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STANDARDS FOR VETERINARY FACILITIES IN ONTARIO - DRAFT

College of Veterinarians of Ontario

Council – December 7 & 8, 2022

CVO
College of Veterinarians of Ontario

College of Veterinarians of Ontario

The standards for veterinary facilities in Ontario are established by the Council of the College of Veterinarians of Ontario under the authority of the *Veterinarians Act*, Section 8, 1990.

The purpose of the veterinary facility accreditation standards is to ensure that veterinary practices in Ontario support the provision of safe, quality veterinary care to the public. Veterinarians and the public can be assured that practices with a Certificate of Accreditation have met facility accreditation standards at a level of quality and safety accepted and determined by veterinarians for the delivery of veterinary medicine in Ontario.

The primary objectives of the Standards established by the College Council are to:

- ✓ Provide assurance that a facility meets the standards of quality and safety that are deemed essential to all facilities,
- ✓ Ensure that all veterinary facilities adhere to a set of approved Standards,
- ✓ Develop a flexible and progressive accreditation program that adapts to the evolving nature of practice, and
- ✓ Provide a model of facility accreditation that reflects the services and scopes of practice that are relevant to a specific facility and its scope of practice.

ESSENTIAL STANDARDS – DRAFT

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Introduction:

This document outlines the Essential Standards requirements for accreditation. The facility inspection will be based on these standards and conducted by trained veterinarian inspectors. The Essential Standards are intended to assess all aspects of facility management.

The College's expectation is that members will keep current and will adhere to these requirements as listed at the time of the facility's inspection, and throughout the facility accreditation term. When practicing veterinary medicine within their scope, licensed members are expected to use their professional judgment and work within their level of competency.

*Some requirements in the Essential Standards may not be applicable to certain veterinary facilities (i.e. vehicles) and this will be outlined in the associated standard and determined at the time of the inspection.

The Essential Standards include the requirements for the following mandatory areas:	
1. Facility Structure	A. Facility Structure B. Facility Equipment C. Animal Restraint D. Facility Supplies
2. Medical Records	A. Requirements for Electronic Medical Records B. Universal Medical Records Requirements C. Content of Medical Records – Companion Animal D. Content of Medical Records – Farmed Animal and Equine E. Content of Medical Records – Poultry
3. Safety Management	
4. Professional Reference Sources	
5. Professional Practice	
6. Pharmaceutical Management	
7. Biosecurity and Biomedical Waste Management	

The Essential Standards are in affect as of INSERT DATE.

Definitions:

1. Essential Standards	Standards that must be met by all veterinary facilities for facility accreditation.
2. Requirement	A statement indicating what a facility must demonstrate to meet the standard.
3. Guidance Notes	Additional information providing guidance that may include how a facility can meet the requirements. 1. Regulatory = mandatory requirement. 2. Recommendation = a strong suggestion based on current best practice. 3. May include but is not limited to = list is not exhaustive and alternatives may exist. 4. For example = an example of what meets this requirement; alternatives may exist that meet the requirement as well.
4. Veterinary Specialty	A veterinarian who meets the rigorous education and training standards of an AVMA (American Board of Veterinary Specialists) – recognized specialty College or Board and is awarded a diploma and is referred to as a diplomate of that College or Board.
5. Limited Scope of Practice	A veterinarian who is not Board certified may limit the scope of veterinary services provided at their facility. For example, veterinary spinal manipulative therapy, acupuncture, equine dentistry, etc.

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1. Facility Services and Equipment

Objective: The maintenance of facility services and equipment are activities which include keeping the facility (i.e., hospital/office, vehicle or veterinary surgical mobile) and its equipment in proper operating condition in a routine, scheduled, or anticipated fashion so that they can be effectively used for their intended purpose.

Practices are responsible for facility maintenance including cleaning, sterilization, inspection and storage of equipment. They will ensure that the facilities are able to safely and comfortably accommodate any staff, clientele and animals that are present, and have the necessary facilities and equipment to provide the veterinary services commensurate with their scope of practice and the species that receive veterinary care.

A. Facility Structure
B. Facility Equipment
C. Animal Restraint
D. Facility Supplies

A. Facility Structure

	Requirements (A statement indicating what a facility must demonstrate to meet the standard.)	Guidance Notes (Additional information providing guidance that may include how a facility can meet the requirements, any mandatory compliance requirements to be met (for example, requirements under the Veterinarians Act), the background related to the need for the requirement, or links to other organizations which also provide guidance.)	Compliance Yes, No or Not Applicable	Inspector Comments
1	The practice has, and appears to have, the practice of veterinary medicine as its primary purpose.	The rationale for this requirement is to ensure that it is clear to the public that the practice of veterinary medicine is the primary purpose of the facility. The facility does not present to the public that it is operated in connection with another business enterprise. The facility may not be located within another business enterprise. For example, a small animal office may not operate out of a pet store.		
2	The practice is separate and distinct from any other business enterprise. N/A – vehicle and veterinary surgical mobile	Suggestions on how to meet the requirement: • It is self- contained and has a solid permanent wall between it and an adjacent business. • Sharing arrangements with another veterinary practice under a different name should ensure it is clear to the public that the facilities are distinct from one another to prevent confusion. • It has a separate and distinct entrance directly from the street or, if the facility is in a building containing more than one business, i.e. plaza, directly from a		

	Requirements (A statement indicating what a facility must demonstrate to meet the standard.)	Guidance Notes (Additional information providing guidance that may include how a facility can meet the requirements, any mandatory compliance requirements to be met (for example, requirements under the Veterinarians Act), the background related to the need for the requirement, or links to other organizations which also provide guidance.)	Compliance Yes, No or Not Applicable	Inspector Comments
		common lobby, hallway or mall. There is no direct public access to a commercial establishment. The provision of ancillary services is permitted at the practice, such as boarding or grooming, which are secondary to the professional services provided. As an example of what is not permitted is the renting or leasing of space within the practice to a provider of ancillary service, such as a groomer.		
3	When consultations are carried out at the practice there is a self-contained reception area of adequate size. N/A – vehicle and veterinary surgical mobile	The reception area cannot be within an examination room. Reception area is entered directly from outside of the facility and contains sufficient seating for the reasonably expected number of clients.		
4	The practice contains a washroom that can be used by clients which is clean and orderly. The washroom sink is only	Public and staff can share washroom facilities. If building a brand- new facility or renovating, consideration must be given to municipal building code requirements and provincial legislation, i.e., accessibility.		

	Requirements (A statement indicating what a facility must demonstrate to meet the standard.)	Guidance Notes (Additional information providing guidance that may include how a facility can meet the requirements, any mandatory compliance requirements to be met (for example, requirements under the Veterinarians Act), the background related to the need for the requirement, or links to other organizations which also provide guidance.)	Compliance Yes, No or Not Applicable	Inspector Comments
	used for the purpose of hand-washing. N/A – vehicle and veterinary surgical mobile	Recommendation: The washroom should not be used for the purposes of storage of items not associated with washroom facilities. For example, filing cabinets, food, dirty laundry, clean linens/scrubs. This may present a risk to medical record security, confidentiality or biosecurity. Laundry facilities, i.e. washer/dryer in the washroom is acceptable, where there is proper handling of dirty laundry.		
5	All areas inside and outside the facility appear clean, orderly (uncluttered), in good repair and free of hazards to staff, clientele and patients.	• Recommendations: There is adequate exterior lighting for entrances, walkways and parking areas. • The facility is free of all impediments and obstructions to traffic flow. • The facility has adequate ventilation and is free of offensive odours. • The furniture in the reception area is clean and in good repair. • The floors and walls in confinement areas need to be thoroughly cleaned and easily sanitized. Use of		

	Requirements (A statement indicating what a facility must demonstrate to meet the standard.)	Guidance Notes (Additional information providing guidance that may include how a facility can meet the requirements, any mandatory compliance requirements to be met (for example, requirements under the Veterinarians Act), the background related to the need for the requirement, or links to other organizations which also provide guidance.)	Compliance Yes, No or Not Applicable	Inspector Comments
		non-slip materials would be recommended to prevent slippage and injury, such as rubber floor mats. • Examination room floors are to be fluid-impervious and able to be thoroughly cleaned and sanitized. • Unsealed concrete would not be acceptable. • If there is a vehicle it is clean, orderly and in good repair.		
6	The practice has adequate heating, humidity and temperature control. N/A – vehicle and veterinary surgical mobile	Rationale: Temperature and ventilation are maintained to assure the comfort of all patients.		
7	Lighting in all rooms is adequate for the purposes for which the room is to be used.	Rationale: Indoor lighting for halls, reception area, examination and surgical rooms are adequate and functional.		

	Requirements (A statement indicating what a facility must demonstrate to meet the standard.)	Guidance Notes (Additional information providing guidance that may include how a facility can meet the requirements, any mandatory compliance requirements to be met (for example, requirements under the Veterinarians Act), the background related to the need for the requirement, or links to other organizations which also provide guidance.)	Compliance Yes, No or Not Applicable	Inspector Comments
	N/A – vehicle and veterinary surgical mobile			
8	Examination surfaces are large enough for the expected size of animal and made of fluid impervious materials suitable for thorough cleaning and sanitizing. N/A – vehicle and veterinary surgical mobile	Depending on the size and species of animals that receive veterinary care, the examination surface may be an examination table or floor. Unsealed concrete would not be acceptable.		
9	Treatment/examination rooms are large enough to accommodate readily a veterinarian, an animal, a client, and any necessary (and at least			

	Requirements (A statement indicating what a facility must demonstrate to meet the standard.)	Guidance Notes (Additional information providing guidance that may include how a facility can meet the requirements, any mandatory compliance requirements to be met (for example, requirements under the Veterinarians Act), the background related to the need for the requirement, or links to other organizations which also provide guidance.)	Compliance Yes, No or Not Applicable	Inspector Comments
	one) staff and the required equipment. N/A – vehicle and veterinary surgical mobile			
10	Each examination room has a sink located in or convenient to it, to facilitate hand washing between each patient. N/A – vehicle and veterinary surgical mobile	Alternatively, appropriate materials and supplies for cleaning and sanitizing hands are available and conveniently located. For example, wet wipes or hand sanitizer.		
11	Each treatment area contains a drained sink with hot and cold running water. N/A – vehicle and veterinary surgical mobile	Recommendation: This sink is not used to clean dishes used for food for human or animal consumption.		

	Requirements (A statement indicating what a facility must demonstrate to meet the standard.)	Guidance Notes (Additional information providing guidance that may include how a facility can meet the requirements, any mandatory compliance requirements to be met (for example, requirements under the Veterinarians Act), the background related to the need for the requirement, or links to other organizations which also provide guidance.)	Compliance Yes, No or Not Applicable	Inspector Comments
12	Based on the scope of practice, adequate refrigeration or freezer capacity is available. Food requiring cold storage is stored separately from clinical supplies or samples (e.g., pharmaceuticals, lab samples, animal remains) in a manner that prevents cross contamination.	Suggestions for how to meet the requirement: Staff lunches should not be stored in the same refrigerator as the one used for veterinary usage. No human food or beverages are stored near any drugs or biologics. Applies to vehicles and veterinary surgical mobiles that use portable refrigeration or cold storage. There is a dedicated freezer for animal remains separate from food. Recommendation: Refrigerators and freezers should be clearly labelled/identified for its use. For example, separate refrigerators for human food are marked as such. (Please refer to Safety Management for further details).		
13	There is adequate space for storage of drugs, equipment, cleaning materials, food supplies, medical records, etc., appropriate for the service category and species.			

B. Facility Equipment

Objective: The veterinarian must be able to perform a general physical examination of patients that are treated at the practice.

	Requirements (A statement indicating what a facility must demonstrate to meet the standard.)	Guidance Notes (Additional information providing guidance that may include how a facility can meet the requirements, any mandatory compliance requirements to be met (for example, requirements under the Veterinarians Act), the background related to the need for the requirement, or links to other organizations which also provide guidance.)	Compliance Yes, No or Not Applicable	Inspector Comments
1	Examination areas have equipment appropriate for the physical examination of the range of species treated at the practice.	Equipment for companion animals may include but is not limited to access to: • Stethoscope • Thermometer • Disinfectant and alcohol • Examination gloves • Lubricant • Examination light • Ophthalmoscope • Otoscope • Weigh Scale • Magnification source (for example magnifying glass, head loops) Equipment for farmed animals may include but is not limited to access to: • Stethoscope • Thermometer • Disinfectant and alcohol		

	Requirements (A statement indicating what a facility must demonstrate to meet the standard.)	Guidance Notes (Additional information providing guidance that may include how a facility can meet the requirements, any mandatory compliance requirements to be met (for example, requirements under the Veterinarians Act), the background related to the need for the requirement, or links to other organizations which also provide guidance.)	Compliance Yes, No or Not Applicable	Inspector Comments
		• Examination gloves • Lubricant • Examination light • Hoof knife • Oral speculum • Frick speculum Equipment for equine may include but is not limited to access to: • Stethoscope • Thermometer • Disinfectant and alcohol • Examination gloves • Lubricant • Examination light • Hoof knife • Hoof tester Equipment for poultry may include but is not limited to access to: • Stethoscope • Disinfectant and alcohol • Examination gloves • Lubricant • Examination light		

	Requirements (A statement indicating what a facility must demonstrate to meet the standard.)	Guidance Notes (Additional information providing guidance that may include how a facility can meet the requirements, any mandatory compliance requirements to be met (for example, requirements under the Veterinarians Act), the background related to the need for the requirement, or links to other organizations which also provide guidance.)	Compliance Yes, No or Not Applicable	Inspector Comments
		Equipment for aquaculture and apiculture may include but is not limited to access to: • Examination gloves • Examination light		

C. Animal Restraint

Objective: There must be adequate equipment to enable restraint of animals under normal circumstances sufficient for a general physical examination and where applicable, administration of treatments, commensurate with the scope of practice.

Restraint equipment examples: leash, handling gloves, rope, halter, etc.

D. Facility Supplies

Objective: There must be sufficient supplies and equipment to support routine treatment procedures commensurate with the scope of the practice.

Practices that have vehicle and/or veterinary surgical mobile and self-standing components (hospital or office) may share equipment and supplies between the facilities, provided patient needs can be met in a timely manner.

	Requirements (A statement indicating what a facility must demonstrate to meet the standard.)	Guidance Notes (Additional information providing guidance that may include how a facility can meet the requirements, any mandatory compliance requirements to be met (for example, requirements under the Veterinarians Act), the background related to the need for the requirement, or links to other organizations which also provide guidance.)	Compliance Yes, No or Not Applicable	Inspector Comments
1	Treatment areas have equipment and supplies appropriate for the procedures used to treat the range of species at the practice.	Equipment for companion animals may include but is not limited to access to: • Clippers and/or razor or equivalent for hair removal from the patient. • Vacuum cleaner or equivalent method for removing hair effectively. • Preparations for cleansing skin and other tissue, including a skin cleaning solvent and an antiseptic skin preparation solution. • Sterile intravenous administration sets • Sterile intravenous catheters • Sterile needles and syringes • Sterile gauze sponges • Sterile gloves • Stomach tubes appropriate to the species treated		

	Requirements (A statement indicating what a facility must demonstrate to meet the standard.)	Guidance Notes (Additional information providing guidance that may include how a facility can meet the requirements, any mandatory compliance requirements to be met (for example, requirements under the Veterinarians Act), the background related to the need for the requirement, or links to other organizations which also provide guidance.)	Compliance Yes, No or Not Applicable	Inspector Comments
		• Mobile light source Equipment for farmed animals may include but is not limited to access to: • Clippers and/or razor or equivalent for hair removal from the patient. • Preparations for cleansing skin and other tissue, including a skin cleaning solvent and an antiseptic skin preparation solution. • Sterile intravenous administration sets • Sterile intravenous catheters • Sterile needles and syringes • Sterile gauze sponges • Sterile gloves • Stomach tubes appropriate to the species treated • Mobile light source • Trocar and cannula Equipment for equine may include but is not limited to access to: • Clippers and/or razor or equivalent for hair removal from the patient. • Preparations for cleansing skin and other tissue, including a skin cleaning solvent and an antiseptic skin preparation solution. • Sterile intravenous administration sets • Sterile intravenous catheters		

	Requirements (A statement indicating what a facility must demonstrate to meet the standard.)	Guidance Notes (Additional information providing guidance that may include how a facility can meet the requirements, any mandatory compliance requirements to be met (for example, requirements under the Veterinarians Act), the background related to the need for the requirement, or links to other organizations which also provide guidance.)	Compliance Yes, No or Not Applicable	Inspector Comments
		• Sterile needles and syringes • Sterile gauze sponges • Sterile gloves • Stomach tubes appropriate to the species treated • Mobile light source Equipment for poultry and aquaculture may include but is not limited to access to: • Sterile needles and syringes • Sterile gauze sponges • Sterile gloves • Mobile light source Equipment for apiculture may include but is not limited to access to: • Mobile light source		

2. Medical Records

Objective: The complete medical record is a compilation of all information that pertains to the care of an animal or a group of animals and documents the management of a case. It is a legal document that represents the veterinarian's thought process, decisions, judgment, actions, and interactions with others (clients, colleagues, other caregivers, and service providers such as specialists and laboratories), each of which has an impact on patient outcomes.

The medical record is also a communication tool which facilitates the continuity of care for animals both within and between veterinary medical-care teams. A quality record is fundamental to quality practice.

The Professional Practice Standard: Medical Records applies to all veterinarians and all record systems (e.g., electronic, paper or combination of both).

The medical record requirements are based on O.Reg.1093 under the *Veterinarians Act*.

A. Requirements for Electronic Medical Records
B. Universal Medical Records Requirements
C. Content of Medical Records – Companion Animal
D. Content of Medical Records – Farmed Animal and Equine
E. Content of Medical Records - Poultry

A. Requirements for Electronic Medical Records

	Requirements (A statement indicating what a facility must demonstrate to meet the standard.)	Guidance Notes (Additional information providing guidance that may include how a facility can meet the requirements, any mandatory compliance requirements to be met (for example, requirements under the Veterinarians Act), the background related to the need for the requirement, or links to other organizations which also provide guidance.)	Compliance Yes, No, or Not Applicable	Inspector Comments
1	The electronic computer system includes a password and other reasonable methods of protecting against unauthorized (internal and external) access.	Suggestions for how to meet the requirement: • Computer terminals have data security systems to ensure information security, such as password protection, encryption or a timed log out system. It is imperative to protect electronic medical records from unauthorized outside access by practicing safe password management. • Passwords are secure and changed on a regular basis Recommendation: If a client portal is being used, ensure that security is in place to protect client/animal confidential medical information.		
2	The electronic computer system automatically backs up files and allows the recovery of backed-up files or otherwise provides reasonable	Back-up process can be automatic or manual. Recommendation: At a minimum, the data of the medical record is backed up within 24 hours of the data entry. Recommendation: Be aware of cybersecurity risks and how to prevent them.		

	Requirements (A statement indicating what a facility must demonstrate to meet the standard.)	Guidance Notes (Additional information providing guidance that may include how a facility can meet the requirements, any mandatory compliance requirements to be met (for example, requirements under the Veterinarians Act), the background related to the need for the requirement, or links to other organizations which also provide guidance.)	Compliance Yes, No, or Not Applicable	Inspector Comments
	protection against loss of damage to and inaccessibility of information.			
3	The electronic computer system has a secure method that permits only the member to apply an electronic signature to a document that is issued electronically and must be signed by the member.	Scanned document is acceptable.		
4	The electronic computer system provides a visual display of recorded information for each animal in a chronological order.			

	Requirements (A statement indicating what a facility must demonstrate to meet the standard.)	Guidance Notes (Additional information providing guidance that may include how a facility can meet the requirements, any mandatory compliance requirements to be met (for example, requirements under the Veterinarians Act), the background related to the need for the requirement, or links to other organizations which also provide guidance.)	Compliance Yes, No, or Not Applicable	Inspector Comments
5	The electronic computer system provides a means of access to the record of each animal by its name or other unique identifier.			
6	The electronic computer system is capable of printing the recorded information promptly.			
7	The electronic computer system maintains an audit trail which must be in chronological order.	Rationale: The audit trail provides documentary evidence of the sequence of activities related to a set of records, including original entries where changes to the record were made. There is a system in place to ensure that any changes made to the original record can be readily identified and prevents fraudulent activity. Suggestions on how to meet this requirement: • Some systems have an on/off feature for preserving the original content of records.		

	Requirements (A statement indicating what a facility must demonstrate to meet the standard.)	Guidance Notes (Additional information providing guidance that may include how a facility can meet the requirements, any mandatory compliance requirements to be met (for example, requirements under the Veterinarians Act), the background related to the need for the requirement, or links to other organizations which also provide guidance.)	Compliance Yes, No, or Not Applicable	Inspector Comments
		• Other systems have a time-out feature or locking feature – this feature can be set so the system will time-out after a period of inactivity. The veterinarian must then sign back into the system to make the next entry. • If a software system does not have auditing capabilities, then a correction to the record can be documented as an addendum with the date of the change, the initials/name of the person making the change, reference to the entry being modified, and a notation explaining the reason for the change. • While some systems maintain an audit trail external to the main record, it is still considered part of the record. When making copies of electronic records, the audit trail must be accessible and capable of being printed. For further information refer to the College's Professional Practice Standard and Guide – Medical Records.		
8	Peripheral, handheld and wireless computing devices are maintained with similar data security as the main server.	All data contained in peripheral, handheld and wireless computing devices (laptops, wireless devices) is secured using methods such as password protection, encryption, or restrictions on leaving the premises.		

B. Universal Medical Records Requirements

	Requirements (A statement indicating what a facility must demonstrate to meet the standard.)	Guidance Notes (Additional information providing guidance that may include how a facility can meet the requirements, any mandatory compliance requirements to be met (for example, requirements under the Veterinarians Act), the background related to the need for the requirement, or links to other organizations which also provide guidance.)	Compliance Yes, No, or Not Applicable	Inspector Comments
1	Records are kept in a systematic manner.	Rationale: There must be an established system of medical record keeping within the practice.		
2	Medical records must be legible if hand-written.			
3	Where appropriate, standard abbreviations are utilized.	Suggestion on how to meet this requirement: If non-standard abbreviations are being used, then a list is available and can be provided when a copy of the medical record is transferred.		
4	Medical records are retained for a period of at least five years after the date of the last	Regulatory requirement: if a veterinarian retires or closes their practice, they must make arrangements for records to be stored for up to two years after the closure date of the practice.		

	Requirements (A statement indicating what a facility must demonstrate to meet the standard.)	Guidance Notes (Additional information providing guidance that may include how a facility can meet the requirements, any mandatory compliance requirements to be met (for example, requirements under the Veterinarians Act), the background related to the need for the requirement, or links to other organizations which also provide guidance.)	Compliance Yes, No, or Not Applicable	Inspector Comments
	entry in the record (not applicable if new facility).			
5	The author of all medical record entries must be identified.	For example: the practice may use unique identification numbers, initials, full name…etc. to identify the veterinarian or staff member making record entries.		
6	The fees and charges, showing separately those for drugs and those for advice or other services.	Ontario Regulation 1093 Section 22 requires that medical records include "fees and charges, showing separately those for drugs and those for advice or other services." This information is most often recorded on invoices as an itemized list of drugs and services that were provided. Other areas in the record where this information may be found are on treatment estimates or directly in the progress notes. As long as it is documented in one of these areas, it would meet this requirement. If a practice chooses not to list all drugs separately on the invoice, then they need to document fees for drugs elsewhere in the record. Resources:		

	Requirements (A statement indicating what a facility must demonstrate to meet the standard.)	Guidance Notes (Additional information providing guidance that may include how a facility can meet the requirements, any mandatory compliance requirements to be met (for example, requirements under the Veterinarians Act), the background related to the need for the requirement, or links to other organizations which also provide guidance.)	Compliance Yes, No, or Not Applicable	Inspector Comments
		Please review the FAQs in the Guide to the Standard on Medical Records (see pages 6 and 7) for additional information about documentation of fees: https://cvo.org/getmedia/e4042f00-5772-4932-b4a3-60f2080f574c/GuideMedicalRecords.pdf.aspx Sample Invoice: Fees for Drugs and Services: https://cvo.org/getmedia/ae4ccf8c-8c20-4244-8f8f-bb0ebfb64c48/SampleDocumentInvoiceFeesforDrugsandServices.pdf.aspx		
7	Documentation of informed consent is evident and appropriate for the recommended services.	For example, there is a record entry of verbal discussion or consent forms are used. Farmed animal/Equine/Poultry informed consent for surgery permits verbal consent or written consent. Regulations are not explicit. Verbal consent is fine and must be documented in medical record. Written consent for surgery and high-risk procedures is recommended (written consent for surgery for companion animals is a legislative requirement; not a legislative requirement for equine or farmed animal but is suggested for all species).		

	Requirements (A statement indicating what a facility must demonstrate to meet the standard.)	Guidance Notes (Additional information providing guidance that may include how a facility can meet the requirements, any mandatory compliance requirements to be met (for example, requirements under the Veterinarians Act), the background related to the need for the requirement, or links to other organizations which also provide guidance.)	Compliance Yes, No, or Not Applicable	Inspector Comments
		See Resources at the end of this section for links to Professional Practice Standard and Guide to Informed Consent.		
8	Release of medical record information upon request of the client is provided within a reasonable period of time. Relevant medical history is provided in a timely manner upon request of another veterinarian treating the animal when it is the same owner.	A reasonable time period depends on the nature of the request – usually 2 days is recommended; however, in an emergency this should occur as soon as possible. Consent for release of medical record information is not required when the request comes from another veterinarian treating the animal and it is the same owner. Release of information about the client, animal or any services provided to a third party requires client consent, except: • When required to do so by law. • When requested by the College. • To prevent injury to a person. • To identify the rightful owner of an animal.		

