

**LIVE Teaching Development Fund – Team Prize 2008**  
**Interim Report, July 2009**  
**Creating a Communication Skills OSCE Examiner Training DVD.**

The use of Objective Structured Clinical Examinations (OSCEs) to assess communication skills has become the accepted method at several veterinary schools in the UK. However, a common problem encountered at schools was the training of examiners for these stations. A project grant enabled the development of a training DVD for the veterinary schools to access. The DVD consists of four scripted OSCE stations, each played out in four different ways to varying levels of skill, with associated feedback sessions. Educational role-players play the client roles and final year students learned the scripted scenarios for the four versions of each station. After filming and editing the DVD, the marking checklist was scrutinised and adapted for exam authenticity. A viewing session was arranged for a group of experienced examiners. Feedback from the group highlighted the examiners' anxiety about variability and the need for clearer aims for each station. This resulted in the checklists needing further analysis and adaptation. Before releasing the DVD for examiner training nationally, a small research project to test reliability will be undertaken as, although the DVD resource looks professional, the accompanying training package needs to be as robust as the OSCE itself.