.

The case log is a list designed only to document that these cases were seen and no details will be required. These cases should demonstrate that the candidate has seen a reasonable number and variety of cases in practice while studying for the module and is not relying on information gained solely from classical textbooks on the subject. Case log templates will be provided.

All cases are to have been managed by the candidate. Cases selected should demonstrate that the candidate has dealt competently with a range of commonly presented conditions or situations from the area of practice in which they are working.

Cases should be recent, with “recent” indicating cases seen preferably within the period of registration on the module. Where this is not possible, i.e. due to late registration, cases seen within the last 2 years will be acceptable.

2. Practical examination
There is also a practical examination held at Edinburgh under exam conditions. The aim of the examination is to provide the candidate with the opportunity to demonstrate their clinical skills and practical approach in everyday practice. Candidates should be prepared to undertake the following:

- A clinical examination of two cases (each 25 minutes) relating to topics covered in the module syllabus

Where assessment involves both a written submission and an examination component at Edinburgh, this must be taken in the same examination diet. It is not possible to take one aspect of an assessment in one year, and the remaining in a following year.

ASSESSMENT STYLE AND FORMAT
The candidate is expected to pay close attention to the specific format and style for their submission as outlined in the CertAVP Assessment Style and Format Guidelines document provided via the online learning environment.

As standard, the candidate should ensure that each submitted element:
- Displays the word count at the start of the document (where specified)
- Includes the candidate’s examination number
- Has had all other identifying details, e.g. candidate’s name and contact details, removed to ensure anonymity in the marking
If the candidate has any questions on the assessment process, these should be directed to the CertAVP team at Edinburgh. Full contact details are provided at induction, and via the virtual learning environment.

SYLLABUS CONTENT

1. Management and nutrition
   - Nutritional management of the pregnant ewe
   - Understanding of energy/protein supply and demands of maintaining pregnancy
   - Intra-uterine growth retardation
   - Management advice using integrated nutritional profiling
   - Diagnosis, control and prevention of the common metabolic diseases of sheep

2. Oestrous cycle/breeding programmes
   - Principles and understanding of biology of oestrous cycle and its manipulation
   - Use of vasectomised rams and hormonal therapy (melatonin, progesterone/PMSG)
   - Artificial insemination and embryo transfer techniques

3. Male reproductive system
   - Clinical evaluation of the male urogenital system
   - Principles and application of diagnostic aids (semen evaluation, ultrasonography, bacteriology)
   - Diagnosis, treatment and management of common infections/disorders

4. Abortion
   - Understanding of biology/maintenance of pregnancy
   - Investigation of abortion
   - Principles for management/control of infectious causes of abortion

5. Flock breeding management - obstetrics
   - Veterinary management of obstetrical problems
   - Application of spinal anaesthesia and other forms of analgesia
   - Caesarean operation
   - Welfare legislation
6. Parturition
   - Understanding of the biology of parturition/neonatal adaptation, and consequences

7. Lambs
   - Investigation and management of common causes of perinatal lamb mortality
   - Diagnosis, control and prevention of the common diseases of young lambs
   - Diagnosis, control and prevention of the common diseases of growing lambs
   - Postmortem examination including practical demonstration
   - Principles of safe sample collection, storage, submission and transportation