C. Content of Medical Records – Companion Animal

	Requirements (A statement indicating what a facility must demonstrate to meet the standard.)	Guidance Notes (Additional information providing guidance that may include how a facility can meet the requirements, any mandatory compliance requirements to be met (for example, requirements under the Veterinarians Act), the background related to the need for the requirement, or links to other organizations which also provide guidance.)	Compliance Yes, No, or Not Applicable	Inspector Comments
1	The medical record clearly reflects the date, presenting complaint, pertinent history, examination findings, assessment and plan for treatment and care.	For example: the use of SOAP or DAP format is a good way to organize the records and ensure these components are present.		
2	Patient information is properly identified.	Regulatory requirement: the following identification is recorded accurately on each patient's medical record: • Animal identification (patient name or unique identifier); • Species • Breed • Colour and/or markings • Age • Sex		

	Requirements (A statement indicating what a facility must demonstrate to meet the standard.)	Guidance Notes (Additional information providing guidance that may include how a facility can meet the requirements, any mandatory compliance requirements to be met (for example, requirements under the Veterinarians Act), the background related to the need for the requirement, or links to other organizations which also provide guidance.)	Compliance Yes, No, or Not Applicable	Inspector Comments
3	The client's name, address, and telephone numbers are recorded within each patient's medical record.	It is acceptable to use a phone number and an email address in the patient's medical record. If a client does not have a telephone number, this should be documented in the record.		
4	If the client is likely to be absent from his or her address while the animal is confined with the member, the name, address and telephone number of a person to be contacted in case of an emergency.	Recommendation: this may be found on client registration form or on consent form and should be updated at each visit. A sample client registration form is available on the College website: See link to Sample Documents page at the end of this section under resources. This can be marked as N/A where a case does not require emergency contact information because the animal is not confined with the member. Therefore, this may not apply for a companion animal vehicle or for some limited scopes where the animal is never confined with the member. There may be situations when a client does not have an emergency contact or alternate person to be contacted available. This should be documented in the medical record.		
5	A history of the animal's health	Recommendation: The medical history includes: • Description of the presenting complaint;		

	Requirements (A statement indicating what a facility must demonstrate to meet the standard.)	Guidance Notes (Additional information providing guidance that may include how a facility can meet the requirements, any mandatory compliance requirements to be met (for example, requirements under the Veterinarians Act), the background related to the need for the requirement, or links to other organizations which also provide guidance.)	Compliance Yes, No, or Not Applicable	Inspector Comments
		• Description of general health history/body systems review; • Vaccine history (vaccine record).		
6	Particulars of each assessment, including physical examination data.	Suggestions on how to meet this requirement: • Physical exam findings are written out, or contained in a template or protocol; • Animal's weight is recorded at each visit; • If a system is not examined this should be recorded.		
7	Particulars of each assessment, including any diagnostic investigations, performed or ordered by the veterinarian and the results of each assessment.	Diagnostic investigation – diagnostic tests and laboratory results are present.		
8	An assessment of the animal is documented.	Suggestions for how to meet this requirement: An assessment includes: • a problem list; • differential diagnoses; • diagnostic test result interpretation; and • tentative or final diagnosis.		

	Requirements (A statement indicating what a facility must demonstrate to meet the standard.)	Guidance Notes (Additional information providing guidance that may include how a facility can meet the requirements, any mandatory compliance requirements to be met (for example, requirements under the Veterinarians Act), the background related to the need for the requirement, or links to other organizations which also provide guidance.)	Compliance Yes, No, or Not Applicable	Inspector Comments
9	A copy of all reports prepared by the veterinarian in respect of the animal.	Specialist consultation reports are either summarized in the patient's medical record or the specialists report is present. Certificate of rabies immunization or a statement of exemption contains the required information as per HPPA Reg. 567 and a copy retained in the record. This is part of the animal's medical record.		
10	Lab samples, animal remains…etc. have a means of patient identification (i.e., name of patient and client's last name, or patient ID number).			
11	The vaccination history is part of the medical record and is easily retrievable.	It is evident that the vaccine history is documented either in a cumulative patient profile or in the patient's medical record entries. This should include vaccine type and date administered. It may be recorded in vaccine certificates.		
12	Records of treatment, both medical and surgical, reflect all	A complete record of all written prescriptions and drugs that the veterinarian has prescribed or dispensed or administered. (see Appendix A)		

	Requirements (A statement indicating what a facility must demonstrate to meet the standard.)	Guidance Notes (Additional information providing guidance that may include how a facility can meet the requirements, any mandatory compliance requirements to be met (for example, requirements under the Veterinarians Act), the background related to the need for the requirement, or links to other organizations which also provide guidance.)	Compliance Yes, No, or Not Applicable	Inspector Comments
	procedures performed.	Drugs Administered • Name, strength, dose and route of drugs administered are recorded. Drugs Dispensed or Prescribed • Name, strength, quantity, dose and directions for use (including route) of drugs dispensed or prescribed are recorded. Surgical treatment details are recorded (in progress notes or a protocol) and include the approach used, findings and type of surgery.		
13	Professional advice and client communication is adequately documented.	Adequate information is documented related to advice and client communication. Recommendation: documented in the medical record there is indication of when and to whom advice was given if other than to the client.		

D. Content of Medical Records – Farmed Animal and Equine

	Requirements (A statement indicating what a facility must demonstrate to meet the standard.)	Guidance Notes (Additional information providing guidance that may include how a facility can meet the requirements, any mandatory compliance requirements to be met (for example, requirements under the Veterinarians Act), the background related to the need for the requirement, or links to other organizations which also provide guidance.)	Compliance Yes, No, or Not Applicable	Inspector Comments
1	The medical record clearly reflects the date, presenting complaint, pertinent history, assessment and plan for treatment and care.	For example: the use of SOAP or DAP format is a good way to organize the records and ensure these components are present.		
2	Patient information is properly identified.	Regulatory requirement: Individual or herd identification, including breed and sex. If individual advice or care is given, at least one of the animal's name, the animal's tattoo or ear-tag number or the animal's colour, markings or other distinguishing physical features.		
3	The client's name, address, and telephone numbers are recorded within each patient's medical record.	It is acceptable to use a phone number and an email address in the patient's medical record. If a client does not have a telephone number, this should be documented in the record.		

	Requirements (A statement indicating what a facility must demonstrate to meet the standard.)	Guidance Notes (Additional information providing guidance that may include how a facility can meet the requirements, any mandatory compliance requirements to be met (for example, requirements under the Veterinarians Act), the background related to the need for the requirement, or links to other organizations which also provide guidance.)	Compliance Yes, No, or Not Applicable	Inspector Comments
4	The name and telephone number of a person to be contacted in the absence of the client.	This information may be found on the client registration form or on consent forms. A sample client registration form is available on the College website: See link to Sample Documents page at the end of this section under resources. Equine and farmed animal – can be trainer or another designated person. There maybe situations when client does not have an alternate person to be contacted available. This should be documented.		
5	A history of presenting complaint is documented.	Description of the presenting complaint.		
6	Particulars of each assessment, including any laboratory investigations performed or ordered by the veterinarian and	Suggestion on how to meet the requirement: • If individual animal, physical examination data (in progress notes, template, or protocol). • Presence of diagnostic tests and laboratory results. • If a herd or group of animals is assessed, there is documentation of the particulars of that assessment, e.g., may include individual animal physical examinations on a representative sample of the		

	Requirements (A statement indicating what a facility must demonstrate to meet the standard.)	Guidance Notes (Additional information providing guidance that may include how a facility can meet the requirements, any mandatory compliance requirements to be met (for example, requirements under the Veterinarians Act), the background related to the need for the requirement, or links to other organizations which also provide guidance.)	Compliance Yes, No, or Not Applicable	Inspector Comments
	the results of each assessment.	group, inquiry about management practices, husbandry, diagnostic test results on a subset of animals, etc.		
7	A copy of any report prepared by the veterinarian in respect of the individual or herd.	If applicable, specialist consultation reports are summarized in the medical record or the specialist's report is present. Certificate of rabies immunization or a statement of exemption contains the required information as per Health Protection Promotion Act (HPPA) Reg. 567 and a copy retained in the record. It is part of the animal's medical record. HPPA 567 – amended July 1, 2018: 2. (1) Every owner or person having the care or custody of a horse, cow, bull, steer, calf, sheep or other livestock for which a rabies vaccine licensed for use in Canada is available shall ensure that each such animal is immunized against rabies. O. Reg. 497/17, s. 1. (2) Subsection (1) does not apply to a horse, cow, bull, steer, calf, sheep or other livestock that is accessible only to the person or persons who are responsible for the care and control of such animal. O. Reg. 497/17, s. 1.		
8	Lab samples, animal remains…etc. have a means of patient identification (i.e.,	For example: Animal's name, the animal's tattoo or ear-tag number.		

	Requirements (A statement indicating what a facility must demonstrate to meet the standard.)	Guidance Notes (Additional information providing guidance that may include how a facility can meet the requirements, any mandatory compliance requirements to be met (for example, requirements under the Veterinarians Act), the background related to the need for the requirement, or links to other organizations which also provide guidance.)	Compliance Yes, No, or Not Applicable	Inspector Comments
	individual animal identification and client's last name).			
9	A complete record of all written prescriptions and drugs that the veterinarian has prescribed or dispensed, including withholding times.	See Appendix A for how to meet this requirement: Drugs Administered • Name, strength, dose and route of drugs administered are recorded. Drugs Dispensed or Prescribed • Name, strength, quantity, dose and directions for use (including route) of drugs dispensed or prescribed are recorded.		
10	Professional advice and client communication is adequately documented.	Adequate information is documented related to advice and client communication.		

E. Content of Medical Records – Poultry

	Requirements (A statement indicating what a facility must demonstrate to meet the standard.)	Guidance Notes (Additional information providing guidance that may include how a facility can meet the requirements, any mandatory compliance requirements to be met (for example, requirements under the Veterinarians Act), the background related to the need for the requirement, or links to other organizations which also provide guidance.)	Compliance Yes, No, or Not Applicable	Inspector Comments
1	The medical record clearly reflects the date, presenting complaint, pertinent history, assessment and plan for treatment and care.	For example: the use of SOAP or DAP format is a good way to organize the records and ensure these components are present.		
2	Patient information is properly identified.	Regulatory requirement: the following identification is recorded accurately in the medical record: • Animal identification – herd, flock or (patient name or unique identifier); • Species and type.		
3	The client's name, address, and telephone numbers are recorded within each patient's medical record.	It is acceptable to use a phone number and an email address in the patient's medical record. If a client does not have a telephone number, this should be documented in the record.		
4	The name and telephone number of a	This information may be found on the client registration form or on consent forms.		

	Requirements (A statement indicating what a facility must demonstrate to meet the standard.)	Guidance Notes (Additional information providing guidance that may include how a facility can meet the requirements, any mandatory compliance requirements to be met (for example, requirements under the Veterinarians Act), the background related to the need for the requirement, or links to other organizations which also provide guidance.)	Compliance Yes, No, or Not Applicable	Inspector Comments
	person to be contacted in the absence of the client.	A sample client registration form is available on the College website: See link to Sample Documents page at the end of this section under resources. There maybe situations when client does not have an alternate person to be contacted available. This should be documented.		
5	A history of presenting complaint is documented.	Description of the presenting complaint.		
6	Particulars of each assessment, including any laboratory investigations performed or ordered by the member and the results of each assessment.	Suggestions for how to meet this requirement: • If individual animal, physical examination data (in progress notes, template, or protocol). • Presence of diagnostic tests and laboratory results.		
7	A copy of any report prepared by the veterinarian in respect of the bird or flock.	If applicable, specialist consultation reports are summarized in the medical record or the specialist's report is present.		
8	Lab samples, animal remains…etc. have a means of patient	For example: Bird or flock identification.		

	Requirements (A statement indicating what a facility must demonstrate to meet the standard.)	Guidance Notes (Additional information providing guidance that may include how a facility can meet the requirements, any mandatory compliance requirements to be met (for example, requirements under the Veterinarians Act), the background related to the need for the requirement, or links to other organizations which also provide guidance.)	Compliance Yes, No, or Not Applicable	Inspector Comments
	identification (i.e., bird identification and client's last name).			
9	A complete record of all written prescriptions and drugs that the veterinarian has prescribed or dispensed, including withholding times.	See Appendix A for how to meet this requirement: Drugs Administered • Name, strength, dose and route of drugs administered are recorded. Drugs Dispensed or Prescribed • Name, strength, quantity, dose and directions for use (including route) of drugs dispensed or prescribed are recorded.		
10	Professional advice and client communication is adequately documented.	Adequate information is documented related to advice and client communication for continuity of care and to document discussions around informed client consent.		

Appendix A

Ontario Regulation 1093 section 26 and 27

Prescribing

- Prescription pads are stored securely and only accessed and used by veterinarians.
- A veterinarian who issues a written prescription shall sign the prescription and include the following information on the prescription:

1. The name, strength and quantity of the drug.
2. The name and address of the member.
3. The identity of the animal or group of animals for which the drug is prescribed.
4. The name of the client.
5. The prescribed directions for use.
6. The date the prescription is issued, including the day, month and year.
7. The withholding times* if the prescription is for a farmed animal.
8. The number of refills permitted, if any.
9. The member's name, in print or legible form.
10. The member's licence number issued by the College. O. Reg. 233/15, s. 18.

*Withholding Time: Withholding time means, in reference to a food-producing animal that receives a drug or substance, the period of time for which the animal or the product(s) of the animal should be withheld or withdrawn from sale for consumption.

When a member prescribes, dispenses or administers a drug or substance for use in food-producing animals, the member shall advise the client of an appropriate withholding time, which shall be at least as long as the withholding time recommended by the manufacturer of the drug or substance.

The container in which the drug or substance is dispensed shall include on the label, legibly and conspicuously displayed on the outer surface of the container, a warning of an appropriate withholding time, which shall be at least as long as the withholding time recommended by the manufacturer.

When a member dispenses a drug or substance for use in a food-producing animal in an extra-label manner, they need to advise the recipient of the drug or substance that the appropriate withholding time is not known but should be substantially longer than the recommended withholding time.

- A veterinarian who dispenses a drug shall legibly label the container in which the drug is dispensed with,

    1. the name, strength and quantity of the drug;
    2. the date the drug is dispensed;
    3. the name and address of the member;
    4. the identity of the animal or group of animals for which it is dispensed;
    5. the name of the owner of the animal or animals;
    6. the minimal withholding time where applicable; and
    7. the prescribed directions for use. R.R.O. 1990, Reg. 1093, s. 27 (3).

- When a drug is dispensed in its original container information on the manufacturer's label does not need to be replicated on the dispensing label. The dispensing label must not obstruct required information on the manufacturer's label.
- Dispensed drugs are properly packaged considering the nature of the drug and its sensitivity to light, heat or freezing.
- Child-resistant containers are used unless: this type of container is not suitable for the drug, or the client declines.

Resources

1) Sample Documents

    https://cvo.org/Resources/Sample-Documents.aspx

https://cvo.org/CVO/media/College-of-Veterinarians-of-Ontario/Resources%20and%20Publications/Templates%20and%20Protocols/SampleForm-CompanionAnimalClientRegistrationForm.pdf

2) Guide to the Standard on Medical Records (see pages 6 and 7) for additional information about documentation of fees: https://cvo.org/getmedia/e4042f00-5772-4932-b4a3-60f2080f574c/GuideMedicalRecords.pdf.aspx

Sample Invoice: Fees for Drugs and Services: https://cvo.org/getmedia/ae4ccf8c-8c20-4244-8f8f-bb0ebfb64c48/SampleDocumentInvoiceFeesforDrugsandServices.pdf.aspx

Number 3-9 can be located at : https://cvo.org/Resources/Professional-Practice-Standards-and-College-Policy.aspx

3) Position Statement: Bundled Services
4) Professional Practice Standard – Prescribing
5) Professional Practice Standard – Dispensing
6) Professional Practice Standard – Extra-Label Drug Use
7) Professional Practice Standard – Compounding
8) Professional Practice Standard and Guide to the Standard – Informed Consent
9) PPS Medical Records and Guideline

3. Safety Management

Objective: All practices are responsible for protecting the health and safety of staff, the public and animals from exposure to hazards and risks.

Each veterinary practice should identify risks and hazards and plan specific responses for each scenario. Planning for these situations is recommended for the safety of staff, patients and the public as well as ensuring ongoing patient care. Each practice has legal obligations to meet at the municipal, provincial and federal level.

The intention of the Safety Management standards is not to replace the Occupational Health and Safety Act (OHSA) which is Ontario's cornerstone legislation for workplace health and safety. These standards are to ensure the public that practices are upholding their responsibility to workplace safety for all who interact with the practice. Other contributing legislation includes Fair Workplaces and Better Jobs Act, as well as the Workplace Safety and Insurance Act (WSIA), Part II which deals with the prevention of occupational injury and disease and the Human Rights Code, which often has to be considered in dealing with OHSA issues.

	Requirements (A statement indicating what a facility must demonstrate to meet the standard.)	Guidance Notes (Additional information providing guidance that may include how a facility can meet the requirements, any mandatory compliance requirements to be met (for example, requirements under the Veterinarians Act), the background related to the need for the requirement, or links to other organizations which also provide guidance.)	Compliance Yes, No or Not Applicable	Inspector Comments
1	The practice is expected to comply with federal, provincial and municipal legislation regarding workplace safety.	New practices are required to provide an occupancy permit that confirms adherence to the Ontario Building Code before they will be permitted to open to the public. Suggestions on how to meet the requirement: Demonstrate access to Workplace Hazardous Materials Information System (WHMIS), Occupational Health and Safety Act (OHSA), Workplace Safety and Insurance Act (WSIA), Human Rights Code (HRC), Accessibility for Ontarians with Disabilities Act (AODA). The practice may have a resource manual containing this information or virtual access.		
2	There are written policies and procedures for work place safety.	Self-employed veterinarians where they are the only worker: this is recommended, but not required.		
3	Annual safety training occurs for staff.	To provide a safe environment for clients, patients, and staff , the practice performs annual safety training. Recommendation: Annual safety training should be documented. Self-employed veterinarians where they are the only worker do not need to document their annual safety training.		

	Requirements (A statement indicating what a facility must demonstrate to meet the standard.)	Guidance Notes (Additional information providing guidance that may include how a facility can meet the requirements, any mandatory compliance requirements to be met (for example, requirements under the Veterinarians Act), the background related to the need for the requirement, or links to other organizations which also provide guidance.)	Compliance Yes, No or Not Applicable	Inspector Comments
4	Security management is in place to prevent theft, including any controlled substances.	Suggestions for how to meet the requirement: there should be opening and closing procedures, cash handling, controlled drug storage, and/or alarm system procedures in place.		
5	The practice has a written emergency preparedness plan and staff are familiar with this plan. N/A – vehicle and veterinary surgical mobile	Recommendation: The emergency preparedness plan includes: • An evacuation plan for people and animals. • An assembly area or meeting place so that everyone can be accounted for. • Emergency contacts. • Location of gas shut off, oxygen tanks and electrical breakers (in case, the fire department asks for this information). • Options for containment of patients once evacuated.		
6	Fire safety management is in place and staff are familiar with procedures in the event of a fire. N/A – vehicle and veterinary surgical mobile	Suggestions for how to meet the requirement: • Instructions for building evacuation and animal handling, in case of fire, are available and familiar to staff. These instructions can be similar to those indicated above in #5. • Smoke detectors and fire extinguishers are accessible, properly maintained and are expected to comply with municipal and provincial requirements. • Portable fire extinguishers are subject to an annual maintenance check.		

	Requirements (A statement indicating what a facility must demonstrate to meet the standard.)	Guidance Notes (Additional information providing guidance that may include how a facility can meet the requirements, any mandatory compliance requirements to be met (for example, requirements under the Veterinarians Act), the background related to the need for the requirement, or links to other organizations which also provide guidance.)	Compliance Yes, No or Not Applicable	Inspector Comments
		• Emergency phone numbers including fire, hospital, police and poison control centre are posted in a readily accessible location and familiar to staff.		
7	Work-related exposure to hazards are identified for staff and policies and procedures are in place to manage these. Staff are familiar with the policies and procedures and adhere to them. This will depend on the scope of services and species being treated.	These policies and procedures can be included in the workplace safety policies in Item 1. Work-related hazards may include, but are not limited to: hazardous chemicals, anesthetic gases, compressed gases, injury due to animal handling, safety related to sharps handling, and rabies exposure, etc. Recommendation: Employers (including self-employed) are aware of their compliance with OHSA with respect to toxic substances. For example, hazardous material identification and data sheets.		
8	Clean and contaminated items and protective	Suggestions for how to meet the requirement:		

	Requirements (A statement indicating what a facility must demonstrate to meet the standard.)	Guidance Notes (Additional information providing guidance that may include how a facility can meet the requirements, any mandatory compliance requirements to be met (for example, requirements under the Veterinarians Act), the background related to the need for the requirement, or links to other organizations which also provide guidance.)	Compliance Yes, No or Not Applicable	Inspector Comments
	clothing are separated, and there is safe storage and transport of waste materials including sharps.	• An adequate supply of clean or disposable linens and supplies are available. There is clear separation of clean and contaminated items and protective clothing. • All soiled linens are contained and covered to prevent spread of contamination. • Containers are available for safe storage, transport and/or disposal of waste materials.		
9	Adequate emergency lighting exists.	A source of back-up lighting and power in case of emergency or lengthy power outages is recommended. Recommendation: Battery-operated lights or alternative power sources are maintained and inspected on a regular basis. Lighting should be sufficient to complete tasks if necessary.		
10	Adequate and humane animal restraint measures are in place to protect staff and animals.	Suggestions for how to meet the requirement: • There may be policies and procedures in place outlining animal restraint measures to ensure animal and human safety and humane handling, inclusive of a provision for staff to refuse to handle and restrain patients (only handle and restrain if it is safe to do so). Can be included in policies in # 1. • Staff can describe how this is met to the inspector		
11	Food preparation and storage for staff is separate from clinical			

	Requirements (A statement indicating what a facility must demonstrate to meet the standard.)	Guidance Notes (Additional information providing guidance that may include how a facility can meet the requirements, any mandatory compliance requirements to be met (for example, requirements under the Veterinarians Act), the background related to the need for the requirement, or links to other organizations which also provide guidance.)	Compliance Yes, No or Not Applicable	Inspector Comments
	areas to prevent cross-contamination. N/A – vehicle and veterinary surgical mobile			

Resources

Ontario Veterinary Medical Association (OVMA) – https://www.ovma.org/

Workplace Hazardous Materials Information System (WHMIS) – http://whmis.org/

Occupational Health and Safety Act (OHSA) – https://www.labour.gov.on.ca/english/hs/index.php

Workplace Safety and Insurance Act (WSIA) – https://www.ontario.ca/laws/statute/97w16

Human Rights Code (HRC) – https://www.ontario.ca/laws/statute/90h19

Fair Workplaces Better Jobs Act, 2018 – https://www.labour.gov.on.ca/english/es/faqs/fair-workplaces-changes/index.php

Ontario Building Code – https://www.ontario.ca/laws/regulation/120332

Accessibility for Ontarians with Disabilities Act (AODA), 2005 – https://www.ontario.ca/laws/statute/05a11

4. Professional Reference Sources

Objective: The Professional Reference Sources must be relevant to both the scope of practice conducted at the practice, and the species of animal that are cared for by the practice. Veterinarians and staff at the practice must have prompt access to current, relevant and peer-reviewed medical information.

The information can be in the form of printed material, electronic storage format or via the internet. A single source of reference material is not permitted. It is recommended that in the case of an electrical outage, the facility still has access to resource materials as necessary.

	Requirements (A statement indicating what a facility must demonstrate to meet the standard.)	Guidance Notes (Additional information providing guidance that may include how a facility can meet the requirements, any mandatory compliance requirements to be met (for example, requirements under the Veterinarians Act), the background related to the need for the requirement, or links to other organizations which also provide guidance.)	Compliance Yes, No or Not Applicable	Inspector Comments
1	At the time of inspection, members should be able to demonstrate the ability to access current scientific literature	The Professional Reference Sources may contain a combination of the items listed below, but not necessarily limited to: i. Appropriate textbooks, ii. Subscriptions to professional journals, iii. Written or electronic proceedings from conferences or lectures and iv. Other printed materials appropriate to the scope of practice and species.		

	relevant to their scope of practice.	v. Peer-approved, reliable on-line veterinary resources (for example Veterinary Information Network (VIN)). Audio visual and computer-based reference material may also be available. All reference material within the Professional Reference Sources should be updated continually.		

5. Professional Practice

Objective: Veterinary medicine is a provincially regulated, self-governing profession. This privilege comes with significant commitment to protecting the public interest. As members of a self-regulated profession who serve the public and society, veterinarians earn and maintain the public trust through engagement in principle-guided ethical practice. Veterinarians hold themselves, their colleagues, and their profession to a high standard of ethical conduct, reflecting the core values and principles of the profession. The College and the public have the reasonable expectation that the care and service provided by veterinarians reflects these values.

As a profession and as professionals, veterinarians recognize and acknowledge their role and responsibility in attaining (at a personal, professional, and at a system-level) the best possible patient outcome.

Every veterinary practice is operated in accordance with the Veterinarians Act, the regulations and the facility standards established by the Council under section 8 of the Act. (O.Reg.1093 section 10(c)(i)).

The role of a facility director for the purposes of facility accreditation is an important one. To assist in understanding the role and responsibilities, the Policy Statement – Facility Director - Accreditation has been developed to clarify the obligations and responsibilities of a facility director with respect to ensuring that an accredited veterinary facility is operating in accordance with the Veterinarians Act, its Regulations, and facility standards as established by the Council under section 8 of the Act: https://cvo.org/getmedia/f6c509bf-d087-4f2e-8b46-6efd13a0b958/PSFacilityDirector.pdf.aspx

	Requirements (A statement indicating what a facility must demonstrate to meet the standard.)	Guidance Notes (Additional information providing guidance that may include how a facility can meet the requirements, any mandatory compliance requirements to be met (for example, requirements under the Veterinarians Act), the background related to the need for the requirement, or links to other organizations which also provide guidance.)	Compliance Yes, No or Not Applicable	Inspector Comments
1	All veterinarians practicing veterinary medicine from the practice hold an active licence with the CVO.	The facility director should be able to confirm that all of the veterinarians working at the practice hold an active license to practice in Ontario, and that any restrictions on the license are being adhered to.		
2	The name used by a member in the practice of veterinary medicine shall be the same as the name in which the member is entered in the College's public register.	The facility director should be able to confirm that names of veterinarians working at the practice are the same as that on the Public Register. If not, the veterinarian needs to make the change in their professional practice portal. Rationale: The public can access the College's public register at all times and search for the member's name and practice.		This would be confirmed by staff prior to inspection.
3	The name of the facility is in accordance with the College's advertising regulations	There are no facility naming rules; however, the name must comply with advertising regulations.		
4	Veterinarians who are veterinary practice owners will hold a general licence. If the veterinarian owner has a restriction on their licence,	Regulatory requirement: O.Reg.1093 section 11(2)(3)(i).		This would be confirmed by staff prior to inspection.

	Requirements (A statement indicating what a facility must demonstrate to meet the standard.)	Guidance Notes (Additional information providing guidance that may include how a facility can meet the requirements, any mandatory compliance requirements to be met (for example, requirements under the Veterinarians Act), the background related to the need for the requirement, or links to other organizations which also provide guidance.)	Compliance Yes, No or Not Applicable	Inspector Comments
	the conditions of the certificate of accreditation are consistent with the restriction, if applicable.	For example, a veterinarian with a licence restricted to poultry would only be able to apply for a Poultry Service facility. Veterinarians with a restricted licence with direct or indirect supervision are not permitted to own a practice.		
5	The inspector shall confirm the scope of professional activity of the practice by service category and species of animal, and veterinarians are practicing within their scope of practice.	Change in service category and/or species of animal must be reported to the College immediately.		
6	There is evidence that communication to the public clearly confirms the scope of services and species that are offered at the facility.	The practice provides clients with up-to-date information about the services they provide, and the species of animals cared for at the facility. This information can be disseminated through: website, signage and social media.		

	Requirements (A statement indicating what a facility must demonstrate to meet the standard.)	Guidance Notes (Additional information providing guidance that may include how a facility can meet the requirements, any mandatory compliance requirements to be met (for example, requirements under the Veterinarians Act), the background related to the need for the requirement, or links to other organizations which also provide guidance.)	Compliance Yes, No or Not Applicable	Inspector Comments
		Veterinarians may advertise the professional services provided from the facility, , in accordance with the Professional Practice Standard – Advertising.		
7	The facility director is responsible for making all necessary applications for facility accreditation in a timely manner. The facility director will facilitate the scheduling of an inspection and ensure all staff and licensed veterinarians at the facility fully cooperate with and respond to all reasonable requests of an inspector.	The facility director is required to notify the College of circumstances which affect the accreditation. For example; ownership change, new species treated, change in veterinary scope of practice, relocation. The certificate of accreditation shall expire prior to the 5 year term if: • The Registrar issues or renews the certificate on condition that it expire at an earlier date; • A veterinary facility, or stationary element of a facility with a mobile element, is relocated; • The veterinary facility no longer has a facility director; • The veterinary facility no longer has any members who meet the requirements in		

	Requirements (A statement indicating what a facility must demonstrate to meet the standard.)	Guidance Notes (Additional information providing guidance that may include how a facility can meet the requirements, any mandatory compliance requirements to be met (for example, requirements under the Veterinarians Act), the background related to the need for the requirement, or links to other organizations which also provide guidance.)	Compliance Yes, No or Not Applicable	Inspector Comments
		the regulations paragraph 3 of subsection 11 (2); • The veterinary facility no longer has any members who have made an undertaking that would satisfy the requirements set out in the regulations paragraph 6 of subsection 11 (2)		
8	The Certificate of Accreditation shall be displayed in a location visible to the public within the practice. The name of the facility director and their contact information are clearly and publicly displayed at the veterinary facility. N/A – vehicle and veterinary surgical mobile	Regulatory requirement: O. Reg. 1093 section 10(3). Policy Statement – Facility Director – Accreditation: https://cvo.org/getmedia/f6c509bf-d087-4f2e-8b46-6efd13a0b958/PSFacilityDirector.pdf.aspx		
9	There is evidence of an arrangement (which may include a written agreement) for clients to	A written agreement between different facilities is not required, but both parties should agree to the arrangement.		

	Requirements (A statement indicating what a facility must demonstrate to meet the standard.)	Guidance Notes (Additional information providing guidance that may include how a facility can meet the requirements, any mandatory compliance requirements to be met (for example, requirements under the Veterinarians Act), the background related to the need for the requirement, or links to other organizations which also provide guidance.)	Compliance Yes, No or Not Applicable	Inspector Comments
	receive medically necessary services in a prompt fashion outside of regular hours and that clients are informed of this arrangement.	Suggestions for how to meet the requirement: • There may be a procedure or protocol that outlines how this responsibility is met. • Information on a website, signage, or phone message is provided • There may be a written and signed agreement From After Hours Care policy on CVO website: A veterinarian meets their obligation to provide after-hours services in a number of ways. Veterinarians may choose to: • Provide “on-call” services either by themselves or in cooperation with other licensed veterinarians at the same accredited facility or through an in-house teletriage service; • Arrange coverage agreements with other licensed veterinarians at neighbouring accredited facilities who have agreed to share the provision of “on-call” service;		

	Requirements (A statement indicating what a facility must demonstrate to meet the standard.)	Guidance Notes (Additional information providing guidance that may include how a facility can meet the requirements, any mandatory compliance requirements to be met (for example, requirements under the Veterinarians Act), the background related to the need for the requirement, or links to other organizations which also provide guidance.)	Compliance Yes, No or Not Applicable	Inspector Comments
		• join a "call group" comprising members from a number of practices that cover for each other's practices on a rotating schedule; • Refer clients to an independent, Ontario accredited teletriage service; • Refer clients to another accredited facility that provides 24/7 services and has agreed to accept the referrals; or • refer clients to an Emergency Clinic Suggestions for how to meet requirement for limited scope of services: Veterinarians with a limited scope or who see clients by referral from the primary care veterinarian are responsible for providing after-hours care related to their scope of services. They may choose any of the arrangements described above to meet this obligation.		

	Requirements (A statement indicating what a facility must demonstrate to meet the standard.)	Guidance Notes (Additional information providing guidance that may include how a facility can meet the requirements, any mandatory compliance requirements to be met (for example, requirements under the Veterinarians Act), the background related to the need for the requirement, or links to other organizations which also provide guidance.)	Compliance Yes, No or Not Applicable	Inspector Comments
		When establishing the VCPR, it should be clear what scope of services are provided and the services that are not provided to obtain informed client consent. For example, a veterinarian providing rehabilitation services by referral from the primary veterinarian has an arrangement for clients to contact their primary veterinarian for after-hours care related to the rehab services. The primary veterinarian has agreed to this arrangement.		

Resources:

Professional Practice Standard Advertising: https://cvo.org/CVO/media/College-of-Veterinarians-of-Ontario/Resources%20and%20Publications/Professional%20Practice%20Standards/Advertising.pdf

Guide on Professionalism for Veterinarians: https://cvo.org/getmedia/29e4c106-6785-4552-8673-4911c5364c11/GuidanceonProfessionalism.pdf.aspx

Professional Practice Standard and Guide: Telemedicine: https://cvo.org/getmedia/57fa4e6f-3bbb-4596-9d89-c5f5a4772bd4/Telemedicine.aspx and https://cvo.org/getmedia/e1199958-3f32-4b89-8bcf-fb3a72b6f8bc/TelemedicineGuide.pdf.aspx

Policy Statement – After Hours Care Services: https://cvo.org/getmedia/f1c3c8d7-9f1e-4117-a6b8-daa699ab442b/PSAfterHoursCare.pdf.aspx

6. Pharmaceutical Management

Objective: Veterinarians are authorized to prescribe, dispense, and administer pharmaceutical products, including medication and drugs. These products must be handled responsibly and in compliance with provincial and federal legislation. It is essential that such products are safe, effective, and are prescribed and used rationally.

Veterinarians are authorized to prescribe, dispense and administer controlled drugs and narcotics. With that authority comes the responsibility to mitigate the risk of inappropriate or illegal access to controlled drugs. This responsibility includes the overall management of any controlled drugs used in a veterinary practice, including disposal.

The facility shall contain a range of pharmaceuticals consistent with a good standard of practice specific to the species and the scope of practice.

The College's Professional Practice Standard: Management and Disposal of Controlled Drugs applies to all veterinarians who prescribe, dispense or administer controlled drugs.

	Requirements (A statement indicating what a facility must demonstrate to meet the standard.)	Guidance Notes (Additional information providing guidance that may include how a facility can meet the requirements, any mandatory compliance requirements to be met (for example, requirements under the Veterinarians Act), the background related to the need for the requirement, or links to other organizations which also provide guidance.)	Compliance Yes, No or Not Applicable	Inspector Comments
1	Access to pharmaceuticals is restricted to authorized individuals. If controlled drugs are used, adherence to storage requirements is evident.	No public access; only staff authorized by the responsible veterinarian. Access is restricted in a manner that prevents theft or misuse. Controlled drugs are stored in a separate lockable area with limited authorized access. Examples: safe, locked cabinets, locked fridge. Controlled drugs are removed from the vehicle when not in use. Applies to vehicle and veterinary surgical mobile: have the capacity to be locked and to secure all veterinary equipment, supplies and pharmaceuticals in a manner that protects the public.		
2	Maintains a record-keeping system for inventory management of all medications that includes regular audits. If controlled drugs are used, proper logs and inventory management are expected to follow	Ensures that the Controlled Drug Log contains information about what drugs were used for which animals, the date that a controlled substance is dispensed or administered, the name and address of the client, the name, strength, and quantity of the controlled substance dispensed or administered, and the quantity of the controlled substance remaining in the member's inventory after the controlled substance is dispensed or administered.		

	Requirements (A statement indicating what a facility must demonstrate to meet the standard.)	Guidance Notes (Additional information providing guidance that may include how a facility can meet the requirements, any mandatory compliance requirements to be met (for example, requirements under the Veterinarians Act), the background related to the need for the requirement, or links to other organizations which also provide guidance.)	Compliance Yes, No or Not Applicable	Inspector Comments
	provincial and federal legislation.	A current, verifiable weekly **(every 7 days)** inventory of controlled drugs is maintained. This would be required for all species, inclusive of farmed animal and equine. Recommended: Regular audits of non-controlled drug inventory should be at least once a year. There should be evidence of audits taking place and any discrepancies reconciled. Management of controlled drugs must be in accordance with Ontario Regulation 1093 and the Professional Practice Standards.		
3	The medication storage system ensures that all medications are easily located and properly identified at all times.	Suggestions for how to meet the requirement: • Organization systems such as alphabetical, usage or type may be utilized. • Secondary containers for the storage of drugs within the facility have labels containing the name, strength where applicable, lot number and expiry date of the drug.		
4	Proper storage and handling of medication is evident to ensure the integrity and efficacy of the medication and adheres to the	Suggestions for how to meet the requirement: • Storage at the proper temperature, with safeguards in place to ensure there are no fluctuations in temperature that will interfere with the integrity of the product.		

	Requirements (A statement indicating what a facility must demonstrate to meet the standard.)	Guidance Notes (Additional information providing guidance that may include how a facility can meet the requirements, any mandatory compliance requirements to be met (for example, requirements under the Veterinarians Act), the background related to the need for the requirement, or links to other organizations which also provide guidance.)	Compliance Yes, No or Not Applicable	Inspector Comments
	manufacturer's recommendations.	• Refrigeration includes the ability to measure the temperature regularly. A thermometer in the fridge is recommended but is not a requirement. • The pharmacy area should be designed, constructed and maintained in order to ensure the integrity and the safety and appropriate storage of all drugs and medications; including, the proper conditions of sanitation, temperature, light, humidity, ventilation, segregation and security. Applies to vehicle and veterinary surgical mobile: have appropriate mechanism for keeping pharmaceuticals stored at the proper temperature (i.e., refrigerator, cooler, etc.).		
5	Handling, administering, and dispensing of medications ensures that cross-contamination or adulteration is prevented and ensures the safety of the person handling or administering the medication if appropriate.	Suggestions for how to meet the requirement: • Handling is in conjunction with manufacturer's instructions • Staff and clients are alerted to any hazardous medications. • Hazardous medications are clearly identified and handled appropriately according to manufacturer's instructions.		

	Requirements (A statement indicating what a facility must demonstrate to meet the standard.)	Guidance Notes (Additional information providing guidance that may include how a facility can meet the requirements, any mandatory compliance requirements to be met (for example, requirements under the Veterinarians Act), the background related to the need for the requirement, or links to other organizations which also provide guidance.)	Compliance Yes, No or Not Applicable	Inspector Comments
6	There is evidence of access to at least one current written or electronic veterinary pharmaceutical reference that is specific to the species and the scope of practice.			
7	Expired, damaged or contaminated drugs are identified and kept separate from regular inventory until safely disposed of.	Suggestion for how to meet requirement: • Expiry dates of all drugs are recorded to ensure that expired drugs are never dispensed or administered to patients. Prompt disposal using a documented system of disposal will prevent the accumulation of expired, damaged or contaminated drugs. This includes injectable drugs where there is drug remaining in the syringe after administration that was not used.		
8	Safe disposal of expired, unusable, damaged or contaminated drugs is expected to be done in accordance with federal regulations and any environmental	Evidence that a system for safe disposal is in place, e.g., Stericycle, local pharmacy, municipal hazardous waste drop off..etc. If controlled drugs are used, refer to the College's Professional Practice Standard – Management and Disposal of Controlled Drugs. For example, destruction and disposal of expired controlled drugs should be documented in the controlled drug log.		

	Requirements (A statement indicating what a facility must demonstrate to meet the standard.)	Guidance Notes (Additional information providing guidance that may include how a facility can meet the requirements, any mandatory compliance requirements to be met (for example, requirements under the Veterinarians Act), the background related to the need for the requirement, or links to other organizations which also provide guidance.)	Compliance Yes, No or Not Applicable	Inspector Comments
	requirements set out by federal, provincial and/or municipal jurisdictions.	Disposal should occur on a regular basis as any accumulation may increase diversion risk.		

Resources:

Narcotics Control Regulations: https://laws-lois.justice.gc.ca/eng/regulations/C.R.C.,_c._1041/FullText.html

Guide to the Professional Practice Standard – Management and Disposal of Controlled Drugs : https://cvo.org/getmedia/beb28452-0ede-4eae-aca9-bc9d4b2acc83/GuideManagementandDisposalofControlledDrugs.pdf.aspx

Professional Practice Standard – Management and Disposal of Controlled Drugs: https://cvo.org/CVO/media/College-of-Veterinarians-of-Ontario/Resources%20and%20Publications/Professional%20Practice%20Standards/ManagementandDisposalofControlledDrugsPPS.pdf

Professional Practice Standard: Veterinary Prescribing and Dispensing: https://cvo.org/Resources/Professional-Practice-Standards-and-College-Policy/Veterinary-Prescribing-and-Dispensing.aspx

Tips for Conducing a Weekly Controlled Drug Audit: https://cvo.org/Veterinary-Professionals/Accreditation/How-to-Conduct-a-Weekly-Audit-of-Controlled-Drugs.aspx

Sample Controlled Drug Audit Sheet and Controlled Drug Log: https://cvo.org/Resources/Sample-Documents.aspx

7. Biosecurity and Biomedical Waste Management

Objective: The reduction of risk, prevention, or control of infections or potentially infectious agents within the facility is important for the delivery of good veterinary care and for the protection of veterinarians, staff, clientele, animals and the public.

The public is assured that there are safeguards in place to reduce the risk of exposure to infectious agents to them and their animals with respect to the facility. There are preventive measures in place to ensure that all staff working in or from the facility are protected from exposure to infectious agents. There are infection control policies and procedures in place for the facility, and staff receive ongoing training to ensure adherence to these policies and procedures. There is evidence of regular review of the policies and procedures. There is also evidence that measures are in place to regularly monitor the adherence to infection control procedures.

The facility maintains and adheres to appropriate and adequate infection control procedures.

	Requirements (A statement indicating what a facility must demonstrate to meet the standard.)	Guidance Notes (Additional information providing guidance that may include how a facility can meet the requirements, any mandatory compliance requirements to be met (for example, requirements under the Veterinarians Act), the background related to the need for the requirement, or links to other organizations which also provide guidance.)	Compliance Yes, No or Not Applicable	Inspector Comments
1	The practice has a written policy for dealing with infectious and zoonotic cases, as well as overall infection control, such that staff are aware of said policy.	The written policy may include but is not limited to the following: • Effective containment of contagious diseases throughout the facility. For example: a policy which outlines how patients are identified, how staff deals with potentially contagious animals entering the facility, accommodation, etc. The policy sets out how infectious cases are to be dealt with or referred elsewhere. • Where separate accommodation for isolating hospitalized cases is present (self-contained room or building), the practice complies with the Isolation Facilities standard. Where separate accommodation is not available, the policy sets out procedures for effective isolation and care of infectious cases. • Measures to regularly audit and record the adherence to infection control policies and procedures. • Training for staff and training for any new staff members, i.e., staff training manual. • Staff checklists. May be daily, weekly, monthly.		

	Requirements (A statement indicating what a facility must demonstrate to meet the standard.)	Guidance Notes (Additional information providing guidance that may include how a facility can meet the requirements, any mandatory compliance requirements to be met (for example, requirements under the Veterinarians Act), the background related to the need for the requirement, or links to other organizations which also provide guidance.)	Compliance Yes, No or Not Applicable	Inspector Comments
		OVMA Veterinary Biosecurity Initiative: Protocol 1: https://www.ovma.org/assets/1/20/OVBI_Protocol_1.pdf Protocol 2: https://www.ovma.org/assets/1/6/Biosecurity__Protocol_2.pdf Protocol 3: https://www.ovma.org/assets/1/6/Biosecurity_Protocol_3.pdf		
2	Procedures are in place to minimize cross-infection. Cleaning and disinfection materials must be readily available and used in all areas of the practice. There are routine practices to ensure frequent hand washing to prevent spread of infectious diseases.	Written procedures are recommended, but not required. Suggestions for how to meet the requirement:: • Each examination/treatment room, vehicle or veterinary surgical mobile has cleaning materials, disinfectant, disposable towels and a waste receptacle. • Appropriate commercial disinfectant with bactericidal, fungicidal and viricidal characteristics is used according to manufacturer's directions to clean surfaces. • Risk based disinfection of all clinical areas takes place between patients as appropriate– floor, equipment, hand touch areas such as doors, door handles and keyboards. For example, if there is an incidence of kennel cough.		

	Requirements (A statement indicating what a facility must demonstrate to meet the standard.)	Guidance Notes (Additional information providing guidance that may include how a facility can meet the requirements, any mandatory compliance requirements to be met (for example, requirements under the Veterinarians Act), the background related to the need for the requirement, or links to other organizations which also provide guidance.)	Compliance Yes, No or Not Applicable	Inspector Comments
		• Appropriate clean protective clothing and footwear are carried in the vehicle. Soiled clothing is separated and cleaned immediately after use or at the first available opportunity.		
3	There is general housekeeping and maintenance to keep the practice clean, well maintained and in good repair.	Suggestions for how to meet the requirement: • There may be housekeeping policies and procedures which include details on how to keep the practice clean, well maintained and in good repair. This includes cleaning products and disinfectants used, description of the cleaning or maintenance tasks, and frequency of the tasks (daily, weekly and monthly). • The practice is free of offensive odors. • Staff can explain to the inspector how this is met		
4	Client and patient areas of the practice are neat, clean, and well organized. N/A – vehicle and veterinary surgical mobile	See guidance in # 4 above.		
5	Refrigerated and/or freezer storage for	There is an arrangement for the timely pick-up of animal remains and body tissues. This can be confirmed by staff.		

	Requirements (A statement indicating what a facility must demonstrate to meet the standard.)	Guidance Notes (Additional information providing guidance that may include how a facility can meet the requirements, any mandatory compliance requirements to be met (for example, requirements under the Veterinarians Act), the background related to the need for the requirement, or links to other organizations which also provide guidance.)	Compliance Yes, No or Not Applicable	Inspector Comments
	animal remains and body tissues is provided and readily available for disposal services as applicable to the species and scope of practice.			
6	The facility contains an adequate number of puncture-proof containers into which needles, scalpel blades and other items capable of penetrating skin are discarded.	Applies to vehicle and veterinary surgical mobile(s) that are part of the practice. It is not acceptable to use milk or utility jugs for the disposal of needles, scalpel blades…etc.		
7	Containers are available for safe disposal of hazardous and non-hazardous waste.	Under the Environmental Protection Act, veterinary clinics are classified as generators of hazardous waste such as sharps and certain types of pharmaceuticals. https://www.hwin.ca/hwin/ It is not acceptable to use milk or utility jugs for the disposal of hazardous and non-hazardous waste.		

	Requirements (A statement indicating what a facility must demonstrate to meet the standard.)	Guidance Notes (Additional information providing guidance that may include how a facility can meet the requirements, any mandatory compliance requirements to be met (for example, requirements under the Veterinarians Act), the background related to the need for the requirement, or links to other organizations which also provide guidance.)	Compliance Yes, No or Not Applicable	Inspector Comments
	Waste disposal is conducted according to all applicable municipal, provincial and federal legislation.	For example: a practice may have a contract with a certified hazardous disposal company to dispose of hazardous waste.		
8	The practice must have disinfection and/or sterilization facilities suitable for the work undertaken. This includes adequate facilities for sterilization, and a recognized method of sterilization must be employed. The sterilization system must be effective in the sterilization of	Guidance: Steam sterilization is the most common method used in veterinary medicine. Steam sterilization is used for disinfecting instruments and other surgical items such as gown packs. Cold sterilization is used for material and instruments that cannot be steam sterilized, such as instruments with lenses (endoscopes and arthroscopes) and anesthetic equipment.		

	Requirements (A statement indicating what a facility must demonstrate to meet the standard.)	Guidance Notes (Additional information providing guidance that may include how a facility can meet the requirements, any mandatory compliance requirements to be met (for example, requirements under the Veterinarians Act), the background related to the need for the requirement, or links to other organizations which also provide guidance.)	Compliance Yes, No or Not Applicable	Inspector Comments
	instruments and equipment.			
9	It is evident that sterile products, instruments, and equipment are used when required. All items sterilized in the facility display the date of sterilization and the name or initials of the person who carried out the sterilization.	Suggestions for how to meet the requirement: • They may stock sterile needles, syringes, IV catheters and lines, scalpel blades, sterile gloves, sterile instruments, etc. • Re-sterilization is only done when appropriate.		

Resources

Infection Prevention and Control Best Practices for Small Animal Veterinary Clinics

http://ovc.uoguelph.ca/sites/default/files/users/ovcweb/files/GuidelinesFINALInfectionPreventionDec2008.pdf

"The Prevalence of bacterial contamination of surgical cold sterile solutions from community companion animal veterinary practices in southern Ontario"
– The Canadian Veterinary Journal. 2010. Jun; 51(6): 634-636
https://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pmc/articles/PMC2871362/

AAHA Infection Control, Prevention, and Biosecurity Guidelines

https://www.aaha.org/globalassets/02-guidelines/infection-control/icpb_guidelines.pdfwww.vetsurgeryonline.com/sterilization-techniques

ADDITIONAL SCOPE OF PRACTICE STANDARDS – DRAFT

CVO
College of Veterinarians of Ontario

Introduction:

This document outlines the Additional Scope of Practice Standards requirements for accreditation. A veterinary facility must meet the Additional Scope of Practice Standards that apply based on the scope of veterinary services provided from the facility.

The College's expectation is that members will keep current and will adhere to these requirements as listed at the time of the facility's inspection, and throughout the facility accreditation term. When practicing veterinary medicine within their scope, licensed members are expected to use their professional judgment and work within their level of competency.

List of Additional Scope of Practice Services:

Anesthesia
Chemotherapy
Dentistry
Diagnostic Services
Embryo Transfer
Emergency Care
Hospitalization and Confinement
Intensive Care
Isolation Facilities
Laser Therapy
Other Imaging
Radiology
Rehabilitation Therapy
Surgery
Ultrasound Imaging
Vehicle
Veterinary Surgical Mobile

The Additional Scope of Practice Standards are in effect as of INSERT DATE.

Additional Scope of Practice Service – Anesthesia

Date: November 3, 2022

Objective: Anesthesia services are provided in a manner that is safe, humane and effective for the species of patients that are treated. Measures are taken to ensure the safety of the work environment and exercise proper safeguards in use of anesthetics. Meeting these goals requires adequate and properly maintained equipment, effective biosecurity measures, diligent patient monitoring, safe and humane anesthetic protocols, preparation for emergencies and proper record keeping.

Exposure to waste anesthetic gases (WAG) has proven to have adverse health outcomes for humans. Exposure can be reduced through the use of appropriate administrative policies, work practices and personal protective equipment.

This ASPS is applicable to practices that perform general anesthesia on animal patients. See the following definition:

General Anesthesia: a drug-induced unconsciousness that is characterized by controlled but reversible depression of the central nervous system (CNS) and analgesia. The patient cannot be aroused by noxious stimulation. Sensory, motor and autonomic reflex responses are attenuated. While under general anesthesia, the patient cannot be aroused, even with painful stimulation. Surgical anesthesia is a specific plane of general anesthesia in which there is a sufficient degree of analgesia and muscle relaxation to allow surgery to be performed without patient pain or movement.

Source: Practice Inspection Practice Standards (PIPS) Bylaws, Alberta Veterinary Medical Association, December 2019

A: In-Facility Anesthesia for All Species and Veterinary Surgical Mobile Anesthesia for Companion Animals

	Requirements (A statement indicating what a facility must demonstrate to meet the standard.)	Guidance Notes (Additional information providing guidance that may include how a facility can meet the requirements, any mandatory compliance requirements to be met (for example, requirements under the Veterinarians Act), the background related to the need for the requirement, or links to other organizations which also provide guidance.)	Compliance Yes, No, Or Not Applicable	Inspector Comments
1	When inhalant anesthetic is used, the practice has a scavenging system for waste anesthetic gases. Efforts are made to prevent exposure of gas anesthetic agents to staff members. There is documentation that the gas scavenging system has been inspected and verified by a qualified technician from an independent third-party company within the previous 24 months or within the timeframe recommended by the manufacturer.	N/A if the practice does not use inhalant or gas anesthesia. Rationale: The Canadian Centre for Occupational Health and Safety identifies veterinary clinics as a location where gases and vapours known as waste anesthetic gases can be present. Workers can be exposed to waste anesthetic gases in a variety of ways including ineffective or poor ventilation or gas scavenging systems. The waste anesthetic gas scavenging system is the primary line of defense against exposure. Recommendation: Mask inductions should be avoided.		

	Requirements (A statement indicating what a facility must demonstrate to meet the standard.)	Guidance Notes (Additional information providing guidance that may include how a facility can meet the requirements, any mandatory compliance requirements to be met (for example, requirements under the Veterinarians Act), the background related to the need for the requirement, or links to other organizations which also provide guidance.)	Compliance Yes, No, Or Not Applicable	Inspector Comments
2	When inhalant anesthetic is used, the anesthetic equipment is readily available, clean, and in good repair. The anesthetic machine must be subject to professional maintenance according to the manufacturers' recommendations.	It is recommended to have the professional maintenance of the anesthetic machine done by a qualified technician once a year. Anesthetic equipment may include, but is not limited to the following: an oxygen supply, an anesthetic machine, scavenging system, monitoring equipment, etc.		
3	Equipment and supplies for the administration of anesthesia is appropriate for the species treated.	Equipment and supplies may include, but are not limited to the following: • Antiseptic agents for venipuncture site preparation • New sterile needles and syringes • Anesthetic agents and appropriate antagonist agents • Corneal lubricant • Stethoscope • Intravenous catheters, administration sets, and intravenous fluids		

	Requirements (A statement indicating what a facility must demonstrate to meet the standard.)	Guidance Notes (Additional information providing guidance that may include how a facility can meet the requirements, any mandatory compliance requirements to be met (for example, requirements under the Veterinarians Act), the background related to the need for the requirement, or links to other organizations which also provide guidance.)	Compliance Yes, No, Or Not Applicable	Inspector Comments
		• Oxygen supply • Intubation assistance devices such as a laryngoscope and appropriate stylettes • Endotracheal tubes in appropriate sizes • Non-rebreathing apparatus • Appropriately sized anesthesia tubing and rebreathing bags • Agents for the induction and maintenance of general anesthesia		
4	An oxygen source is available and adequate for the case load. There is a protocol for monitoring the oxygen supply including a back up supply in an emergency.	For example: oxygen tank An oxygenator would also be suitable for this requirement if appropriate for the species.		
5	When inhalant anesthetic is used, anesthetic circuits suitable for the	For example: circle unit, Bain, non-rebreathing circuit.		

	Requirements (A statement indicating what a facility must demonstrate to meet the standard.)	Guidance Notes (Additional information providing guidance that may include how a facility can meet the requirements, any mandatory compliance requirements to be met (for example, requirements under the Veterinarians Act), the background related to the need for the requirement, or links to other organizations which also provide guidance.)	Compliance Yes, No, Or Not Applicable	Inspector Comments
	range of patients routinely treated are provided.			
6	Anesthetic equipment having direct contact with patients are cleaned and disinfected between patients, where applicable.	For example: laryngoscopes, endotracheal tubes, masks cleaned in between patients. Recommendation: Breathing circuits are cleaned, disinfected, and dried immediately after use		
7	There is a suitable number of monitoring devices required for the normal workload. At least one monitoring device is used during a procedure.	For example: stethoscope, pulse oximeter, respiratory monitor, ECG monitor, blood pressure monitor.		
8	Measures are in place to ensure the patient does not experience serious deviations from normal body temperature during anesthesia and recovery.	For example: intermittent or continuous probe measurement, warm water blanket or forced warm air unit. Recommendation: measures are in place to prevent thermal injury of animals from warming devices		

	Requirements (A statement indicating what a facility must demonstrate to meet the standard.)	Guidance Notes (Additional information providing guidance that may include how a facility can meet the requirements, any mandatory compliance requirements to be met (for example, requirements under the Veterinarians Act), the background related to the need for the requirement, or links to other organizations which also provide guidance.)	Compliance Yes, No, Or Not Applicable	Inspector Comments
9	There must be suitable means of resuscitation.			
10	A means of assisting ventilation (either manual or mechanical) is readily available.			
11	A range of pre-anesthetic, induction and maintenance agents are stocked to permit safe and humane general anesthesia of all patients treated, including high risk patients.			
12	When performing general anesthesia with inhalant anesthetics, the anesthetic record for each anesthetized patient is retained and includes a pre- and post- anesthetic assessment, and frequent and regularly recorded measurements of	Recommendation: The anesthetic record contains: a) Patient/client ID b) Date of procedure c) Name of surgeon d) Identification of team member monitoring and entering the data		

	Requirements (A statement indicating what a facility must demonstrate to meet the standard.)	Guidance Notes (Additional information providing guidance that may include how a facility can meet the requirements, any mandatory compliance requirements to be met (for example, requirements under the Veterinarians Act), the background related to the need for the requirement, or links to other organizations which also provide guidance.)	Compliance Yes, No, Or Not Applicable	Inspector Comments
	ventilation, circulation, temperature and oxygenation. (also referred to as an anesthetic monitoring chart).	e) Pre-anesthetic assessment f) Name, strength, dose, and route of pre-anesthetic and induction agents) are recorded. g) Name, dose or concentration, and delivery method of maintenance agent are recorded. h) ET size and whether it is cuffed or non-cuffed i) A time-based record of heart rate, respirations, and perfusion/blood pressure at minimum is present. j) A record of when anesthetic started and finished is present. k) Post-anesthetic assessment See sample anesthetic monitoring chart on the CVO website.		

	Requirements (A statement indicating what a facility must demonstrate to meet the standard.)	Guidance Notes (Additional information providing guidance that may include how a facility can meet the requirements, any mandatory compliance requirements to be met (for example, requirements under the Veterinarians Act), the background related to the need for the requirement, or links to other organizations which also provide guidance.)	Compliance Yes, No, Or Not Applicable	Inspector Comments
13	Anesthetic Logs documenting general anesthesia are maintained separately or in combination with Surgical Logs	Rationale: Anesthetic logs provide a quick chronological reference to the anesthetic procedures performed in the practice. They can be used to analyze anesthetic practices and measure patient outcomes. See anesthetic/surgical log sample on the CVO website. Veterinary facilities that use anesthetic monitoring charts can maintain the anesthetic/surgical log by compiling patient anesthetic monitoring charts in chronological order.		
14	Informed client consent is documented when performing general anesthesia.	Documented in the record (can be verbal or written consent).		

B. Veterinary Surgical Mobile for Large Animal Ambulatory Anesthesia (equine and food-producing animals)

	Requirements (A statement indicating what a facility must demonstrate to meet the standard.)	Guidance Notes (Additional information providing guidance that may include how a facility can meet the requirements, any mandatory compliance requirements to be met (for example, requirements under the Veterinarians Act), the background related to the need for the requirement, or links to other organizations which also provide guidance.)	Compliance Yes, No, Or Not Applicable	Inspector Comments
1	Equipment and supplies for the administration of anesthesia is appropriate for the species treated.	Equipment and supplies may include, but are not limited to the following: • Antiseptic agents for venipuncture site preparation • New sterile needles and syringes • Anesthetic agents and appropriate antagonist agents • Corneal lubricant • Stethoscope • Intravenous catheters, administration sets, and intravenous fluids		
2	Anesthetic equipment having direct contact with patients are cleaned and disinfected between patients, where applicable.			
3	There is a suitable number of monitoring devices required for the normal workload. At least one	For example: stethoscope, pulse oximeter, respiratory monitor, ECG monitor, blood pressure monitor.		

	Requirements (A statement indicating what a facility must demonstrate to meet the standard.)	Guidance Notes (Additional information providing guidance that may include how a facility can meet the requirements, any mandatory compliance requirements to be met (for example, requirements under the Veterinarians Act), the background related to the need for the requirement, or links to other organizations which also provide guidance.)	Compliance Yes, No, Or Not Applicable	Inspector Comments
	monitoring device is used during a procedure.			
4	Measures are in place to ensure the patient does not experience serious deviations from normal body temperature during anesthesia and recovery.	For example: intermittent or continuous probe measurement Recommendation: If warming devices are used, measures are in place to prevent thermal injury of animals		
5	There must be suitable means of resuscitation.	Suitable for the species treated.		
6	There are agents for intravenous anesthesia suitable for the species treated.			
7	Anesthetic Logs documenting general anesthesia are maintained separately or in combination with Surgical Logs	Rationale: Anesthetic logs provide a quick chronological reference to the anesthetic procedures performed in the practice. They can be used to analyze anesthetic practices and measure patient outcomes. See anesthetic/surgical log sample on the CVO website.		

	Requirements (A statement indicating what a facility must demonstrate to meet the standard.)	Guidance Notes (Additional information providing guidance that may include how a facility can meet the requirements, any mandatory compliance requirements to be met (for example, requirements under the Veterinarians Act), the background related to the need for the requirement, or links to other organizations which also provide guidance.)	Compliance Yes, No, Or Not Applicable	Inspector Comments
		Veterinary facilities that use anesthetic monitoring charts can maintain the anesthetic/surgical log by compiling patient anesthetic monitoring charts in chronological order.		
8	Informed client consent is documented when performing general anesthesia.	Documented in the record (can be verbal or written consent).		

Resources

Canadian Centre for Occupational Health and Safety - https://www.ccohs.ca/oshanswers/chemicals/waste_anesthetic.html

Sample Form Anesthetic Monitoring Chart: https://cvo.org/Resources/Sample-Documents.aspx?page=1

Additional Scope of Practice Service – Chemotherapy

Date: November 3, 2022

Objective: When using chemotherapeutic drugs, procedures are in place that protect the safety of staff and the public.

Chemotherapeutics or antineoplastic drugs can be hazardous and can potentially result in specific health effects in workers.

Suitable separate facilities must be provided for safe storage and use of these drugs.

The facility must have a protocol for control and accountability of chemotherapeutics and disposal of unused drugs, chemicals, biologics and contaminated equipment.

The most common chemotherapy drugs used in cancer treatment are:

- Carboplatin
- Cyclophosphamide
- Doxorubicin
- L-asparaginase
- Lomustine
- Vincristine

	Requirements (A statement indicating what a facility must demonstrate to meet the standard.)	Guidance Notes (Additional information providing guidance that may include how a facility can meet the requirements, any mandatory compliance requirements to be met (for example, requirements under the Veterinarians Act), the background related to the need for the requirement, or links to other organizations which also provide guidance.)	Compliance Yes, No, Or Not Applicable	Inspector Comments
1	The practice has a written protocol for proper transport, storage, administration and disposal of chemotherapeutic agents.	Recommendation: The written protocol contains: • Clear identification of chemotherapeutic agents; • how drugs are received and unpacked; • who is authorized to handle the agents; • how patients receiving chemo agents are identified, treated and housed; • proper disposal of excrement; • appropriate disposal of waste chemotherapy agents and associated paraphernalia through biohazardous waste; such as, if drug administration is via IV, the IV bag and tubing are disposed of in a chemotherapy waste container		

	Requirements (A statement indicating what a facility must demonstrate to meet the standard.)	Guidance Notes (Additional information providing guidance that may include how a facility can meet the requirements, any mandatory compliance requirements to be met (for example, requirements under the Veterinarians Act), the background related to the need for the requirement, or links to other organizations which also provide guidance.)	Compliance Yes, No, Or Not Applicable	Inspector Comments
		which has a lid that can be closed.		
2	Staff recognize and understand the risks of working with hazardous drugs, and the risks of working in an environment where drugs are handled.	Recommended: Include staff training in written protocols required in #1 or this can be included in workplace safety policies and procedures.		
3	Hazardous drugs are prepared or administered only by trained staff in designated areas that have access limited to authorized personnel.	Recommended: Post signs warning staff that they are working in an environment where hazardous drugs are handled.		
4	Use proper personal protection equipment.	Suggestions to meet the requirement: May include, but not limited to: chemotherapy gloves, non-permeable gowns, respiratory protection (masks (surgical masks do not provide adequate protection) or respirators), eye and/or splash protection, spill kit and shoe covers.		

	Requirements (A statement indicating what a facility must demonstrate to meet the standard.)	Guidance Notes (Additional information providing guidance that may include how a facility can meet the requirements, any mandatory compliance requirements to be met (for example, requirements under the Veterinarians Act), the background related to the need for the requirement, or links to other organizations which also provide guidance.)	Compliance Yes, No, Or Not Applicable	Inspector Comments
5	Use a proper containment device for drug preparation.	Suggestions for how to meet the requirement: May include, but not limited to: a vented biological safety cabinet and/or closed transfer system (i.e., compounding aseptic containment isolator).		
6	Procedures to manage hazardous spills are documented.	Recommendation: Include in written policies in # 1 personal protective equipment required for various spill sites, the possible spreading of material, restricted access to hazardous drug spills and the signs to be posted.		
7	Clients are provided with written instructions about home care following chemotherapy.	Recommendation: Client should be informed about risks associated with having a pet in their home following chemotherapy administration, owner safety, how to clean up bodily fluids at home, etc.		

	Requirements (A statement indicating what a facility must demonstrate to meet the standard.)	Guidance Notes (Additional information providing guidance that may include how a facility can meet the requirements, any mandatory compliance requirements to be met (for example, requirements under the Veterinarians Act), the background related to the need for the requirement, or links to other organizations which also provide guidance.)	Compliance Yes, No, Or Not Applicable	Inspector Comments
8	Store and transport hazardous drugs in closed containers that minimize the risk of breakage.	For example: Closed containers could be placed in a plastic bag or other sealable container for drug transportation.		
9	Medical records must include a copy of the treatment protocol being followed.	Suggestions for how to meet the requirement: This may include but not limited to: • Timings of doses administered • Doses administered • Rationale for use of drug/protocol • Patient weight; and • Any possible or actual adverse reactions.		

Additional Scope of Practice Service – Dentistry

Date: November 3, 2022

Objective: The veterinary practice provides safe veterinary dentistry services that adhere to current clinical standards. Veterinary dentistry involves the examination, diagnosis, and treatment of diseases of the oral cavity. This may involve sedation, anesthesia, analgesia, antibiotic therapy, radiology as well as surgical and other interventions. Oral health care is a vital component of a preventive health care program.

Refer to the College's Professional Practice Standard: Veterinary Dentistry

Note: Only a Board-certified specialist (e.g., diplomate of the American Veterinary Dental College (Dipl AVDC)) may use the term 'veterinary dental specialist'.

A. Equine Dentistry

	Requirements (A statement indicating what a facility must demonstrate to meet the standard.)	Guidance Notes (Additional information providing guidance that may include how a facility can meet the requirements, any mandatory compliance requirements to be met (for example, requirements under the Veterinarians Act), the background related to the need for the requirement, or links to other organizations which also provide guidance.)	Compliance Yes, No, Or Not Applicable	Inspector Comments
1	A selection of diagnostic/treatment equipment appropriate for the range of species to be treated is available.	Dental equipment may include, but is not limited to: mouth speculum, floats, elevators, dental picks or probes, forceps, dental mirror, rasps, extractors.		
2	When oral surgical procedures are performed, including tooth extraction, appropriate equipment is available for the species treated.	Appropriate instruments may include, but are not limited to: • See above equipment The use of a hacksaw, chisel and hammer is not appropriate for dental procedures.		
3	When oral hygiene procedures are performed, appropriate equipment is available for the species treated.	This may include, but is not limited to, floats and power floats.		

	Requirements (A statement indicating what a facility must demonstrate to meet the standard.)	Guidance Notes (Additional information providing guidance that may include how a facility can meet the requirements, any mandatory compliance requirements to be met (for example, requirements under the Veterinarians Act), the background related to the need for the requirement, or links to other organizations which also provide guidance.)	Compliance Yes, No, Or Not Applicable	Inspector Comments
4	Instruments and equipment are appropriately maintained, including cleaning, disinfection, and sterilization as appropriate.	Suggestions for how to meet the requirement: Staff should be able to demonstrate how instruments and equipment are maintained. Documentation is recommended but not required. This may include a written protocol which staff follow to clean, disinfect, sterilize and sharpen as appropriate instruments used for surgical procedures.		
5	All team members involved in dentistry are trained in the proper use and maintenance of equipment.	Suggestions for how to meet the requirement: • There may be a written protocol that is used, or		

	Requirements (A statement indicating what a facility must demonstrate to meet the standard.)	Guidance Notes (Additional information providing guidance that may include how a facility can meet the requirements, any mandatory compliance requirements to be met (for example, requirements under the Veterinarians Act), the background related to the need for the requirement, or links to other organizations which also provide guidance.)	Compliance Yes, No, Or Not Applicable	Inspector Comments
		• Team members are veterinarians or registered veterinary technicians, or • Other team members involved can describe this to the inspector		
6	Appropriate Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) is available and used.	Rationale: To reduce exposure to potentially harmful oral bacteria and debris. Recommendation: If power floating equipment is used for equine there is a ground fault breaker system, protective eye and ear wear. Face masks, goggles, disposable gloves are available.		

	Requirements (A statement indicating what a facility must demonstrate to meet the standard.)	Guidance Notes (Additional information providing guidance that may include how a facility can meet the requirements, any mandatory compliance requirements to be met (for example, requirements under the Veterinarians Act), the background related to the need for the requirement, or links to other organizations which also provide guidance.)	Compliance Yes, No, Or Not Applicable	Inspector Comments
7	Dental records are maintained and recorded.	Recommendation for how to meet the requirement: Records should include documentation of the findings of a thorough examination of the teeth and structures of the oral cavity, diagnosis and therapy. The use of dental charts is recommended.		
8	Sterilised dental packs are available and in sufficient quantity for the caseload.			
9	When dental radiography is indicated, demonstrates access to dental radiography on site or alternatively, refers cases to an appropriate accredited veterinary facility.	Suggestions for meeting this requirement: Using a standard x-ray machine with intra-oral dental plates or standard x-ray plates. If an x-ray machine is used on-site, the facility will also comply with		

	Requirements (A statement indicating what a facility must demonstrate to meet the standard.)	Guidance Notes (Additional information providing guidance that may include how a facility can meet the requirements, any mandatory compliance requirements to be met (for example, requirements under the Veterinarians Act), the background related to the need for the requirement, or links to other organizations which also provide guidance.)	Compliance Yes, No, Or Not Applicable	Inspector Comments
		the Additional Scope of Practice Service - Radiology.		
10	Appropriate lighting suitable for illuminating the oral cavity is available.	Suggestions for meeting the requirement: head lamp or other appropriate light source for the work undertaken.		

B. Companion Animal Dentistry

Restorative, endodontic and orthodontic procedures need not necessarily be performed in the hospital but appropriate referrals should be offered.

	Requirements (A statement indicating what a facility must demonstrate to meet the standard.)	Guidance Notes (Additional information providing guidance that may include how a facility can meet the requirements, any mandatory compliance requirements to be met (for example, requirements under the Veterinarians Act), the background related to the need for the requirement, or links to other organizations which also provide guidance.)	Compliance Yes, No, Or Not Applicable	Inspector Comments
1	A selection of diagnostic/treatment equipment appropriate for the range of species to be treated is available.	Dental equipment may include, but is not limited to: a selection of hand scalers, curettes, periodontal probes, elevators and/or luxators are available, suitable for the range of species to be treated.		
2	When oral surgical procedures are performed, including tooth extraction, appropriate equipment is available for the species treated.	Appropriate instruments may include, but are not limited to: • See above equipment • Gags • Powered dental unit • Handpieces and burs • Suitable cooling when sectioning teeth		

	Requirements (A statement indicating what a facility must demonstrate to meet the standard.)	Guidance Notes (Additional information providing guidance that may include how a facility can meet the requirements, any mandatory compliance requirements to be met (for example, requirements under the Veterinarians Act), the background related to the need for the requirement, or links to other organizations which also provide guidance.)	Compliance Yes, No, Or Not Applicable	Inspector Comments
		Small Mammals/Rabbits: • suitable gags, • hand instruments, • handpieces and burs. Recommendation: Incisor teeth should be mechanically trimmed, not clipped.		
3	When oral hygiene procedures are performed, appropriate equipment is available for the species treated.	This may include, but is not limited to, equipment for mechanically scaling and polishing teeth.		
4	Instruments and equipment are appropriately maintained, including	Suggestions for how to meet the requirement:		

	Requirements (A statement indicating what a facility must demonstrate to meet the standard.)	Guidance Notes (Additional information providing guidance that may include how a facility can meet the requirements, any mandatory compliance requirements to be met (for example, requirements under the Veterinarians Act), the background related to the need for the requirement, or links to other organizations which also provide guidance.)	Compliance Yes, No, Or Not Applicable	Inspector Comments
	cleaning, disinfection, and sterilization as appropriate.	Staff should be able to demonstrate how instruments and equipment are maintained. Documentation is recommended but not required. This may include a written protocol which staff follow to clean, disinfect, sterilize and sharpen as appropriate instruments used for surgical procedures.		
5	Staff members involved in dentistry are trained in the proper use and maintenance of equipment.	Suggestions for how to meet the requirement: • There may be a written protocol that is used • Team members are veterinarians or registered veterinary technicians		

	Requirements (A statement indicating what a facility must demonstrate to meet the standard.)	Guidance Notes (Additional information providing guidance that may include how a facility can meet the requirements, any mandatory compliance requirements to be met (for example, requirements under the Veterinarians Act), the background related to the need for the requirement, or links to other organizations which also provide guidance.)	Compliance Yes, No, Or Not Applicable	Inspector Comments
		• Other team members involved can describe this to the inspector		
6	Appropriate Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) is available and used.	Rationale: To reduce exposure to potentially harmful oral bacteria and debris. Suggestions for how to meet the requirement: • Face masks, goggles, disposable gloves, and appropriate attire (i.e., lab coats, gowns, separate scrubs that are not worn in other areas of the practice).		
7	Dental records are maintained and recorded.	Recommendation for how to meet the requirement:		

	Requirements (A statement indicating what a facility must demonstrate to meet the standard.)	Guidance Notes (Additional information providing guidance that may include how a facility can meet the requirements, any mandatory compliance requirements to be met (for example, requirements under the Veterinarians Act), the background related to the need for the requirement, or links to other organizations which also provide guidance.)	Compliance Yes, No, Or Not Applicable	Inspector Comments
		Records should include documentation of the findings of a thorough examination of the teeth and structures of the oral cavity, diagnosis and therapy. The use of dental charts is recommended.		
8	An allocated dental space is available for dental procedures to reduce contamination of other areas. When dental procedures are performed in a facility, they are performed in a room separate from the surgical suite.	N/A to veterinary surgical mobiles for companion animals. Rationale: Measures should be taken to minimise aerosol contamination. Suggestions to meet the requirement: • low traffic area away from sterile surgical suite		

	Requirements (A statement indicating what a facility must demonstrate to meet the standard.)	Guidance Notes (Additional information providing guidance that may include how a facility can meet the requirements, any mandatory compliance requirements to be met (for example, requirements under the Veterinarians Act), the background related to the need for the requirement, or links to other organizations which also provide guidance.)	Compliance Yes, No, Or Not Applicable	Inspector Comments
		• measures to prevent contamination beyond the immediate dental area For example: These measures might include use of suction tips close to the operating head of scalers and dental hand pieces, an extraction fan close to the operating site or ideally a dedicated dental procedure room with negative pressure ventilation. Dental procedures include surgical extractions of teeth.		
9	Sterilised dental packs are available and in sufficient quantity for the caseload.			
10	When dental radiography is indicated, demonstrates access to dental	Suggestions for meeting this requirement:		

	Requirements (A statement indicating what a facility must demonstrate to meet the standard.)	Guidance Notes (Additional information providing guidance that may include how a facility can meet the requirements, any mandatory compliance requirements to be met (for example, requirements under the Veterinarians Act), the background related to the need for the requirement, or links to other organizations which also provide guidance.)	Compliance Yes, No, Or Not Applicable	Inspector Comments
	radiography on site or alternatively, refers cases to an appropriate accredited veterinary facility.	Radiographic equipment that is available on the premises can be in the form of either a standard x-ray machine or dental x-ray machine. Recommendation: If only a standard x-ray machine is available, then proper intra-oral dental plates are used. If a dental x-ray or standard x-ray are on-site, the facility will also comply with the Additional Scope of Practice Service - Radiology.		
11	Appropriate lighting suitable for illuminating the oral cavity is available.	Suggestions for meeting the requirement: head lamp or other appropriate light source for the work undertaken.		

Resource

Professional Practice Standard – Veterinary Dentistry: https://cvo.org/CVO/media/College-of-Veterinarians-of-Ontario/Resources%20and%20Publications/Position%20Statements%20and%20Guidelines/PPSVeterinaryDentistry.pdf

Additional Scope of Practice Service – Diagnostic Services

Date: November 3,2022

Objective: Diagnostic services are provided that ensure accurate test results. The diagnostic services are provided in a manner that is safe for the staff, the public and is not a hazard to the environment or other animals. Whether procedures are performed within or outside the practice will be determined by the availability of alternative services and the timeliness of results.

	Requirements (A statement indicating what a facility must demonstrate to meet the standard.)	Guidance Notes (Additional information providing guidance that may include how a facility can meet the requirements, any mandatory compliance requirements to be met (for example, requirements under the Veterinarians Act), the background related to the need for the requirement, or links to other organizations which also provide guidance.)	Compliance Yes, No, Or Not Applicable	Inspector Comments
1	Where pathological samples are sent to external organizations, a suitable range of containers, envelopes and forms must be available.	Forms can either be electronic or paper		
2	Specimens are properly identified to prevent misidentification or mismatch of test results.	Recommendation: that labels should include: • Patient ID • Date of collection • Tests required • Method of collection if applicable		

	Requirements (A statement indicating what a facility must demonstrate to meet the standard.)	Guidance Notes (Additional information providing guidance that may include how a facility can meet the requirements, any mandatory compliance requirements to be met (for example, requirements under the Veterinarians Act), the background related to the need for the requirement, or links to other organizations which also provide guidance.)	Compliance Yes, No, Or Not Applicable	Inspector Comments
		• Time, if applicable		
3	Protocols for packaging pathologic samples to send to external organizations are utilized.	Suggestions to meet requirement: written protocols may be used that include proper handling and storage of specimens and a tracking mechanism to ensure the package is received. Written protocols are recommended but not required.		
4	There are adequate facilities for storage of specimens and reagents, and for disposal of waste materials.	Recommendation: • Hazardous fluids must be stored and disposed of properly and in accordance with municipal, provincial and federal regulations. • Refrigeration is available when it is needed for storage of specimens and reagents.		

	Requirements (A statement indicating what a facility must demonstrate to meet the standard.)	Guidance Notes (Additional information providing guidance that may include how a facility can meet the requirements, any mandatory compliance requirements to be met (for example, requirements under the Veterinarians Act), the background related to the need for the requirement, or links to other organizations which also provide guidance.)	Compliance Yes, No, Or Not Applicable	Inspector Comments
		• Reagents are stored according to manufacturer's instructions. • Biologic waste disposal (animal carcasses, tissues, fluids) is available and complies with municipal, provincial and federal legislation.		
5	Staff are trained in the proper handling of laboratory specimens and reagents, including safety protocols.	Suggestions for how to meet the requirement: • There may be a written protocol that is used • Staff can describe this to the inspector Safety protocols may include, but are not limited to: WHMIS, infection control, use of appropriate Personal Protective Equipment (PPE), eye wash station, etc.		

	Requirements (A statement indicating what a facility must demonstrate to meet the standard.)	Guidance Notes (Additional information providing guidance that may include how a facility can meet the requirements, any mandatory compliance requirements to be met (for example, requirements under the Veterinarians Act), the background related to the need for the requirement, or links to other organizations which also provide guidance.)	Compliance Yes, No, Or Not Applicable	Inspector Comments
		Recommendation: When appropriate, fume hoods, ventilation, HEPA filtration, and biological safety cabinets should be used as required by the samples being processed.		
6	Appropriate Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) is available and used.	For example: disposable gloves, protective clothing, closed-toed shoes.		
7	Laboratory procedures are performed in a clean and tidy designated area used specifically for that purpose.	It is suggested that the laboratory space has: • Countertop and sink that are fluid impervious and stain resistant. • Adequate lighting and ventilation. • Proper storage area. • There is adequate space for equipment and performance of tests, and storage of reagents and lab supplies. • Adequate facilities for hand washing.		
8	There are sufficient supplies to perform diagnostic testing	Suggestions for how to meet the requirement:		

	Requirements (A statement indicating what a facility must demonstrate to meet the standard.)	Guidance Notes (Additional information providing guidance that may include how a facility can meet the requirements, any mandatory compliance requirements to be met (for example, requirements under the Veterinarians Act), the background related to the need for the requirement, or links to other organizations which also provide guidance.)	Compliance Yes, No, Or Not Applicable	Inspector Comments
	commensurate with the scope of practice.	Supplies may include but are not limited to: • Sterile needles and syringes • Sterile blood collection tubes • Sterile sample collection containers • Sterile culture swabs • Sterile scalpel blades • Sterile urinary catheters		
9	The practice has reference materials applicable to the tests carried out.	This may include, but is not limited to: • Designated resources that identify external laboratory tests available to the practice team, e.g., books, manuals, etc. • Reference material on sample preparation, handling, turnaround time, etc. Recommended: Veterinarians are familiar with mandatory disease reporting requirements and applicable legislation. See the CVO document: Legislative Overview – Mandatory Reporting on the CVO website.		

	Requirements (A statement indicating what a facility must demonstrate to meet the standard.)	Guidance Notes (Additional information providing guidance that may include how a facility can meet the requirements, any mandatory compliance requirements to be met (for example, requirements under the Veterinarians Act), the background related to the need for the requirement, or links to other organizations which also provide guidance.)	Compliance Yes, No, Or Not Applicable	Inspector Comments
10	Adequate necropsy facilities, including sufficient supplies and equipment are available or other arrangements made.	Rationale: Necropsy facilities ensure that health and safety is paramount. Procedures are undertaken to guard against zoonoses and spread of infection (suitable protective clothing, disinfection and sterilization procedures, etc.) Suggestions on how to meet the requirement: Necropsy facilities are performed in an area not concurrently being used for clinical work. The area has adequate ventilation, working surfaces, and lighting. Necropsy supplies may include, but are not limited to: • knife • scissors • bone cutter • forceps • Sterile needles for blood collection • Sterile blood collection tubes		

	Requirements (A statement indicating what a facility must demonstrate to meet the standard.)	Guidance Notes (Additional information providing guidance that may include how a facility can meet the requirements, any mandatory compliance requirements to be met (for example, requirements under the Veterinarians Act), the background related to the need for the requirement, or links to other organizations which also provide guidance.)	Compliance Yes, No, Or Not Applicable	Inspector Comments
		• Sterile sample collection containers • Sterile culture swabs • Post-mortem knife and sharpening steel • Sterile scalpel blades or disposable integrated scalpel blade and handle		
11	Results of all laboratory tests are documented in the patient's record.			
12	There is a tracking mechanism used to ensure results are received, reviewed by the veterinarian, documented in the patient's record, and conveyed to the client.	Rationale: This allows cross-referencing to the patient's record.		
13	In-house diagnostic laboratory equipment and facilities are suitable for the range of species routinely treated and the diagnostic lab services provided.	For example: this may include hematology, biochemistry, cytology, histology, urinalysis, bacteriology, necropsy, etc. Equipment may include microhematocrit, binocular microscope, clinical centrifuge with lid, refractometer, glucometer or chemistry analyzer, etc.		

	Requirements (A statement indicating what a facility must demonstrate to meet the standard.)	Guidance Notes (Additional information providing guidance that may include how a facility can meet the requirements, any mandatory compliance requirements to be met (for example, requirements under the Veterinarians Act), the background related to the need for the requirement, or links to other organizations which also provide guidance.)	Compliance Yes, No, Or Not Applicable	Inspector Comments
14	In-house diagnostic laboratory equipment is properly maintained and in good repair.	Suggestions for how to meet the requirement: • Access to manufacturer's instructions for maintenance and service requirements • Keeps any records of maintenance and service • Staff can describe or demonstrate how equipment is maintained and kept in good repair Documentation is recommended but not required.		
15	There are suitable arrangements for quality control of in-house clinical pathology machines.	Rationale: Quality control testing is performed and documented that ensures the machine is consistently producing accurate diagnostic results. Recommendations:		

	Requirements (A statement indicating what a facility must demonstrate to meet the standard.)	Guidance Notes (Additional information providing guidance that may include how a facility can meet the requirements, any mandatory compliance requirements to be met (for example, requirements under the Veterinarians Act), the background related to the need for the requirement, or links to other organizations which also provide guidance.)	Compliance Yes, No, Or Not Applicable	Inspector Comments
		Periodic controls as per the manufacturer's instructions to test the machine is running correctly and is calibrated correctly, the results documented and acted upon when necessary. In addition to internal quality control, external quality assurance by reference of internal samples to external labs or internal analysis of external samples are routinely undertaken and the results documented and acted upon where necessary. Frequency of testing should be related to the number of tests undertaken. It is expected that this will be at least quarterly.		
16	The practice disposes of test kits and reagents upon expiration in the correct manner.			
17	Reference range values for lab tests are available for each species commonly treated at the practice.			

	Requirements (A statement indicating what a facility must demonstrate to meet the standard.)	Guidance Notes (Additional information providing guidance that may include how a facility can meet the requirements, any mandatory compliance requirements to be met (for example, requirements under the Veterinarians Act), the background related to the need for the requirement, or links to other organizations which also provide guidance.)	Compliance Yes, No, Or Not Applicable	Inspector Comments
18	Ophthalmic diagnostic equipment and supplies are available or other arrangements made.	Diagnostic equipment and supplies may include but are not limited to: • Fluorescein stain • Schirmer Tear Test • Equipment to measure intraocular pressure The availability depends on scope of practice, geographic location and referral options. For example, a practice in a remote location with limited to no access to referral options should carry this equipment.		

Resources

Professional Practice Standard – Diagnostic Laboratory Testing: https://cvo.org/CVO/media/College-of-Veterinarians-of-Ontario/Resources%20and%20Publications/Professional%20Practice%20Standards/PPSDiagnosticLaboratoryTesting.pdf

Management of Biomedical Waste in Ontario: https://www.ontario.ca/page/c-4-management-biomedical-waste-ontario

Additional Scope of Practice Service – Embryo Transfer

Date: November 3, 2022

Objective: Embryo transfer services are provided in a manner that is safe for animals, staff, and the public.

Other Additional Scope of Practice Service Standards which may apply:

1) Anesthesia
2) Surgery

Canadian Embryo Transfer Association - states that the Canadian Food Inspection Agency which has jurisdiction over import and export of embryos and semen, requires CETA/ACTE Certification as part of their approval process. Practitioners must be approved by CFIA in order to collect and freeze embryos for export.

	Requirements (A statement indicating what a facility must demonstrate to meet the standard.)	Guidance Notes (Additional information providing guidance that may include how a facility can meet the requirements, any mandatory compliance requirements to be met (for example, requirements under the Veterinarians Act), the background related to the need for the requirement, or links to other organizations which also provide guidance.)	Compliance Yes, No, Or Not Applicable	Inspector Comments
1	Equipment and supplies for the performance of embryo transfer are available and properly maintained.	May include but not limited to: • Uterine flush fluids • Holding media • Freezing media • Liquid nitrogen tanks • Stereomicroscope		

	Requirements (A statement indicating what a facility must demonstrate to meet the standard.)	Guidance Notes (Additional information providing guidance that may include how a facility can meet the requirements, any mandatory compliance requirements to be met (for example, requirements under the Veterinarians Act), the background related to the need for the requirement, or links to other organizations which also provide guidance.)	Compliance Yes, No, Or Not Applicable	Inspector Comments
		• Graduated cylinder or plastic bucket • Disposable gloves • Non-sterile lubricant • Sterile catheters and tubing • Pipettes or straws • Search dishes • Embryo filter • Ultrasound: must comply with Additional Scope of Services Standard: Ultrasound Imaging Expectation: Sterile equipment is used.		
2	Safety protocols are in place regarding handling of dangerous products, such as liquid nitrogen.	For example: may be a written protocol.		
3	Embryo recovery, transfer, freezing and micromanipulations are performed in a clean and suitable environment.			
4	In addition to the requirement of meeting the Essential Standards – Medical Records, pertinent			

	Requirements (A statement indicating what a facility must demonstrate to meet the standard.)	Guidance Notes (Additional information providing guidance that may include how a facility can meet the requirements, any mandatory compliance requirements to be met (for example, requirements under the Veterinarians Act), the background related to the need for the requirement, or links to other organizations which also provide guidance.)	Compliance Yes, No, Or Not Applicable	Inspector Comments
	information shall be documented regarding record of donor identification, sire identification, recovery date, embryo quantity, embryo grade, embryo stage, recipient identification and transfer date.			
5	There are written embryo transfer protocols for donor and recipient(s) that includes dates, drugs, lot numbers, withdrawal times and procedural timetables.			

Additional Scope of Practice Service – Emergency Care

Date: November 3, 2022

Objective: Practices that provide emergency care and services (professional diagnosis and emergency treatment) have appropriate and adequate equipment and supplies to initially assess and treat emergency cases (i.e., sick or injured animals).

A practice may provide 24-hour emergency care, provide emergency care during regular practice hours and have alternate arrangements for emergency care outside of regular practice hours, or provide emergency care overnight, on weekends and holidays plus offer their regular practice hours.

A practice providing emergency care may choose to provide critical care as well, in which case, they would need to comply with the Additional Scope of Practice Service: Intensive Care

Outside of regular practice hours, emergency care service for the practice's clients may be organized in various ways such as: the assignment of hospital staff, co-operative arrangements with other practices or by referral to an alternate practice providing emergency services.

	Requirements (A statement indicating what a facility must demonstrate to meet the standard.)	Guidance Notes (Additional information providing guidance that may include how a facility can meet the requirements, any mandatory compliance requirements to be met (for example, requirements under the Veterinarians Act), the background related to the need for the requirement, or links to other organizations which also provide guidance.)	Compliance Yes, No, Or Not Applicable	Inspector Comments
1	Proper safety precautions shall be taken for staff on duty at night. Staff are aware of the process for dealing with night-time callers..	Suggestions for how to meet the requirement: • These safety processes may be written protocols • Staff can explain the process to inspector • Buzzing in clients during a specific time period • Having 2 staff on site during specific hours.		
2	The practice must be equipped appropriately to deal with all reasonably expected emergencies.			
3	There must be equipment and supplies available for initial assessment and treatment of emergency cases. Ongoing treatment and monitoring may be provided	Suggestions for how to meet the requirement: Equipment and supplies may include but are not limited to:		

	Requirements (A statement indicating what a facility must demonstrate to meet the standard.)	Guidance Notes (Additional information providing guidance that may include how a facility can meet the requirements, any mandatory compliance requirements to be met (for example, requirements under the Veterinarians Act), the background related to the need for the requirement, or links to other organizations which also provide guidance.)	Compliance Yes, No, Or Not Applicable	Inspector Comments
	at the practice or by referral to an alternate practice.	• Resuscitative equipment and supplies • Depending upon the species, there is a source of oxygen for oxygen delivery • Equipment necessary for parenteral fluid administration including fluid infusion pumps • First aid supplies such as bandage material An emergency hospital only open overnight, on weekends and holidays would transfer ongoing treatment and monitoring to the primary veterinarian (or alternate facility if the client doesn't have a veterinarian).		

	Requirements (A statement indicating what a facility must demonstrate to meet the standard.)	Guidance Notes (Additional information providing guidance that may include how a facility can meet the requirements, any mandatory compliance requirements to be met (for example, requirements under the Veterinarians Act), the background related to the need for the requirement, or links to other organizations which also provide guidance.)	Compliance Yes, No, Or Not Applicable	Inspector Comments
4	An emergency drug kit is readily available.	Emergency drugs include but not limited to: i. Atropine ii. Epinephrine iii. Calcium gluconate iv. Corticosteroids v. Furosemide vi. Dextrose vii. Narcotic reversal appropriate to any narcotic used viii. Antihistamine ix. Anti-convulsant x. Anti-Emetic and Emetic		
5	A copy of the medical record, or a medical summary, accompanies each patient transferred back to the primary care veterinarian or to another facility within 2 business days.			

Additional Scope of Practice Service – Intensive Care

Date: November 3, 2022

Objective: Practices providing critical care services look after patients whose conditions are life-threatening and need constant, close monitoring and support with equipment and medication for maintaining normal body functions. Critically ill patients may have fluid, acid-base and electrolyte imbalances and increased caloric requirements.

Infection control is very important in critical care because patients who are very unwell are susceptible to infection.

Practices providing critical care must also provide the following additional scope of practice services, except where it can be reasonably demonstrated that an alternate arrangement would not compromise patient care and safety:

- Anesthesia
- Surgery
- Emergency Care
- Diagnostic Services
- Forms of Energy – Radiology
- Hospitalization and Confinement
- Isolation Facilities

	Requirements (A statement indicating what a facility must demonstrate to meet the standard.)	Guidance Notes (Additional information providing guidance that may include how a facility can meet the requirements, any mandatory compliance requirements to be met (for example, requirements under the Veterinarians Act), the background related to the need for the requirement, or links to other organizations which also provide guidance.)	Compliance Yes, No, Or Not Applicable	Inspector Comments
1	The practice provides continuous inpatient care for critical cases.	To provide intensive care services, the practice has the ability to care for patients 24/7, regardless of their regular practice hours.		
2	At least one on-duty veterinarian, is directly responsible for the care of critically ill patients and is on premises.	• Staffing is appropriate for the caseload of the practice. • When there is a critical case being treated and monitored, a veterinarian is on premises. Once the patient is no longer critical, the veterinarian determines if they need to be on premises.		
3	At least one other on-duty staff member actively involved in the medical care of critically ill patients is on premises.	Staffing is appropriate for the caseload of the practice. Once the patient is no longer critical, the veterinarian determines if staff member needs to be on premises.		

	Requirements (A statement indicating what a facility must demonstrate to meet the standard.)	Guidance Notes (Additional information providing guidance that may include how a facility can meet the requirements, any mandatory compliance requirements to be met (for example, requirements under the Veterinarians Act), the background related to the need for the requirement, or links to other organizations which also provide guidance.)	Compliance Yes, No, Or Not Applicable	Inspector Comments
4	Staff are trained in emergency and critical care and monitoring of critically ill patients.	Rationale: Staff utilize appropriate procedures for the recognition and resuscitation of patients in a state of shock or cardiorespiratory collapse. Recommendation: Staff are trained in emergency airway and oxygenation management.		
5	The practice provides designated accommodation for the isolation of infectious and zoonotic cases and/**or alternatively,** has a written policy for dealing with such cases that is known to all staff members. N/A – vehicle and veterinary surgical mobile	Rationale: The ability to isolate an infectious animal from all other patients is in place. If the practice provides isolation facilities on-site they must follow the Additional Scope of Practice Service Standards for Isolation Facilities.		
6	Equipment and supplies suitable for the intensive care of critically ill patients are readily available and adequate for the number of patients.	Suggestions for how to meet the requirement: Equipment and supplies may include but are not limited to:		

	Requirements (A statement indicating what a facility must demonstrate to meet the standard.)	Guidance Notes (Additional information providing guidance that may include how a facility can meet the requirements, any mandatory compliance requirements to be met (for example, requirements under the Veterinarians Act), the background related to the need for the requirement, or links to other organizations which also provide guidance.)	Compliance Yes, No, Or Not Applicable	Inspector Comments
		• intravenous fluid therapy, • Infusion pump • blood products as available • oxygen therapy • maintenance of body temperature • resuscitative equipment		
7	The ability to monitor multiple parameters with a suitable amount of monitoring equipment as required for the workload of the premises.	Recommendation: The parameters normally expected to be monitored include pulse oximetry, continuous ECG, body temperature and blood pressure.		
8	On site diagnostic imaging equipment for radiology is available. Must comply with Additional Scope of Services – Radiology	May comply with Additional Scope of Practice Service Standard for Ultrasound Imaging and Other Imaging depending upon what diagnostic equipment is available.		
9	On site diagnostic services are available	Suggestion for how to meet the requirement:		

	Requirements (A statement indicating what a facility must demonstrate to meet the standard.)	Guidance Notes (Additional information providing guidance that may include how a facility can meet the requirements, any mandatory compliance requirements to be met (for example, requirements under the Veterinarians Act), the background related to the need for the requirement, or links to other organizations which also provide guidance.)	Compliance Yes, No, Or Not Applicable	Inspector Comments
	Must comply with Additional Scope of Services: Diagnostic Services	In-house services may include but are not limited to: • Biochemistry analysis • Electrolyte analysis • Haematology • Urinalysis including sediment evaluation • Coagulation testing/ Bleeding time • Blood typing • Blood cross-matching • Blood gases		
10	An emergency drug kit is readily available.	Suggestions for how to meet the requirement: Emergency drugs may include but not limited to: i. Atropine ii. Epinephrine iii. Calcium gluconate iv. Corticosteroids		

	Requirements (A statement indicating what a facility must demonstrate to meet the standard.)	Guidance Notes (Additional information providing guidance that may include how a facility can meet the requirements, any mandatory compliance requirements to be met (for example, requirements under the Veterinarians Act), the background related to the need for the requirement, or links to other organizations which also provide guidance.)	Compliance Yes, No, Or Not Applicable	Inspector Comments
		v. Furosemide vi. Dextrose vii. Narcotic reversal appropriate to any narcotic used viii. Antihistamine ix. Regular insulin x. Anti-convulsant xi. Emetic xii. Anti-emetic		
11	A copy of the medical record, or a medical summary, accompanies each patient transferred back to the primary care veterinarian or to another facility within 2 business days.			
12	The practice must have as part of its library current information (within the last 3 years) regarding equipment and supplies in use for the performance of diagnoses and treatment as well as specific information on the delivery of			

	Requirements (A statement indicating what a facility must demonstrate to meet the standard.)	Guidance Notes (Additional information providing guidance that may include how a facility can meet the requirements, any mandatory compliance requirements to be met (for example, requirements under the Veterinarians Act), the background related to the need for the requirement, or links to other organizations which also provide guidance.)	Compliance Yes, No, Or Not Applicable	Inspector Comments
	emergency medicine and surgery and critical care.			

Additional Scope of Practice Service – Hospitalization and Confinement

Date: November 3, 2022

Objective: Hospitals shall provide an environment that is conducive to supporting and maintaining animal health. The area of confinement such as a cage, run (indoor and/or outdoor), kennel, stall or pen, must be appropriate for the species, the number of animals receiving care and the expected length of stay in order to ensure physical and psychological well-being of the animals. There is an obligation to ensure that animals are housed in a manner that is comfortable, humane and safe for the animal as well as safe for the staff, the public and other animals they may come into contact with.

	Requirements (A statement indicating what a facility must demonstrate to meet the standard.)	Guidance Notes (Additional information providing guidance that may include how a facility can meet the requirements, any mandatory compliance requirements to be met (for example, requirements under the Veterinarians Act), the background related to the need for the requirement, or links to other organizations which also provide guidance.)	Compliance Yes, No, Or Not Applicable	Inspector Comments
1	There is a system in place to clearly and positively identify each confined animal.	For example, patient identification card attached to the compartment.		
2	The facility has appropriate enclosures for confinement to accommodate the reasonably expected number of confined animals.	Suggestions for how to meet the requirement: • The facility has sufficient numbers of safe enclosures to house animals appropriately.		

	Requirements (A statement indicating what a facility must demonstrate to meet the standard.)	Guidance Notes (Additional information providing guidance that may include how a facility can meet the requirements, any mandatory compliance requirements to be met (for example, requirements under the Veterinarians Act), the background related to the need for the requirement, or links to other organizations which also provide guidance.)	Compliance Yes, No, Or Not Applicable	Inspector Comments
		• The facility contains devices for humanely capturing and restraining animals. • There is no overcrowding.		
3	Enclosures provide sufficient space to allow each animal, regardless of species, to make normal postural adjustments, e.g. to turn freely and to easily stand, sit, stretch, move their head, without touching the top of the enclosure.	Because of the wide range of body sizes, especially for dogs, specific recommendations for minimum kennel sizes are not included as long as the enclosure is sufficient to meet the physical and behavioural parameters of the species being confined.		
4	Enclosures are secure and safe for the animal.	Suggestions for how to meet the requirement: • Enclosures prevent escape and ensure effective confinement at all times. They are constructed so that animals are safely confined, and they must have a device that enables them to be closed and securely fastened.		

	Requirements (A statement indicating what a facility must demonstrate to meet the standard.)	Guidance Notes (Additional information providing guidance that may include how a facility can meet the requirements, any mandatory compliance requirements to be met (for example, requirements under the Veterinarians Act), the background related to the need for the requirement, or links to other organizations which also provide guidance.)	Compliance Yes, No, Or Not Applicable	Inspector Comments
		• There are no sharp edges, gaps or other defects that could cause an injury or trap a limb or other body part. • Wire mesh bottoms or slatted floors in cages are not acceptable for cats and dogs. • Enclosures permit the easy observation of the animal.		
5	The enclosures are constructed and equipped to prevent the spread of pathogens among animals confined in the facility.	Suggestions for how to meet the requirement: • Patients in the practice for medical care are separated from those requiring other services such as boarding, grooming, or socialization. • Floors and partitions are made of fluid-impervious materials that can be easily disinfected and are durable enough to withstand repeated cleaning.		

	Requirements (A statement indicating what a facility must demonstrate to meet the standard.)	Guidance Notes (Additional information providing guidance that may include how a facility can meet the requirements, any mandatory compliance requirements to be met (for example, requirements under the Veterinarians Act), the background related to the need for the requirement, or links to other organizations which also provide guidance.)	Compliance Yes, No, Or Not Applicable	Inspector Comments
		• A sealed, impermeable surface, such as sealed concrete or epoxy is ideal for flooring in indoor runs. • There is adequate separation and barriers between animals to prevent their direct contact. Adjacent enclosures have solid partitions of an appropriate height to prevent patient contact. • Adjacent stalls must have solid partitions or walls that ensure separation between animals. • Peeling, scratched or chipped floors that cannot be properly sanitized should be repaired or replaced. • Floors of indoor runs are appropriately sloped and drained to facilitate easy, thorough cleaning. If drained by a		

	Requirements (A statement indicating what a facility must demonstrate to meet the standard.)	Guidance Notes (Additional information providing guidance that may include how a facility can meet the requirements, any mandatory compliance requirements to be met (for example, requirements under the Veterinarians Act), the background related to the need for the requirement, or links to other organizations which also provide guidance.)	Compliance Yes, No, Or Not Applicable	Inspector Comments
		trough, the trough is inaccessible to animals. The trough should be covered by a grate. Waste water should not run off into common areas or adjacent kennels. • When drains are located in common areas, drain covers should be designed to prevent toes from being caught in drains. Recommendation: there should be protocols in place to sanitize and disinfect these areas prior to allowing animal access. Written protocols are recommended but not required.		
6	Enclosure areas are clean, orderly and free of offensive odours.	Staff are knowledgeable about proper handling and disposal of waste materials and the cleaning and disinfection of compartments, exercise areas and runs. For example: a housekeeping manual or checklist may be utilized, but is not required.		

	Requirements (A statement indicating what a facility must demonstrate to meet the standard.)	Guidance Notes (Additional information providing guidance that may include how a facility can meet the requirements, any mandatory compliance requirements to be met (for example, requirements under the Veterinarians Act), the background related to the need for the requirement, or links to other organizations which also provide guidance.)	Compliance Yes, No, Or Not Applicable	Inspector Comments
7	Enclosure areas have adequate ventilation, lighting and temperature control.	Recommendation: Includes emergency lighting. The preference is for natural lighting or artificial lighting that closely approximates natural light. Rationale: Proper ventilation ensures good air quality, removing odours, dampness, airborne microbes and pollutant gases (i.e., ammonia). Animals can comfortably maintain their body temperature.		
8	Adequate supplies for confinement of animals are available and in good repair to provide appropriate husbandry for the species.	Suggestions for how to meet the requirement: • Appropriate bedding for the specific species being housed is used. • Hospitalized animals have access to clean water and fresh food as appropriate. The facility contains a dry area for the storage of food and a fresh water supply.		

	Requirements (A statement indicating what a facility must demonstrate to meet the standard.)	Guidance Notes (Additional information providing guidance that may include how a facility can meet the requirements, any mandatory compliance requirements to be met (for example, requirements under the Veterinarians Act), the background related to the need for the requirement, or links to other organizations which also provide guidance.)	Compliance Yes, No, Or Not Applicable	Inspector Comments
		• Containers and utensils for feeding and watering animals are made of readily sanitized material or disposable. • Cat litter trays are either disposable or readily sanitized (if applicable). Suggestions to meet the requirement when birds, exotics, or wild animals are housed: • Housing unit • Perches • Bedding • Environmental conditions such as temperature, humidity, light, noise, etc. • Separation of prey-predator species.		
9	Appropriate and adequate variety and quantity of foods are available to feed hospitalized patients.	Recommendation: Refrigeration for perishable foods is provided.		
10	Outdoor runs must be covered appropriately to keep animals			

	Requirements (A statement indicating what a facility must demonstrate to meet the standard.)	Guidance Notes (Additional information providing guidance that may include how a facility can meet the requirements, any mandatory compliance requirements to be met (for example, requirements under the Veterinarians Act), the background related to the need for the requirement, or links to other organizations which also provide guidance.)	Compliance Yes, No, Or Not Applicable	Inspector Comments
	contained as well as protected from the weather.			
11	Evidence that there are strategies to minimize the impact of noise.	Suggestion for how to meet the requirement: Strategies to minimize the impact of noise may include, the arrangement of cages, material selected for the cages, baffles, doors, and latches.		
12	Provision is made for monitoring of hospitalized patients, including intermittent care throughout the night if required.	This does not require the continuous presence of a staff person overnight if the veterinarian deems this unnecessary and the owner is informed. Note: Informed consent includes informing the owner of the level of supervision that is available overnight. O.Reg.1093 s.20 (7)		
13	Staff pets and clinic mascots are not placing persons and/or patients at risk of disease or injury.	Suggestions for how to meet the requirement: • Staff pets and clinic mascots are up to date on vaccination (i.e. rabies) and parasite control.		

	Requirements (A statement indicating what a facility must demonstrate to meet the standard.)	Guidance Notes (Additional information providing guidance that may include how a facility can meet the requirements, any mandatory compliance requirements to be met (for example, requirements under the Veterinarians Act), the background related to the need for the requirement, or links to other organizations which also provide guidance.)	Compliance Yes, No, Or Not Applicable	Inspector Comments
		Staff should be able to explain how this is met to the inspector.		

Resources

1) Canadian Standards of Care in Animal Shelters: Supporting ASV Guidelines: https://www.canadianveterinarians.net/documents/canadian-standards-of-care-in-animal-shelters

2) OMAFRA Resources:
   1) Air Quality Inside Livestock Barns: http://www.omafra.gov.on.ca/english/livestock/swine/facts/93-001.htm
   2) Dairy Housing – Lighting Options for Freestall Housing: http://www.omafra.gov.on.ca/english/engineer/facts/15-011.htm
   3) Ventilation for Livestock and Poultry Facilities: http://www.omafra.gov.on.ca/english/engineer/facts/vent_p833.htm

3) National Farm Animal Care Council Codes of Practice: http://www.nfacc.ca/codes-of-practice

Additional Scope of Practice Service – Isolation Facilities

Date: November 3, 2022

Objective: It is anticipated that animals presented to the facility may have a potentially contagious disease. In these situations, attention needs to not only be given to the wellbeing of the patient but also to the protection of other animals in contact with the facility and possibly people who may be exposed to this patient or to contaminants.

Isolation facilities include a separate area within the hospital used to isolate and accommodate hospitalized patients having or suspected of having a contagious disease and restricts contact with the other patients and staff; this may be a room or separate building where the patients are under regular monitoring.

If a practice has a dedicated isolation facility it will comply with this standard.

	Requirements (A statement indicating what a facility must demonstrate to meet the standard.)	Guidance Notes (Additional information providing guidance that may include how a facility can meet the requirements, any mandatory compliance requirements to be met (for example, requirements under the Veterinarians Act), the background related to the need for the requirement, or links to other organizations which also provide guidance.)	Compliance Yes, No, Or Not Applicable	Inspector Comments
1	The practice provides designated accommodation for the isolation of infectious and	• This is a separate area within the hospital used to isolate patients having or suspected of having a contagious disease and restricts contact with other patients		

	zoonotic cases where activities are restricted to providing care to contagious patients.	and staff; this may be a room or separate building to which access is limited where the patients are under regular monitoring. • The isolation area is clearly demarcated. • When not housing specific contagious cases, it may be used for other purposes provided proper disinfection procedures are adhered to.		
2	There is a negative air flow system in place to prevent cross-contamination from room to room.	Negative room pressure includes ventilation that generates negative pressure to allow air to flow into the isolation room but not escape from the room. An example is air is exhausted to the outside of the facility and away from animal areas. Staff should be able to explain how the system is maintained. They may provide copies of service records. Documentation is recommended but not required.		
3	The designated accommodation is of adequate size to hospitalize patients with contagious diseases.			
4	The isolation facility provides for examination and treatment of patients outside of cages and runs.	Recommendation: an examination table should be present for examination of smaller patients.		

5	When in use, the isolation facility is regularly and thoroughly cleaned and disinfected.	The practice may have written policies and procedures for proper disinfection. Documentation is recommended but not required. Recommendations: • There are means to ensure that garbage, debris and animal waste is removed in an efficient and timely manner. • The waste receptacle(s) is covered or concealed. • Soiled linens are handled in such a way as to prevent pathogen transmission to other areas of the hospital. • All contaminated materials are double-bagged or decontaminated before removal from the isolation facility where a patient with infectious disease is housed or examined.		
6	Following the use of an isolation facility, all surfaces and cages must be thoroughly disinfected, and all contaminated materials must be disposed of in accordance with federal, provincial and municipal regulations for waste disposal.	Recommendation: Surfaces in the isolation facility should be made of fluid impervious material capable of being disinfected.		

7	Only the equipment and material for the care and treatment of the current patient may be kept in the isolation facility when in use.	Equipment is properly decontaminated before removal from the isolation room.		
8	Disposable or readily disinfected clothing such as gowns, foot coverings and gloves are worn when handling patients with a contagious disease.	These items may be present and accessible.		
9	All patients that have, or are suspected of having, a contagious or zoonotic disease are properly identified so that their status is obvious to all staff.	There is a means of clearly and positively identifying the animal while on the premises. i.e. cage cards on the cage.		
10	There is adequate lighting for proper patient examination and treatment.			
11	To facilitate frequent hand washing to prevent spread of infectious diseases, a sink is located in or convenient to the isolation facility.	Recommendation: Hand washing should be done: • Before and after handling of patient • After coming into contact with animal saliva, ocular or nasal discharge, urine, feces or blood • After cleaning cages • Before and after breaks		

12	Clients and staff that are exposed to potentially zoonotic disease are informed of this fact, verbally or in writing, and a notation is made in the patient record of this communication.			

Additional Scope of Practice Service – Laser Therapy

Date: November 3, 2022

Objective: Laser therapy is provided in a manner that is safe for staff, animals and the public.

Definition: Laser therapy is a non-invasive procedure that applies low-level lasers or light-emitting diodes to the surface of the body for the promotion of healing and reducing inflammation and pain.

	Requirements (A statement indicating what a facility must demonstrate to meet the standard.)	Guidance Notes (Additional information providing guidance that may include how a facility can meet the requirements, any mandatory compliance requirements to be met (for example, requirements under the Veterinarians Act), the background related to the need for the requirement, or links to other organizations which also provide guidance.)	Compliance Yes, No, Or Not Applicable	Inspector Comments
1	Laser therapy equipment is clean and in good repair. Equipment is cleaned between patients.	Practice should be able to explain or demonstrate how equipment is kept clean and in good repair. This may include for example, providing copies of maintenance records as per manufacturer's recommendations and/or a written protocol which staff follow to clean laser therapy equipment.		

	Requirements (A statement indicating what a facility must demonstrate to meet the standard.)	Guidance Notes (Additional information providing guidance that may include how a facility can meet the requirements, any mandatory compliance requirements to be met (for example, requirements under the Veterinarians Act), the background related to the need for the requirement, or links to other organizations which also provide guidance.)	Compliance Yes, No, Or Not Applicable	Inspector Comments
		Documentation is recommended but not required.		
2	Only appropriately trained staff members provide laser therapy.	Suggestions for how to meet the requirement: • There may be a CE certificate, or • Staff involved can describe their training to the inspector, or • Training manuals, or written protocols for the safe use of the laser. Recommendation: Hazards associated with the use of lasers should be known to staff including: damage of cells leading to loss of vision and skin lesions, risk of electric shock, and the potential for fire when direct or reflected laser beam strikes a combustible material, i.e. steel table.		
3	In addition to the requirement of meeting the Essential Standards – Medical Records, pertinent	This includes: • Settings (Hertz, Joules) • Probe used		

	Requirements (A statement indicating what a facility must demonstrate to meet the standard.)	Guidance Notes (Additional information providing guidance that may include how a facility can meet the requirements, any mandatory compliance requirements to be met (for example, requirements under the Veterinarians Act), the background related to the need for the requirement, or links to other organizations which also provide guidance.)	Compliance Yes, No, Or Not Applicable	Inspector Comments
	information shall be documented regarding treatment protocols, settings, area being treated, and response of patient to treatment.	• Duration of treatment • Area and size of treatment		
4	Protective eyewear is used as specified by the manufacturer of the laser, and is periodically cleaned and inspected for cracks, damage, etc.	Standard prescription glasses do not replace specific protective laser eyewear.		

Resources

Ontario Ministry of Labour - Lasers in Ontario Workplaces: www.labour.gov.on.ca/english/hs/pubs/gl_lasers.php

College's Policy and Position Statement Use of Forms of Energy in the Treatment and/or Care of Animals: https://cvo.org/getmedia/bdc4af0b-bad9-4df4-8c41-08138d66c2f7/PositionStatementUseofFormsofEnergy.pdf.aspx and https://cvo.org/getmedia/795a006e-e1ad-4640-bbbb-eb0737126537/PolicyStatementUseofFormsofEnergy.pdf.aspx

Additional Scope of Practice Service – Other Imaging

Date: November 3, 2022

Objective: This standard refers to diagnostic imaging modalities other than radiography and ultrasound imaging, such as endoscopy, laparoscopy, computed tomography, and magnetic resonance imaging. The performance of these diagnostic imaging modalities occurs with the intention of producing diagnostic quality images, as well as reducing harm and mitigating risk to patients, staff and the public.

	Requirements (A statement indicating what a facility must demonstrate to meet the standard.)	Guidance Notes (Additional information providing guidance that may include how a facility can meet the requirements, any mandatory compliance requirements to be met (for example, requirements under the Veterinarians Act), the background related to the need for the requirement, or links to other organizations which also provide guidance.)	Compliance Yes, No, Or Not Applicable	Inspector Comments
1	Imaging equipment and facilities are suitable for the range of species routinely treated.			
2	Imaging equipment is properly maintained and in good repair. The equipment is serviced according to manufacturers' requirements. Equipment is cleaned after each use.	Staff should be able to explain or demonstrate how equipment is maintained. This may include for example providing copes of maintenance records and/ or a written protocol which staff follow. Suggestions for how to meet the requirement:		

	Requirements (A statement indicating what a facility must demonstrate to meet the standard.)	Guidance Notes (Additional information providing guidance that may include how a facility can meet the requirements, any mandatory compliance requirements to be met (for example, requirements under the Veterinarians Act), the background related to the need for the requirement, or links to other organizations which also provide guidance.)	Compliance Yes, No, Or Not Applicable	Inspector Comments
		• Records of maintenance and service are kept. • Quality control testing is performed and documented that ensures the equipment is consistently producing quality diagnostic images. • Any issues found on any of these evaluations are followed up in a timely manner and include documentation that they have been resolved.		
3	Imaging equipment is installed, maintained and operated following provincial regulations as applicable.	If computerized tomography (CT) is performed on site, it will be maintained, registered and operated as required under the Ministry of Labour, Radiation Protection Services standards.		

	Requirements (A statement indicating what a facility must demonstrate to meet the standard.)	Guidance Notes (Additional information providing guidance that may include how a facility can meet the requirements, any mandatory compliance requirements to be met (for example, requirements under the Veterinarians Act), the background related to the need for the requirement, or links to other organizations which also provide guidance.)	Compliance Yes, No, Or Not Applicable	Inspector Comments
		If Magnetic Resonance Imaging (MRI) is performed on site, it is installed according to Ministry of Health standards.		
4	Imaging equipment is operated only by trained staff aware of hazards, actual and potential to themselves, other staff, patients and nearby individuals.	Recommended: Include staff training in workplace safety policies and procedures.		
5	A means to view diagnostic images is easily accessible.	A high-resolution digital image viewer.		
6	Diagnostic images are properly identified.	May include the following information: • The name of the veterinarian or the practice name or both • Identification of the animal • The date of the image • An indication of the left or right side of the animal		

	Requirements (A statement indicating what a facility must demonstrate to meet the standard.)	Guidance Notes (Additional information providing guidance that may include how a facility can meet the requirements, any mandatory compliance requirements to be met (for example, requirements under the Veterinarians Act), the background related to the need for the requirement, or links to other organizations which also provide guidance.)	Compliance Yes, No, Or Not Applicable	Inspector Comments
7	As an extension of the medical record, diagnostic images are stored and maintained for the same length of time as the medical record.	That is, 5 years after the date of the last entry in the patient's record. Recommendation: record or log is maintained of all CT scans and MRI examinations and include patient name, date, region scanned and personnel involved.		
8	Diagnostic images are securely archived or filed in a manner which preserves their quality and allows for easy retrieval.			
9	Facilities are available for transmission and distribution of copies of diagnostic images to other practices and owners. The diagnostic images shall not be altered and the transmission shall preserve the quality.	For example: email, CD, memory sticks, etc.		

Resources

College's Policy and Position Statement Use of Forms of Energy in the Treatment and/or Care of Animals: https://cvo.org/getmedia/bdc4af0b-bad9-4df4-8c41-08138d66c2f7/PositionStatementUseofFormsofEnergy.pdf.aspx and https://cvo.org/getmedia/795a006e-e1ad-4640-bbbb-eb0737126537/PolicyStatementUseofFormsofEnergy.pdf.aspx

Additional Scope of Practice Service – Radiology

Date: November 3, 2022

Objective: The performance of diagnostic imaging occurs with the intention of producing diagnostic quality images, as well as reducing harm and mitigating risk to patients, staff and the public related to exposure to radiation or other harmful substances, directly or indirectly.

This standard includes dental radiology services.

The purpose of the College's Radiation Safety- Legislative Overview is to provide veterinarians who own and operate x-ray equipment with information about the expectations and requirements contained in Regulation 861 under the Occupational Health and Safety Act.

	Requirements (A statement indicating what a facility must demonstrate to meet the standard.)	Guidance Notes (Additional information providing guidance that may include how a facility can meet the requirements, any mandatory compliance requirements to be met (for example, requirements under the Veterinarians Act), the background related to the need for the requirement, or links to other organizations which also provide guidance.)	Compliance Yes, No, Or Not Applicable	Inspector Comments
1	Radiology equipment and facilities are suitable for the range of species routinely treated.	A suitable range of cassettes, screens and grids are available for x-ray imaging.		

	Requirements (A statement indicating what a facility must demonstrate to meet the standard.)	Guidance Notes (Additional information providing guidance that may include how a facility can meet the requirements, any mandatory compliance requirements to be met (for example, requirements under the Veterinarians Act), the background related to the need for the requirement, or links to other organizations which also provide guidance.)	Compliance Yes, No, Or Not Applicable	Inspector Comments
		Measuring calipers, or other suitable devices, are available to determine accurately the depth of the part being radiographed. A range of suitable contrast material is available to perform a range of contrast examinations.		
2	Radiology equipment is properly maintained and in good repair. The equipment is serviced according to manufacturers' requirements. Equipment is cleaned after each use.	Staff should be able to explain or demonstrate how equipment is maintained. This may include for example providing copies of maintenance records and/ or a written protocol which staff follow. Suggestions for how to meet the requirement: • Records of maintenance and service are kept. • Quality control testing is performed and documented		

	Requirements (A statement indicating what a facility must demonstrate to meet the standard.)	Guidance Notes (Additional information providing guidance that may include how a facility can meet the requirements, any mandatory compliance requirements to be met (for example, requirements under the Veterinarians Act), the background related to the need for the requirement, or links to other organizations which also provide guidance.)	Compliance Yes, No, Or Not Applicable	Inspector Comments
		that ensures the equipment is consistently producing quality diagnostic images. • Any issues found on any of these evaluations are followed up in a timely manner and include documentation that they have been resolved.		
3	Radiation producing equipment is operated only by trained staff who have been made aware of hazards, actual and potential to themselves, other staff, patients and nearby individuals.	Confirmation should be provided that a staff member has been trained as the radiation safety officer. Guidance: The Radiation Safety Institute of Canada offers an X-ray safety course developed specifically for the veterinary profession. onlinelearning.radiationsafety.ca		

	Requirements (A statement indicating what a facility must demonstrate to meet the standard.)	Guidance Notes (Additional information providing guidance that may include how a facility can meet the requirements, any mandatory compliance requirements to be met (for example, requirements under the Veterinarians Act), the background related to the need for the requirement, or links to other organizations which also provide guidance.)	Compliance Yes, No, Or Not Applicable	Inspector Comments
		Rationale: The regulations under the Occupational Health and Safety Act specify that clinics with X-ray units must have one staff member trained as a radiation safety officer who has the knowledge, training or experience, to train and direct staff on the safe use of x-ray equipment and provide the name of that person to the MOL. Recommendation: Include staff training in workplace safety policies and procedures.		
4	Diagnostic radiology equipment is maintained, registered and operated as required under Ontario's Ministry of Labour, Radiation Protection Services.	At the time of inspection, a copy of the X-ray registration number provided by the Ministry of Labour, Radiation Protection Services is required.		

	Requirements (A statement indicating what a facility must demonstrate to meet the standard.)	Guidance Notes (Additional information providing guidance that may include how a facility can meet the requirements, any mandatory compliance requirements to be met (for example, requirements under the Veterinarians Act), the background related to the need for the requirement, or links to other organizations which also provide guidance.)	Compliance Yes, No, Or Not Applicable	Inspector Comments
		Radiation Protection Services needs to be contacted if there are changes such as: • Change in ownership • Replacing or upgrading X-ray • Converting from film to digital x-ray machine For further assistance contact: Radiation Protection Services 416-235-5922 or email radiationprotection@Ontario.ca		
5	Ensures that exposure to radiation is as low as reasonably achievable. There is sufficient provision for the non-human restraint of patients during radiography.	Regulatory: Does not exceed the annual dose equivalent limits as prescribed in the regulation. Ensure that all reasonable precautions are taken for pregnant staff so that the mean dose equivalent received by the		

	Requirements (A statement indicating what a facility must demonstrate to meet the standard.)	Guidance Notes (Additional information providing guidance that may include how a facility can meet the requirements, any mandatory compliance requirements to be met (for example, requirements under the Veterinarians Act), the background related to the need for the requirement, or links to other organizations which also provide guidance.)	Compliance Yes, No, Or Not Applicable	Inspector Comments
		abdomen does not exceed limits set in regulation. Recommendation: Ensure that dose equivalent limits are not exceeded by installing structural or other shielding and providing aperture diaphragm (a beam restrictor) cones, adjustable collimators or other devices. For example: The restraining of animals can include chemical restraint, sand bags, rope ties, foam, etc.		
6	All staff involved in the radiographing of animals are monitored for radiation exposure as approved by the National Dosimetry Services, Health Canada.	Suggestions for how to meet the requirement: • At the time of inspection, individual monitoring badges for		

	Requirements (A statement indicating what a facility must demonstrate to meet the standard.)	Guidance Notes (Additional information providing guidance that may include how a facility can meet the requirements, any mandatory compliance requirements to be met (for example, requirements under the Veterinarians Act), the background related to the need for the requirement, or links to other organizations which also provide guidance.)	Compliance Yes, No, Or Not Applicable	Inspector Comments
		staff is to be presented to the inspector. • Record all dosimeter readings. Retain the dosimeter records for at least 3 years. • Notify an inspector at the MOL, in writing and within a reasonable time frame, when the reading of a personal dosimeter indicates that the dose equivalent does not appear reasonable and appropriate. See Resources at the end of this section for links to Review Legislative Overview – Radiation Safety.		

	Requirements (A statement indicating what a facility must demonstrate to meet the standard.)	Guidance Notes (Additional information providing guidance that may include how a facility can meet the requirements, any mandatory compliance requirements to be met (for example, requirements under the Veterinarians Act), the background related to the need for the requirement, or links to other organizations which also provide guidance.)	Compliance Yes, No, Or Not Applicable	Inspector Comments
7	Sufficient personal protective equipment (PPE) is provided and examined at regular intervals. PPE is worn by all staff in the designated radiation area at all times and is in good working order.	Appropriate lead protective equipment (whole body, gonadal shielding and thyroid shielding at least 0.5 mm) is available. Recommendation: The protection devices should be evaluated (visually and irradiated) at least on an annual basis for cracks, wear and tear.		
8	The shielding of the designated radiation area is appropriate for the size and use of the space with suitable and sufficient signs and warnings.	• Radiation warning signs are posted on all entrances to the designated area. For example, proper signage posted outside radiograph area “Caution X-ray Area”. • The protective barrier effect of any walls and doors is such that		

	Requirements (A statement indicating what a facility must demonstrate to meet the standard.)	Guidance Notes (Additional information providing guidance that may include how a facility can meet the requirements, any mandatory compliance requirements to be met (for example, requirements under the Veterinarians Act), the background related to the need for the requirement, or links to other organizations which also provide guidance.)	Compliance Yes, No, Or Not Applicable	Inspector Comments
		occupants of adjacent areas do not receive radiation above recommended levels.		
9	There are suitable radiographic processing facilities (conventional or digital) used and maintained in accordance with the manufacturer's instructions to avoid wasted exposures.	Staff should be able to explain or demonstrate how these are maintained. Documentation is not required. Refer to Resources.		
10	A means to view diagnostic images is easily accessible.	For example: Film illuminator and/or high-resolution digital image viewer. Guidance: The digital image viewer can be in surgical suite but restricted to intraoperative interpretations and not for routine study. There should be another viewing station outside of the surgery room.		

	Requirements (A statement indicating what a facility must demonstrate to meet the standard.)	Guidance Notes (Additional information providing guidance that may include how a facility can meet the requirements, any mandatory compliance requirements to be met (for example, requirements under the Veterinarians Act), the background related to the need for the requirement, or links to other organizations which also provide guidance.)	Compliance Yes, No, Or Not Applicable	Inspector Comments
11	The practice maintains a radiographic log that is accessible and easily retrievable.	The radiographic log contains: • The date each radiograph is taken • Identification of the animal and the client • The area of the body exposed to the radiograph • The number of radiographic views • Radiographic setting Guidance: Can be in paper or electronic format. Recommendation: There should be a record of staff involved in the x-ray exposure.		
12	Radiographic images are properly identified.	Radiographs will have the following information permanently adhered to them:		

	Requirements (A statement indicating what a facility must demonstrate to meet the standard.)	Guidance Notes (Additional information providing guidance that may include how a facility can meet the requirements, any mandatory compliance requirements to be met (for example, requirements under the Veterinarians Act), the background related to the need for the requirement, or links to other organizations which also provide guidance.)	Compliance Yes, No, Or Not Applicable	Inspector Comments
		• The name of the veterinarian or the practice name or both • Identification of the animal • The date of the radiograph • An indication of the left or right side of the animal • An indication of time for sequential radiographic studies The use of self-adhesive labels for the identification of radiographs is not acceptable.		
13	As an extension of the medical record, all diagnostic images are stored and maintained for the same length of time as the medical record.	That is, 5 years after the date of the last entry in the patient's record.		
14	Diagnostic images are securely archived or filed in a manner which preserves their quality and allows for easy retrieval.			

	Requirements (A statement indicating what a facility must demonstrate to meet the standard.)	Guidance Notes (Additional information providing guidance that may include how a facility can meet the requirements, any mandatory compliance requirements to be met (for example, requirements under the Veterinarians Act), the background related to the need for the requirement, or links to other organizations which also provide guidance.)	Compliance Yes, No, Or Not Applicable	Inspector Comments
15	Facilities are available for transmission and distribution of copies of diagnostic images to other practices.	For example: Email, CD, memory sticks, etc. Copies of radiographs should preserve the quality of the image and prevent altering of the image.		

Resources

Legislative Overview – Radiation Safety: https://cvo.org/CVO/media/College-of-Veterinarians-of-Ontario/Resources%20and%20Publications/INFO%20Sheets/LORadiationSafety.pdf

Ministry of Labour, Radiation Protection Services: https://www.labour.gov.on.ca/english/hs/about_rps.php

Government of Canada Diagnostic X-Ray Imaging Quality Assurance: An Overview: https://www.canada.ca/en/health-canada/services/environmental-workplace-health/reports-publications/radiation/diagnostic-imaging-quality-assurance-overview.html

Government of Canada: Canadian Nuclear Safety Commission: Radiation Doses: http://nuclearsafety.gc.ca/eng/resources/radiation/introduction-to-radiation/radiation-doses.cfm

Rules and guidelines for managing hazardous and liquid industrial wastes; how to register as a generator by using the Hazardous Waste Information Network (HWIN): https://www.ontario.ca/page/hazardous-waste-management-business-and-industry

Ontario Government: https://www.ontario.ca/page/registration-guidance-manual-generators-liquid-industrial-and-hazardous-waste

Ministry of Labour: You and Chemicals in the Workplace: https://www.labour.gov.on.ca/english/hs/pubs/alerts/a14.php

Government of Canada: https://www.canada.ca/en/environment-climate-change/services/managing-reducing-waste/permit-hazardous-wastes-recyclables/management.html

Expectation: For wet processing of film the processing area is ventilated, and chemicals handled and disposed of according to current federal, provincial and municipal legislation guidelines as applicable.

Resources related to requirement #3:

> In Canada, all three levels of government contribute to environmental protection and have a role to play in managing hazardous waste and hazardous recyclable material. Municipal governments establish collection, recycling, composting and disposal programs within their jurisdictions. Provincial and territorial governments establish measures and criteria for licensing hazardous-waste generators, carriers, and treatment facilities, in addition to controlling movements of waste within their jurisdictions. The federal government regulates transboundary movements of hazardous waste and hazardous recyclable material, in addition to negotiating international agreements related to chemicals and waste.

1. https://www.toronto.ca/legdocs/mmis/2007/pw/bgrd/backgroundfile-3887.pdf
2. https://www.ontario.ca/page/hazardous-waste-management-business-and-industry
3. https://www.labour.gov.on.ca/english/hs/pubs/alerts/a14.php
4. https://www.canada.ca/en/environment-climate-change/services/managing-reducing-waste/permit-hazardous-wastes-recyclables/management.html

Additional Scope of Practice Service – Rehabilitation Therapy

Date: November 3,2022

Objective: Rehabilitation services are provided in a manner that is safe for staff, animals and the public.

Rehabilitation involves a therapeutic plan incorporating a combination of therapies to help animals recover from injury, illness or disease. Therapy methods used in rehabilitation may include cryotherapy, thermotherapy, hydrotherapy, massage, and therapeutic exercise. It may also involve the use of laser therapy, therapeutic ultrasound, shockwave therapy, neuromuscular stimulation, and transcutaneous electrical nerve stimulation.

	Requirements (A statement indicating what a facility must demonstrate to meet the standard.)	Guidance Notes (Additional information providing guidance that may include how a facility can meet the requirements, any mandatory compliance requirements to be met (for example, requirements under the Veterinarians Act), the background related to the need for the requirement, or links to other organizations which also provide guidance.)	Compliance Yes, No, Or Not Applicable	Inspector Comments
1	Non-slip flooring (which remains non-slip when wet) is required in examination and therapeutic exercise areas.	For example: appropriate mats can be used for this purpose.		
2	If an underwater treadmill or pool is installed, there are procedures are in	Suggestions for how to meet the requirement:		

	place to ensure safety of patients, clients and staff.	• Water is changed between patients from a fresh water source or using water that has been filtered and sanitized. • All parts of the treadmill are sanitized as needed. • Water temperature is controlled. • Pumps and filters are routinely inspected. • All electrical outlets in the room are GFI (ground fault circuit interrupter). • Safeguards are in place in case of flooding, e.g., flood alarm, drains, etc. • Water testing/monitoring in place. • Lifejackets are available.		
3	If therapeutic ultrasound equipment is used, it is calibrated, and is in good repair.	Documentation is recommended but not required to confirm regular maintenance, if applicable.		
4	If laser therapy is used, compliance with the Additional Scope of Services	Refer to Additional Scope of Services Standard: Laser Therapy		

	Standard: Laser Therapy is demonstrated			
5	In addition to the requirement of meeting the Essential Standards – Medical Records, pertinent information shall be documented regarding treatment protocols, settings, condition or area being treated, and response of patient to treatment.	For example: if underwater treadmill is used, this may include, but not limited to: • Water temperature • Water height • Treadmill speed • Jets on/off • Duration of session For example: if ultrasound is used, this may include, but not limited to: • Settings and head used • Duration of treatment • Area treated		
6	There are safe methods to transfer non-ambulatory patients, including assistive devices. If used, any assistive machinery is serviced and maintained as per manufacturer's recommendations and in good repair.	Documentation is recommended but not required to confirm regular maintenance		
7	Only appropriately trained staff provide rehabilitation therapy.	Suggestions for how to meet the requirement: • There may be a CE certificate, or • Staff involved can describe their training to the inspector, or • There are training manuals, or written protocols.		

8	If shockwave therapy is provided, then the shockwave device is specifically designed for the species type. The shockwave device is regularly maintained and in good repair.	Documentation is recommended but not required to confirm regular maintenance Recommendation: Shockwave therapy is done with sedation: light sedation for an equine; heavy sedation for canine. Doesn't require general anesthesia. The main reason why sedation is used is because the machine can be loud (and frighten the animal) and it can be painful when applying the therapy.		

Resources

College's Policy and Position Statement Use of Forms of Energy in the Treatment and/or Care of Animals: https://cvo.org/getmedia/bdc4af0b-bad9-4df4-8c41-08138d66c2f7/PositionStatementUseofFormsofEnergy.pdf.aspx and https://cvo.org/getmedia/795a006e-e1ad-4640-bbbb-eb0737126537/PolicyStatementUseofFormsofEnergy.pdf.aspx

Additional Scope of Practice Service – Surgery

Date: November 3, 2022

Objective: Safety of patients and workers requires that surgery take place in a manner that is aseptic and reduces the risk of nosocomial infections in patients.

Definitions:

Major Surgery: Per Ontario Regulation 1093, Section 2. “major surgery” means surgery,

(a) in which bone, viscera or an extensive area of subcutaneous tissue is exposed, or

(b) the failure of which would endanger the life or organ function of the animal. (“chirurgie lourde”) R.R.O. 1990, Reg. 1093, s. 2; O. Reg. 398/07, s. 1; O. Reg. 356/11, s. 1; O. Reg. 233/15, s. 2 ; O. Reg. 260/22, s. 1.

A. In-Facility Surgical Suite for All Species

Surgery performed in a facility is performed in a dedicated, single purpose surgical suite. Practices with sinks in the surgical suite will now be required to remove them prior to the inspection. Grandfathering is no longer permitted.

	Requirements (A statement indicating what a facility must demonstrate to meet the standard.)	Guidance Notes (Additional information providing guidance that may include how a facility can meet the requirements, any mandatory compliance requirements to be met (for example, requirements under the Veterinarians Act), the background related to the need for the requirement, or links to other organizations which also provide guidance.)	Compliance Yes, No, Or Not Applicable	Inspector Comments
1	Surgical suites are separate, closed, single purpose rooms for aseptic surgery only. Equipment and materials housed/stored in the surgery room are limited to items directly related to the performance of aseptic surgery.	Suggestions on how to meet the requirement: • Should not double as a consulting or storage room. • This should be a closed room with no through traffic. • It is large enough to accommodate readily a veterinarian, an animal, an assistant and any necessary equipment. • This area should only contain equipment for use in surgical procedures. This includes equipment for fluoroscopy, laparoscopy, endoscopy, ultrasound (as required) or orthopedic surgery. • Equipment not normally related to surgery and surgical procedures includes but is not limited to, equipment used for dental prophylaxis, and autoclaves. • No X-ray equipment is to be installed in the surgical suite.		

	Requirements (A statement indicating what a facility must demonstrate to meet the standard.)	Guidance Notes (Additional information providing guidance that may include how a facility can meet the requirements, any mandatory compliance requirements to be met (for example, requirements under the Veterinarians Act), the background related to the need for the requirement, or links to other organizations which also provide guidance.)	Compliance Yes, No, Or Not Applicable	Inspector Comments
		• No X-ray or dental x-ray procedures are permitted in the surgical suite.		
2	The surgical suite is constructed and utilized in a manner that minimizes the potential for contamination.	Suggestions for how to meet the requirement: • The suite is only entered for activities associated with aseptic surgical procedures. • The surgical room is completely enclosed with solid walls floor to ceiling and a covered ceiling. The surgical suite requires a drop-down ceiling. Exposed ventilation ducts and suspended decorative lighting is not permitted. • It is designed and laid out to ensure sterility and to facilitate cleaning (e.g., flat cupboard door fronts, flush mounted to the wall). Walls, doors and floors that are smooth, nonporous and easily cleaned and readily sanitized. • Doors are well fitted and wide enough to permit passage of patients. • Doors are kept closed and traffic into the surgical suite is kept to a minimum.		

	Requirements (A statement indicating what a facility must demonstrate to meet the standard.)	Guidance Notes (Additional information providing guidance that may include how a facility can meet the requirements, any mandatory compliance requirements to be met (for example, requirements under the Veterinarians Act), the background related to the need for the requirement, or links to other organizations which also provide guidance.)	Compliance Yes, No, Or Not Applicable	Inspector Comments
		• A viewing window is recommended to reduce the need for support staff to open the door to see into the room. • Sinks are not permitted in the surgical suite as they create aerosol contamination and can collect dust. • Open shelving should be avoided in the surgical room.		
3	Equipment utilized in the surgical suite is properly cleaned, in good repair, and sufficient in number and variety to match the requirements of the species treated and the surgical case load.	Suggestion for how to meet the requirement: • There may be a written protocol for the maintenance of a surgically clean environment and equipment and tracking that it is carried out, such as in policies on infection control. • Surfaces within the surgical suite are free from dust/dirt and contamination. Other equipment may include: • Intravenous fluid hanger or pole • Waste receptacle • Portable, adjustable surgical lamp • Instrument tables		

	Requirements (A statement indicating what a facility must demonstrate to meet the standard.)	Guidance Notes (Additional information providing guidance that may include how a facility can meet the requirements, any mandatory compliance requirements to be met (for example, requirements under the Veterinarians Act), the background related to the need for the requirement, or links to other organizations which also provide guidance.)	Compliance Yes, No, Or Not Applicable	Inspector Comments
		• Electrocautery or lasers, including scavenger for smoke • Warming devices • Suction apparatus • Pads on surgery table(s) for patient comfort and prevention of injury The surgery room can have equipment for viewing radiographs appropriate for the situation (radiographic viewer, tablet, TV screen)		
4	A surgery table or surface is provided and made of smooth nonporous material that can be readily sanitized.	Recommendation: It is suggested that the table has the capability to adjust its height and tilt position. Wooden tables are not permitted.		
5	Surgical lighting suitable for the accurate illumination of surgical sites on the patient is provided.	Rationale: A surgical light is intended to assist medical personnel during a surgical procedure by illumination of a local area or cavity of the patient. Lighting continues to function in the event of a loss of power (e.g., generator, surgical head torch, or flashlight)		
6	A separate room for preoperative preparation	Recommendation: Floors, walls and counter tops should be of smooth, impervious material which is easily cleaned.		

	Requirements (A statement indicating what a facility must demonstrate to meet the standard.)	Guidance Notes (Additional information providing guidance that may include how a facility can meet the requirements, any mandatory compliance requirements to be met (for example, requirements under the Veterinarians Act), the background related to the need for the requirement, or links to other organizations which also provide guidance.)	Compliance Yes, No, Or Not Applicable	Inspector Comments
	of surgical patients is convenient to the surgical suite and well-lit.	This area may be situated in a room that has another function, i.e., a scrub room, treatment room or extra examination room.		
7	A standard accepted procedure is used to prepare the patient for surgery. All staff members involved in the pre-surgical preparation of patients are trained to understand the risk and sources of bacterial contamination.	Suggestions for how to meet the requirement: • There may be a written protocol or checklist that is used • Team members are veterinarians or registered veterinary technicians • Other team members involved can describe this to the inspector • Clippers and blades are cleaned and maintained appropriately		
8	Scrubbing up area is provided outside the surgery suite. This area is protected from contamination by location and/or cleaning protocol.	Recommendation: hands-free operation of taps is recommended. Alternative is to have another staff turn off the taps.		
9	A properly performed hand and arm scrub with an appropriate surgical scrub	Recommendation: Sterile, disposable scrubbing brushes or reusable brushes that are thoroughly washed and sterilized after each use are used.		

	Requirements (A statement indicating what a facility must demonstrate to meet the standard.)	Guidance Notes (Additional information providing guidance that may include how a facility can meet the requirements, any mandatory compliance requirements to be met (for example, requirements under the Veterinarians Act), the background related to the need for the requirement, or links to other organizations which also provide guidance.)	Compliance Yes, No, Or Not Applicable	Inspector Comments
	agent is used prior to performing surgical procedures.	Or a recognized brushless system is used (Guidelines for Hand Hygiene from the U.S. CDC or Laboratory Center for Disease Control) within the manufacturer's recommendations. https://www.cdc.gov/mmwr/PDF/rr/rr5116.pdf		
10	There is a range of suitable sterile surgical instruments, supplies, consumables, and suture materials for the work undertaken.	Supplies may include, but are not limited to, suture material, drapes, laparotomy pads or sponges, towels and gauze sponges are properly wrapped and sterilized. Suggestions for how to meet the requirement: • Sterile instruments, towels and drapes are used for each major surgical procedure • Sterile single use surgical gloves are utilized in all surgeries • Single use sterile suture material is not to be sterilized after use to be used again in aseptic procedures, or when it reaches or goes beyond the expiry date. Suture material is disposed when it reaches its expiry date.		
11	Surgical instrumentation and reusable supplies must	Suggestion for how to meet the requirement:		

	Requirements (A statement indicating what a facility must demonstrate to meet the standard.)	Guidance Notes (Additional information providing guidance that may include how a facility can meet the requirements, any mandatory compliance requirements to be met (for example, requirements under the Veterinarians Act), the background related to the need for the requirement, or links to other organizations which also provide guidance.)	Compliance Yes, No, Or Not Applicable	Inspector Comments
	be properly cleaned, sterilized and in good repair. Cold sterile is not an acceptable sterilization method for surgical instruments to be used for aseptic surgery.	• The practice may use a written sterilization protocol that provides for appropriate sterile equipment and supplies, such as in infection control policies. • Staff involved in sterilization procedures can describe to the inspector.		
12	Autoclaves and other sterilization equipment are maintained and serviced in accordance with the manufacturer's instructions. A steam sterilizer of sufficient size to sterilize the quantity of surgical packs necessary for the expected case load is present outside of the surgical suite.	Documentation is recommended but not required to confirm service and maintenance. Recommendations: • A gas sterilizer may be present, but it is not a substitute for the steam sterilizer. Ethylene oxide gas may be used to sterilize delicate equipment that may be damaged by heat or steam. Ethylene oxide is hazardous and suitable safety precautions are needed to avoid health hazards. • Only trained team members should operate the sterilization equipment. Practice team member training includes the safe and proper operation of sterilization equipment and recognition of any possible malfunction.		

	Requirements (A statement indicating what a facility must demonstrate to meet the standard.)	Guidance Notes (Additional information providing guidance that may include how a facility can meet the requirements, any mandatory compliance requirements to be met (for example, requirements under the Veterinarians Act), the background related to the need for the requirement, or links to other organizations which also provide guidance.)	Compliance Yes, No, Or Not Applicable	Inspector Comments
		• The use of a pressure cooker for the purposes of sterilization is not permitted.		
13	Separate sterilized surgical packs are used for each major surgical procedure. A means to confirm sterilization is used.	Rationale: Appropriate internal and external sterility indicators for the system employed are used to monitor the efficiency of the sterilization technique. The temperature and pressure generated by this equipment must be sufficient to kill all types of micro-organism, including bacterial spores. Since pressure and temperature gauges may be inaccurate, the efficiency of autoclave equipment must be routinely monitored using standard sterilization indicators. Recommendations: Surgical packs initialled and dated by the person packing them and labelled for contents. In addition, sterilization indicators are placed in the centre of every surgical pack.		
14	The surgical team wears proper surgical attire during aseptic procedures.	Suggestions for how to meet the requirement: • Caps, masks, sterile gown, sterile gloves are worn by the surgeon and surgical assistant. All personnel present during a surgical procedure are wearing caps, masks and clean outerwear.		

	Requirements (A statement indicating what a facility must demonstrate to meet the standard.)	Guidance Notes (Additional information providing guidance that may include how a facility can meet the requirements, any mandatory compliance requirements to be met (for example, requirements under the Veterinarians Act), the background related to the need for the requirement, or links to other organizations which also provide guidance.)	Compliance Yes, No, Or Not Applicable	Inspector Comments
15	Informed client consent for the surgery is documented in the record.	Regulatory requirement: O. Reg. 1093: for companion animals: i. The written consent to the surgical treatment signed by or on behalf of the owner of the animal. ii. A note that the owner of the animal or a person on the owner's behalf consented orally to the surgical treatment, and the reason why the consent was not in writing. iii. A note that neither the owner of the animal nor anyone on the owner's behalf was available to consent to the surgical treatment, and the reason why, in the member's opinion, it was medically advisable to conduct the surgical treatment. Food producing animal/Equine/Poultry informed consent for surgery permits verbal consent or written consent. The regulations are not explicit. Verbal consent is fine and must be documented in medical record. Written consent for surgery and high-risk procedures is recommended.		

	Requirements (A statement indicating what a facility must demonstrate to meet the standard.)	Guidance Notes (Additional information providing guidance that may include how a facility can meet the requirements, any mandatory compliance requirements to be met (for example, requirements under the Veterinarians Act), the background related to the need for the requirement, or links to other organizations which also provide guidance.)	Compliance Yes, No, Or Not Applicable	Inspector Comments
		(written consent for surgery for companion animals is a legislative requirement; it is not a legislative requirement for equine or food producing animals but is suggested for all species).		
16	Medical record-keeping systems are in place that include surgical treatment details and all team members involved in the surgery. Surgical Logs are maintained separately or in combination with Anesthetic Logs.	Recommendation for how to meet the requirement: Surgical notes for each patient contain: a) Surgical treatment details are recorded in progress notes or a protocol and include the approach used, findings, and type of repair. b) Suture materials used and closing technique are recorded. c) It is clearly documented the veterinarian who performed the surgery and any team members who provided any aspect of the surgical treatment (i.e., surgical assistant). Rationale: the surgical log enables auditing of surgical outcomes. See anesthetic/surgical log sample on the CVO website.		
17	Laser Surgery If laser surgery is performed, a practice team	Rationale: Hazards associated with the use of lasers include: risk of electric shock, health hazards from exposure to contaminants found in the laser plume and		

	Requirements (A statement indicating what a facility must demonstrate to meet the standard.)	Guidance Notes (Additional information providing guidance that may include how a facility can meet the requirements, any mandatory compliance requirements to be met (for example, requirements under the Veterinarians Act), the background related to the need for the requirement, or links to other organizations which also provide guidance.)	Compliance Yes, No, Or Not Applicable	Inspector Comments
	member is designated as the person in charge of laser safety and ensures that the practice adheres to established safety precautions. Dispersion of laser plume contains toxic gases and biological particles and as such appropriate air evacuation system must be used. Eye wear must be worn while providing laser surgery. Laser protective eye wear must be labeled with the same wavelength as is emitted by the laser that is to be used.	the potential for fire when direct or reflected laser beam strikes a combustible material, i.e. steel table. Suggestions for how to meet the requirement: • Practice team members are trained in the use and safety of the surgical laser and this is reviewed annually. • Clinics with surgical lasers, class 4, must appoint a laser safety officer. Training must comply with the ANSI Z136.1 Standards from the Laser Institute of America. • Appropriate warning signs are visible for when the laser is being used and access to the treatment room should be restricted to essential personnel during treatments. • The practice keeps a log for the maintenance and performance of laser equipment.		

	Requirements (A statement indicating what a facility must demonstrate to meet the standard.)	Guidance Notes (Additional information providing guidance that may include how a facility can meet the requirements, any mandatory compliance requirements to be met (for example, requirements under the Veterinarians Act), the background related to the need for the requirement, or links to other organizations which also provide guidance.)	Compliance Yes, No, Or Not Applicable	Inspector Comments
		• A portable smoke extractor using charcoal and HEPA filters are acceptable. Filters and absorbers require regular replacement. See the College's Policy and Position Statement Use of Forms of Energy in the Treatment and/or Care of Animals: https://cvo.org/getmedia/bdc4af0b-bad9-4df4-8c41-08138d66c2f7/PositionStatementUseofFormsofEnergy.pdf.aspx and https://cvo.org/getmedia/795a006e-e1ad-4640-bbbb-eb0737126537/PolicyStatementUseofFormsofEnergy.pdf.aspx		

B. Veterinary Surgical Mobile for Large Animal Ambulatory Surgery (equine and food-producing animals)

Access to surgical services for animals difficult to transport (equine and food producing animals) presents a unique problem. This ASPS accepts some limitation in the principles of sterile technique and recognizes the practical challenges for veterinarians carrying out aseptic surgical procedures (e.g., bovine caesarian section, equine castration) for equine and food producing animals outside of the surgical suite or in the field. Necessary steps must be taken to reduce the risk of infections. As appropriate and practical for the specific surgical procedure and conditions, the highest level of aseptic technique possible is performed for all surgical procedures.

	Requirements (A statement indicating what a facility must demonstrate to meet the standard.)	Guidance Notes (Additional information providing guidance that may include how a facility can meet the requirements, any mandatory compliance requirements to be met (for example, requirements under the Veterinarians Act), the background related to the need for the requirement, or links to other organizations which also provide guidance.)	Compliance Yes, No, Or Not Applicable	Inspector Comments
1	Surgical lighting suitable for the accurate illumination of surgical sites on the patient is provided.	Rationale: A surgical light is intended to assist medical personnel during a surgical procedure by illumination of a local area or cavity of the patient. Lighting continues to function in the event of a loss of power (e.g., generator, surgical head torch, or flashlight)		
2	A standard accepted procedure is used to prepare the patient for surgery. All staff involved in the pre-surgical preparation of patients are trained to understand the risk and sources of bacterial contamination.	Suggestions for how to meet the requirement: • There may be a written protocol or checklist that is used • Team members are veterinarians or registered veterinary technicians • Other team members involved can describe this to the inspector • Clippers and blades are cleaned and maintained appropriately for applicable species		
3	A properly performed hand and arm scrub with an appropriate surgical scrub agent is used prior to performing surgical procedures.	Recommendation: Sterile, disposable scrubbing brushes or reusable brushes that are thoroughly washed and sterilized after each use are used. Or a recognized brushless system is used (Guidelines for Hand Hygiene from the U.S. CDC or Laboratory Center for Disease Control) within the manufacturer's		

	Requirements (A statement indicating what a facility must demonstrate to meet the standard.)	Guidance Notes (Additional information providing guidance that may include how a facility can meet the requirements, any mandatory compliance requirements to be met (for example, requirements under the Veterinarians Act), the background related to the need for the requirement, or links to other organizations which also provide guidance.)	Compliance Yes, No, Or Not Applicable	Inspector Comments
		recommendations. https://www.cdc.gov/mmwr/PDF/rr/rr5116.pdf		
4	There is a range of suitable sterile surgical instruments, supplies, consumables, and suture materials for the work undertaken.	Supplies may include, but are not limited to, suture material, drapes, laparotomy pads or sponges, towels and gauze sponges are properly wrapped and sterilized. Suggestions for how to meet the requirement: • Sterile instruments, towels and drapes are used for each major surgical procedure • Sterile single use surgical gloves are utilized in all surgeries • Single use sterile suture material is not to be sterilized after use to be used again in aseptic procedures, or when it reaches or goes beyond the expiry date. Suture material is disposed when it reaches its expiry date.		
5	Surgical instrumentation and reusable supplies must be properly cleaned, sterilized and in good repair.	Suggestion for how to meet the requirement: • The practice may use a written sterilization protocol that provides for appropriate sterile equipment and supplies • Staff involved in sterilization procedures can describe to the inspector.		

	Requirements (A statement indicating what a facility must demonstrate to meet the standard.)	Guidance Notes (Additional information providing guidance that may include how a facility can meet the requirements, any mandatory compliance requirements to be met (for example, requirements under the Veterinarians Act), the background related to the need for the requirement, or links to other organizations which also provide guidance.)	Compliance Yes, No, Or Not Applicable	Inspector Comments
	Cold sterile is not an acceptable sterilization method for surgical instruments to be used for aseptic surgery.			
6	Autoclaves and other sterilization equipment are maintained and serviced in accordance with a documented schedule. A steam sterilizer of sufficient size to sterilize the quantity of surgical packs necessary for the expected case load is present.	Recommendations: • A gas sterilizer may be present, but it is not a substitute for the steam sterilizer. Ethylene oxide gas may be used to sterilize delicate equipment that may be damaged by heat or steam. Ethylene oxide is hazardous and suitable safety precautions are needed to avoid health hazards. • Only trained team members should operate the sterilization equipment. Practice team member training includes the safe and proper operation of sterilization equipment and recognition of any possible malfunction. • The use of a pressure cooker for the purposes of sterilization is not permitted.		
7	Separate sterilized surgical packs are used	Rationale: Appropriate internal and external sterility indicators for the system employed are used to monitor		

	Requirements (A statement indicating what a facility must demonstrate to meet the standard.)	Guidance Notes (Additional information providing guidance that may include how a facility can meet the requirements, any mandatory compliance requirements to be met (for example, requirements under the Veterinarians Act), the background related to the need for the requirement, or links to other organizations which also provide guidance.)	Compliance Yes, No, Or Not Applicable	Inspector Comments
	for each major surgical procedure. A means to confirm sterilization is used.	the efficiency of the sterilization technique. The temperature and pressure generated by this equipment must be sufficient to kill all types of micro-organism, including bacterial spores. Since pressure and temperature gauges may be inaccurate, the efficiency of autoclave equipment must be routinely monitored using standard sterilization indicators. Recommendations: Surgical packs initialled and dated by the person packing them and labelled for contents. In addition, sterilization indicators are placed in the centre of every surgical pack.		
8	The surgical team wears proper surgical attire during aseptic procedures.	Suggestions for how to meet the requirement: • On-farm team members may wear clean protective outerwear, gowns, sterile surgical gloves, or OB sleeves		
9	Informed client consent for the surgery is documented in the record.	Food producing animal/Equine/Poultry informed consent for surgery permits verbal consent or written consent. The regulations are not explicit. Verbal consent is fine and must be documented in medical record. Written consent for surgery and high-risk procedures is recommended.		

	Requirements (A statement indicating what a facility must demonstrate to meet the standard.)	Guidance Notes (Additional information providing guidance that may include how a facility can meet the requirements, any mandatory compliance requirements to be met (for example, requirements under the Veterinarians Act), the background related to the need for the requirement, or links to other organizations which also provide guidance.)	Compliance Yes, No, Or Not Applicable	Inspector Comments
		(written consent for surgery is not a legislative requirement for equine or food producing animals but is suggested for all species). See CVO website for a sample informed client consent form.		
10	Medical record-keeping systems are in place that include surgical treatment details and all team members involved in the surgery. Surgical Logs are maintained separately or in combination with Anesthetic Logs.	Recommendation for how to meet the requirement: Surgical notes for each patient contain: a) Surgical treatment details are recorded in progress notes or a protocol and include the approach used, findings, and type of repair. b) Suture materials used and closing technique are recorded. c) It is clearly documented the veterinarian who performed the surgery and any team members who provided any aspect of the surgical treatment (i.e., surgical assistant). Rationale: the surgical log enables auditing of surgical outcomes. See anesthetic/surgical log sample on the CVO website.		

	Requirements (A statement indicating what a facility must demonstrate to meet the standard.)	Guidance Notes (Additional information providing guidance that may include how a facility can meet the requirements, any mandatory compliance requirements to be met (for example, requirements under the Veterinarians Act), the background related to the need for the requirement, or links to other organizations which also provide guidance.)	Compliance Yes, No, Or Not Applicable	Inspector Comments
11	Laser Surgery If laser surgery is performed, a practice team member is designated as the person in charge of laser safety and ensures that the practice adheres to established safety precautions. Dispersion of laser plume contains toxic gases and biological particles and as such appropriate air evacuation system must be used. Eye wear must be worn while providing laser surgery.	Rationale: Hazards associated with the use of lasers include: risk of electric shock, health hazards from exposure to contaminants found in the laser plume and the potential for fire when direct or reflected laser beam strikes a combustible material, i.e. steel table. Suggestions for how to meet the requirement: • Practice team members are trained in the use and safety of the surgical laser and this is reviewed annually. • Clinics with surgical lasers, class 4, must appoint a laser safety officer. Training must comply with the ANSI Z136.1 Standards from the Laser Institute of America. • Appropriate warning signs are visible for when the laser is being used and access to the treatment room should be restricted to essential personnel during treatments.		

	Requirements (A statement indicating what a facility must demonstrate to meet the standard.)	Guidance Notes (Additional information providing guidance that may include how a facility can meet the requirements, any mandatory compliance requirements to be met (for example, requirements under the Veterinarians Act), the background related to the need for the requirement, or links to other organizations which also provide guidance.)	Compliance Yes, No, Or Not Applicable	Inspector Comments
	Laser protective eye wear must be labeled with the same wavelength as is emitted by the laser that is to be used.	• The practice keeps a log for the maintenance and performance of laser equipment. • A portable smoke extractor using charcoal and HEPA filters are acceptable. Filters and absorbers require regular replacement. See the College's Policy and Position Statement Use of Forms of Energy in the Treatment and/or Care of Animals: https://cvo.org/getmedia/bdc4af0b-bad9-4df4-8c41-08138d66c2f7/PositionStatementUseofFormsofEnergy.pdf.aspx and https://cvo.org/getmedia/795a006e-e1ad-4640-bbbb-eb0737126537/PolicyStatementUseofFormsofEnergy.pdf.aspx		

C. Veterinary Surgical Mobile for Companion Animal Surgery

It is recognized that barriers to access to veterinary care exist, including remote locations in the province and animal owners with low-income. Access to veterinary care in these circumstances is in the interest of animal welfare and public health. This ASPS recognizes the practical challenges for veterinarians carrying out aseptic surgical procedures (e.g., spay, neuter) for companion animals outside of the traditional in-facility surgical suite. Necessary steps must be taken to reduce the risk of infections. As appropriate and practical for the specific

surgical procedure and conditions, the highest level of aseptic technique possible is performed for all surgical procedures.

	Requirements (A statement indicating what a facility must demonstrate to meet the standard.)	Guidance Notes (Additional information providing guidance that may include how a facility can meet the requirements, any mandatory compliance requirements to be met (for example, requirements under the Veterinarians Act), the background related to the need for the requirement, or links to other organizations which also provide guidance.)	Compliance Yes, No, Or Not Applicable	Inspector Comments
1	Equipment utilized for surgery is properly cleaned, in good repair, and sufficient in number and variety to match the requirements of the species treated and the surgical case load.	Suggestion for how to meet the requirement: • There may be a written protocol for the maintenance of a surgically clean environment and equipment and tracking that it is carried out, such as in policies on infection control. • Surfaces are free from dust/dirt and contamination. Other equipment may include: • Intravenous fluid hanger or pole • Waste receptacle • Portable, adjustable surgical lamp • Instrument tables • Electrocautery or lasers, including scavenger for smoke • Warming devices • Suction apparatus • Pads on surgery table(s) for patient comfort and prevention of injury		

	Requirements (A statement indicating what a facility must demonstrate to meet the standard.)	Guidance Notes (Additional information providing guidance that may include how a facility can meet the requirements, any mandatory compliance requirements to be met (for example, requirements under the Veterinarians Act), the background related to the need for the requirement, or links to other organizations which also provide guidance.)	Compliance Yes, No, Or Not Applicable	Inspector Comments
2	A surgery table or surface is provided and made of smooth nonporous material that can be readily sanitized.	Recommendation: It is suggested that the table has the capability to adjust its height and tilt position. Wooden tables are not permitted.		
3	Surgical lighting suitable for the accurate illumination of surgical sites on the patient is provided.	Rationale: A surgical light is intended to assist medical personnel during a surgical procedure by illumination of a local area or cavity of the patient. Lighting continues to function in the event of a loss of power (e.g., generator, surgical head torch, or flashlight)		
4	A standard accepted procedure is used to prepare the patient for surgery. All staff involved in the pre-surgical preparation of patients are trained to understand the risk and sources of bacterial contamination.	Suggestions for how to meet the requirement: • There may be a written protocol or checklist that is used • Team members are veterinarians or registered veterinary technicians • Other team members involved can describe this to the inspector • Clippers and blades are cleaned and maintained appropriately		

	Requirements (A statement indicating what a facility must demonstrate to meet the standard.)	Guidance Notes (Additional information providing guidance that may include how a facility can meet the requirements, any mandatory compliance requirements to be met (for example, requirements under the Veterinarians Act), the background related to the need for the requirement, or links to other organizations which also provide guidance.)	Compliance Yes, No, Or Not Applicable	Inspector Comments
5	A properly performed hand and arm scrub with an appropriate surgical scrub agent is used prior to performing surgical procedures.	Recommendation: Sterile, disposable scrubbing brushes or reusable brushes that are thoroughly washed and sterilized after each use are used. Or a recognized brushless system is used (Guidelines for Hand Hygiene from the U.S. CDC or Laboratory Center for Disease Control) within the manufacturer's recommendations. https://www.cdc.gov/mmwr/PDF/rr/rr5116.pdf		
6	There is a range of suitable sterile surgical instruments, supplies, consumables, and suture materials for the work undertaken.	Supplies may include, but are not limited to, suture material, drapes, laparotomy pads or sponges, towels and gauze sponges are properly wrapped and sterilized. Suggestions for how to meet the requirement: • Sterile instruments, towels and drapes are used for each major surgical procedure • Sterile single use surgical gloves are utilized in all surgeries • Single use sterile suture material is not to be sterilized after use to be used again in aseptic procedures, or when it reaches or goes beyond the		

	Requirements (A statement indicating what a facility must demonstrate to meet the standard.)	Guidance Notes (Additional information providing guidance that may include how a facility can meet the requirements, any mandatory compliance requirements to be met (for example, requirements under the Veterinarians Act), the background related to the need for the requirement, or links to other organizations which also provide guidance.)	Compliance Yes, No, Or Not Applicable	Inspector Comments
		expiry date. Suture material is disposed when it reaches its expiry date.		
7	Surgical instrumentation and reusable supplies must be properly cleaned, sterilized and in good repair. Cold sterile is not an acceptable sterilization method for surgical instruments to be used for aseptic surgery.	Suggestion for how to meet the requirement: • The practice may use a written sterilization protocol that provides for appropriate sterile equipment and supplies • Staff involved in sterilization procedures can describe to the inspector.		
8	Autoclaves and other sterilization equipment are maintained and serviced in accordance with a documented schedule. A steam sterilizer of sufficient size to sterilize	Recommendations: • A gas sterilizer may be present, but it is not a substitute for the steam sterilizer. Ethylene oxide gas may be used to sterilize delicate equipment that may be damaged by heat or steam. Ethylene oxide is hazardous and suitable safety precautions are needed to avoid health hazards.		

	Requirements (A statement indicating what a facility must demonstrate to meet the standard.)	Guidance Notes (Additional information providing guidance that may include how a facility can meet the requirements, any mandatory compliance requirements to be met (for example, requirements under the Veterinarians Act), the background related to the need for the requirement, or links to other organizations which also provide guidance.)	Compliance Yes, No, Or Not Applicable	Inspector Comments
	the quantity of surgical packs necessary for the expected case load is present.	• Only trained team members should operate the sterilization equipment. Practice team member training includes the safe and proper operation of sterilization equipment and recognition of any possible malfunction. • The use of a pressure cooker for the purposes of sterilization is not permitted.		
9	Separate sterilized surgical packs are used for each major surgical procedure. A means to confirm sterilization is used.	Rationale: Appropriate internal and external sterility indicators for the system employed are used to monitor the efficiency of the sterilization technique. The temperature and pressure generated by this equipment must be sufficient to kill all types of micro-organism, including bacterial spores. Since pressure and temperature gauges may be inaccurate, the efficiency of autoclave equipment must be routinely monitored using standard sterilization indicators. Recommendations: Surgical packs initialled and dated by the person packing them and labelled for contents. In addition, sterilization indicators are placed in the centre of every surgical pack.		

	Requirements (A statement indicating what a facility must demonstrate to meet the standard.)	Guidance Notes (Additional information providing guidance that may include how a facility can meet the requirements, any mandatory compliance requirements to be met (for example, requirements under the Veterinarians Act), the background related to the need for the requirement, or links to other organizations which also provide guidance.)	Compliance Yes, No, Or Not Applicable	Inspector Comments
10	The surgical team wears proper surgical attire during aseptic procedures.	Suggestions for how to meet the requirement: • Caps, masks, sterile gown, sterile gloves are worn by the surgeon and surgical assistant. All personnel present during a surgical procedure are wearing caps, masks and clean outerwear.		
11	Informed client consent for the surgery is documented in the record.	Regulatory requirement: O. Reg. 1093: for companion animals: iv. The written consent to the surgical treatment signed by or on behalf of the owner of the animal. v. A note that the owner of the animal or a person on the owner's behalf consented orally to the surgical treatment, and the reason why the consent was not in writing. vi. A note that neither the owner of the animal nor anyone on the owner's behalf was available to consent to the surgical treatment, and the reason why, in the member's opinion, it was medically advisable to conduct the surgical treatment.		

	Requirements (A statement indicating what a facility must demonstrate to meet the standard.)	Guidance Notes (Additional information providing guidance that may include how a facility can meet the requirements, any mandatory compliance requirements to be met (for example, requirements under the Veterinarians Act), the background related to the need for the requirement, or links to other organizations which also provide guidance.)	Compliance Yes, No, Or Not Applicable	Inspector Comments
		Written consent for surgery and high-risk procedures is recommended. See the CVO website for a sample informed client consent form.		
12	Medical record-keeping systems are in place that include surgical treatment details and all team members involved in the surgery. Surgical Logs are maintained separately or in combination with Anesthetic Logs.	Recommendation for how to meet the requirement: Surgical notes for each patient contain: a) Surgical treatment details are recorded in progress notes or a protocol and include the approach used, findings, and type of repair. b) Suture materials used and closing technique are recorded. c) It is clearly documented the veterinarian who performed the surgery and any team members who provided any aspect of the surgical treatment (i.e., surgical assistant). Rationale: the surgical log enables auditing of surgical outcomes. See anesthetic/surgical log sample on the CVO website.		
13	Laser Surgery If laser surgery is performed, a practice team	Rationale: Hazards associated with the use of lasers include: risk of electric shock, health hazards from exposure to contaminants found in the laser plume and		

	Requirements (A statement indicating what a facility must demonstrate to meet the standard.)	Guidance Notes (Additional information providing guidance that may include how a facility can meet the requirements, any mandatory compliance requirements to be met (for example, requirements under the Veterinarians Act), the background related to the need for the requirement, or links to other organizations which also provide guidance.)	Compliance Yes, No, Or Not Applicable	Inspector Comments
	member is designated as the person in charge of laser safety and ensures that the practice adheres to established safety precautions. Dispersion of laser plume contains toxic gases and biological particles and as such appropriate air evacuation system must be used. Eye wear must be worn while providing laser surgery. Laser protective eye wear must be labeled with the same wavelength as is emitted by the laser that is to be used.	the potential for fire when direct or reflected laser beam strikes a combustible material, i.e. steel table. Suggestions for how to meet the requirement: • Practice team members are trained in the use and safety of the surgical laser and this is reviewed annually. • Clinics with surgical lasers, class 4, must appoint a laser safety officer. Training must comply with the ANSI Z136.1 Standards from the Laser Institute of America. • Appropriate warning signs are visible for when the laser is being used and access to the treatment room should be restricted to essential personnel during treatments. • The practice keeps a log for the maintenance and performance of laser equipment.		

	Requirements (A statement indicating what a facility must demonstrate to meet the standard.)	Guidance Notes (Additional information providing guidance that may include how a facility can meet the requirements, any mandatory compliance requirements to be met (for example, requirements under the Veterinarians Act), the background related to the need for the requirement, or links to other organizations which also provide guidance.)	Compliance Yes, No, Or Not Applicable	Inspector Comments
		• A portable smoke extractor using charcoal and HEPA filters are acceptable. Filters and absorbers require regular replacement. See the College's Policy and Position Statement Use of Forms of Energy in the Treatment and/or Care of Animals: https://cvo.org/getmedia/bdc4af0b-bad9-4df4-8c41-08138d66c2f7/PositionStatementUseofFormsofEnergy.pdf.aspx and https://cvo.org/getmedia/795a006e-e1ad-4640-bbbb-eb0737126537/PolicyStatementUseofFormsofEnergy.pdf.aspx		

Resources

Ministry of Labour, Training and Skills Development: Lasers in Ontario: www.labour.gov.on.ca/english/hs/pubs/gl_lasers.php

Laser Safety, University of Toronto: ehs.utoronto.ca/our-services/laser-safety

Radiation Safety Institute of Canada: www.radiationsafety.ca

Lasers in Veterinary Practice Guide: bit.ly/2Tmi0tb

Canadian Centre of Occupational Health and Safety – Lasers: https://www.ccohs.ca/oshanswers/phys_agents/lasers.html

Sample Anesthetic/Surgical Log: https://cvo.org/Resources/Sample-Documents.aspx?page=5

College's Policy and Position Statement Use of Forms of Energy in the Treatment and/or Care of Animals: https://cvo.org/getmedia/bdc4af0b-bad9-4df4-8c41-08138d66c2f7/PositionStatementUseofFormsofEnergy.pdf.aspx and https://cvo.org/getmedia/795a006e-e1ad-4640-bbbb-eb0737126537/PolicyStatementUseofFormsofEnergy.pdf.aspx

Additional Scope of Practice Service – Ultrasound Imaging

Date: November 3, 2022

Objective: The performance of diagnostic imaging occurs with the intention of producing diagnostic quality images, as well as reducing harm and mitigating risk to patients, staff and the public.

Practices that perform ultrasonography may have staff veterinarians with in-house equipment, or they may have a third-party service provider (who may be an itinerant veterinarian or a non-veterinarian) who works with the practice to perform ultrasonography with their own equipment for the practice's clients.

Saving and storing of ultrasound images may not be required or practical when ultrasound is used to assess food animal reproduction status of a group of animals or to perform ultrasound-guided procedures. In these circumstances, requirements 6, 7, 8, and 9 would not apply.

	Requirements (A statement indicating what a facility must demonstrate to meet the standard.)	Guidance Notes (Additional information providing guidance that may include how a facility can meet the requirements, any mandatory compliance requirements to be met (for example, requirements under the Veterinarians Act), the background related to the need for the requirement, or links to other organizations which also provide guidance.)	Compliance Yes, No, Or Not Applicable	Inspector Comments
1	Diagnostic ultrasound can be performed within the facility or by a diagnostic service.	Ultrasonography is performed by staff veterinarians with in-house equipment, or a third-party service provider who attends the facility to perform ultrasonography with their own equipment for the practice's clients		
2	Ultrasound imaging equipment and facilities are suitable for the range of species routinely treated.			
3	Ultrasound imaging equipment is properly maintained and in good repair. The equipment is serviced according to manufacturers' requirements. Equipment is cleaned after each use. If ultrasonography is performed by a third-party service provider who attends the facility and uses their own equipment, then the facility director	Staff should be able to explain or demonstrate how equipment is maintained. This may include for example providing copies of maintenance records and/ or a written protocol. Suggestions for how to meet the requirement: • Records of maintenance and service are kept.		

	Requirements (A statement indicating what a facility must demonstrate to meet the standard.)	Guidance Notes (Additional information providing guidance that may include how a facility can meet the requirements, any mandatory compliance requirements to be met (for example, requirements under the Veterinarians Act), the background related to the need for the requirement, or links to other organizations which also provide guidance.)	Compliance Yes, No, Or Not Applicable	Inspector Comments
	is required to obtain this information from the third-party provider.	• Quality control testing is performed and documented that ensures the equipment is consistently producing quality diagnostic images. • Any issues found on any of these evaluations are followed up in a timely manner and include documentation that they have been resolved. Documentation is recommended but not required to confirm regular maintenance.		
4	Ultrasound equipment is operated only by trained staff aware of hazards, actual and potential to themselves, other staff, patients and nearby individuals.	Suggestions for how to meet the requirement: • Veterinarian has board certification as a specialist, or • There may be a CE certificate, or • Staff involved can describe their training to the inspector, or		

	Requirements (A statement indicating what a facility must demonstrate to meet the standard.)	Guidance Notes (Additional information providing guidance that may include how a facility can meet the requirements, any mandatory compliance requirements to be met (for example, requirements under the Veterinarians Act), the background related to the need for the requirement, or links to other organizations which also provide guidance.)	Compliance Yes, No, Or Not Applicable	Inspector Comments
	If ultrasonography is performed by a third-party service provider who attends the facility and uses their own equipment, then the facility director is required to obtain this information from the third-party provider.	• There are training manuals, or written protocols. Documentation is recommended but not required.		
5	A means to view diagnostic images is easily accessible.	A high-resolution digital image viewer.		
6	Diagnostic images are properly identified.	Saving and storing of ultrasound images may not be required or practical when ultrasound is used to assess food animal reproduction status of a group of animals or to perform ultrasound-guided procedures. In these circumstances, this requirement does not apply. Recommendation: Images may have the following information:		

	Requirements (A statement indicating what a facility must demonstrate to meet the standard.)	Guidance Notes (Additional information providing guidance that may include how a facility can meet the requirements, any mandatory compliance requirements to be met (for example, requirements under the Veterinarians Act), the background related to the need for the requirement, or links to other organizations which also provide guidance.)	Compliance Yes, No, Or Not Applicable	Inspector Comments
		• The name of the veterinarian or the practice name or both • Identification of the animal • The date of the image • An indication of the left or right side of the animal		
7	As an extension of the medical record, diagnostic images are stored and maintained for the same length of time as the medical record.	That is, 5 years after the date of the last entry in the patient's record. Saving and storing of ultrasound images may not be required or practical when ultrasound is used to assess food animal reproduction status of a group of animals or to perform ultrasound-guided procedures. In these circumstances, this requirement does not apply.		
8	Diagnostic images are securely archived or filed in a manner which	Saving and storing of ultrasound images may not be required or practical when ultrasound is used to assess food animal		

	Requirements (A statement indicating what a facility must demonstrate to meet the standard.)	Guidance Notes (Additional information providing guidance that may include how a facility can meet the requirements, any mandatory compliance requirements to be met (for example, requirements under the Veterinarians Act), the background related to the need for the requirement, or links to other organizations which also provide guidance.)	Compliance Yes, No, Or Not Applicable	Inspector Comments
	preserves their quality and allows for easy retrieval.	reproduction status of a group of animals, or to perform ultrasound-guided procedures. In these circumstances, this requirement does not apply.		
9	Facilities are available for transmission and distribution of copies of diagnostic images to other practices and owners. The diagnostic images shall not be altered and the transmission shall preserve the quality.	For example: Email, CD, memory sticks, etc. Saving and storing of ultrasound images may not be required or practical when ultrasound is used to assess food animal reproduction status of a group of animals or to perform ultrasound-guided procedures. In these circumstances, this requirement does not apply.		

Resources

College's Policy and Position Statement Use of Forms of Energy in the Treatment and/or Care of Animals: https://cvo.org/getmedia/bdc4af0b-bad9-4df4-8c41-08138d66c2f7/PositionStatementUseofFormsofEnergy.pdf.aspx and https://cvo.org/getmedia/795a006e-e1ad-4640-bbbb-eb0737126537/PolicyStatementUseofFormsofEnergy.pdf.aspx

Additional Scope of Practice Service – Vehicle

Date: November 3, 2022

Objective: The vehicle is properly maintained to offer veterinary services that meet the standards of care for patients. This service can be operated independently as a separate entity or as an additional service category for a hospital or office. These facilities generally do not provide for accommodation of the public (reception areas, washrooms etc.).

A vehicle travels to the premises where the animal(s) are located to provide veterinary services (e.g., residence of the owner, on farm, community centre, etc.).

Facilities with the Additional Scope of Practice Service – Vehicle cannot provide the following Additional Scope of Practice Services: Anesthesia, Surgery, Radiology, Hospitalization and Confinement, Isolation Facilities, Dentistry, Chemotherapy, Other Imaging, and Intensive Care.

	Requirements (A statement indicating what a facility must demonstrate to meet the standard.)	Guidance Notes (Additional information providing guidance that may include how a facility can meet the requirements, any mandatory compliance requirements to be met (for example, requirements under the Veterinarians Act), the background related to the need for the requirement, or links to other organizations which also provide guidance.)	Compliance Yes, No, Or Not Applicable	Inspector Comments
1	Contents of the mobile unit are organized so that they can be obtained readily for efficient service.	For example: equipment and supplies required for the vehicle should be packaged together in a portable kit, for example, a toolbox.		
2	Equipment and supplies should be stowed so as not to risk accident or injury.	For example: equipment and supplies are appropriately packaged and protected.		
3	There is a means of estimating or measuring the weight of the species routinely treated.	For example: may travel with a small weigh scale		
4	Appropriate PPE is readily available and used for work undertaken.	For example: dedicated clean clothing is used and changed as required. Gloves and aprons are available and used where appropriate.		
5	Vehicle is clean, uncluttered, in good repair and free of offensive odours.			
6	If animals are transported in the vehicle, there are appropriate holding areas and assistive devices for non-ambulatory animals.	N/A to large animals (i.e., food-producing animals and equine).		

	Requirements (A statement indicating what a facility must demonstrate to meet the standard.)	Guidance Notes (Additional information providing guidance that may include how a facility can meet the requirements, any mandatory compliance requirements to be met (for example, requirements under the Veterinarians Act), the background related to the need for the requirement, or links to other organizations which also provide guidance.)	Compliance Yes, No, Or Not Applicable	Inspector Comments
	*Small animal species only	There are safe methods to transfer non-ambulatory patients, including assistive device, i.e., stretchers. Recommendation: There should be suitable cages for the safe transport of small animals.		

Additional Scope of Practice Service – Veterinary Surgical Mobile

Date: November 3, 2022

Objective: It is recognized that barriers to access to veterinary care exist, including remote locations in the province and animal owners with low-income. Access to veterinary care in these circumstances is in the interest of animal welfare and public health.

It is also recognized that field surgery on large animals (i.e., food-producing animals and equine) is both necessary and practical. A veterinary surgical mobile has greater capacity than an ambulatory (house call/farm call) service (additional scope of practice service – vehicle) and consequently has a greater level of responsibility in regard to protection of animals, staff and the public. While this service is generally an additional service category for a standalone facility, it may also be operated independently and as a separate entity. These facilities generally do not provide for accommodation of the public (reception areas, washrooms etc.).

The veterinary services that can be provided from the veterinary surgical mobile may include, but are not limited to:

- Preparing animals for surgery
- Performing major surgery
- Performing minor surgery
- Performing dentistry
- Providing medical treatment
- Administering general anesthesia
- Observing animals recovering from anesthesia and the immediate effects of surgery

There shall be compliance with the appropriate Additional Scope of Services standards that are applicable based on the veterinary services being provided. For example, in addition to Additional Scope of Practice Service: Surgery and Additional Scope of Practice Service: Anesthesia, a large animal veterinary surgical mobile may also provide the following services:

- Additional Scope of Practice Service: Dentistry
- Additional Scope of Practice Service: Diagnostic Services
- Additional Scope of Practice Service: Emergency Care
- Additional Scope of Practice Service: Radiology
- Additional Scope of Practice Service: Ultrasound Imaging

	Requirements (A statement indicating what a facility must demonstrate to meet the standard.)	Guidance Notes (Additional information providing guidance that may include how a facility can meet the requirements, any mandatory compliance requirements to be met (for example, requirements under the Veterinarians Act), the background related to the need for the requirement, or links to other organizations which also provide guidance.)	Compliance Yes, No, Or Not Applicable	Inspector Comments
1	If performing surgery on multiple animals in the same space, the member shall undertake to ensure that there are the proper accommodations, such as adequate lighting, ventilation,	Any building that is used for this purpose is accessible and the appropriate size for the number of animals and type of procedures performed. Some accommodations may not be under the veterinarian's		

	Requirements (A statement indicating what a facility must demonstrate to meet the standard.)	Guidance Notes (Additional information providing guidance that may include how a facility can meet the requirements, any mandatory compliance requirements to be met (for example, requirements under the Veterinarians Act), the background related to the need for the requirement, or links to other organizations which also provide guidance.)	Compliance Yes, No, Or Not Applicable	Inspector Comments
	heating/cooling, cleanliness, and animal housing.	control, such as a farm building where production animals are kept. There should not be overcrowding of animals.		
2	The contents of the mobile unit are organized so that they can be obtained readily for efficient service.			
3	Equipment and supplies should be stowed so as not to risk accident or injury.	For example: equipment and supplies are appropriately packaged and protected.		
4	There is a means of estimating or measuring the weight of the species routinely treated.	For example: may travel with a small weigh scale if treating companion animals.		
5	Appropriate PPE is readily available and used for the work undertaken.	For example: dedicated clean clothing is used and changed as required. Gloves and aprons are available and used where appropriate.		

	Requirements (A statement indicating what a facility must demonstrate to meet the standard.)	Guidance Notes (Additional information providing guidance that may include how a facility can meet the requirements, any mandatory compliance requirements to be met (for example, requirements under the Veterinarians Act), the background related to the need for the requirement, or links to other organizations which also provide guidance.)	Compliance Yes, No, Or Not Applicable	Inspector Comments
6	Vehicle is clean, uncluttered, in good repair and free of offensive odours.			
7	If animals are transported in the vehicle, there are appropriate holding areas and assistive devices for non-ambulatory animals. *Small animal species only.	N/A to large animals (i.e., food-producing animals and equine). Follow regulations with respect to the appropriate handling and movement of non-ambulatory food animal species. There are safe methods to transfer non-ambulatory patients, including assistive device, i.e., stretchers. Recommendation: There should be suitable cages for the safe transport of small animals.		
8	The surgical area must be visibly identified and separated by enough distance from recovery, admission, surgical and instrument preparation area to avoid contamination.	N/A to field surgery on large animals (i.e., food-producing animals and equine).		