



THE COLLEGE OF
VETERINARIANS
OF ONTARIO

Message from the College of Veterinarians of Ontario

Guidance for veterinarians practising from mobile facilities during COVID-19

The College of Veterinarians of Ontario recognizes that veterinarians who are practising from mobile facilities face unique challenges in delivering veterinary services during the current COVID-19 pandemic. The College commends you for the work you are doing under unprecedented circumstances.

In many ways, the mobile practice seems an ideal option to manage the current public health crisis ... everyone from grocery stores to fine restaurants are adopting the "home delivery" business model. However, as veterinary professionals, the delivery of your unique and essential services requires additional considerations for the health and safety of you, your clients and their animals.

Like veterinarians who practise from a clinic or hospital facility, you are encouraged to make use of telemedicine whenever possible. Further, be attentive to your infection control and biosecurity protocols for your own safety and that of your clients. As well, you need to be vigilant in screening to identify higher risk situations before you arrive at a farm or residence for an appointment.

The College supports you and your commitment to using your best judgement and following current public health recommendations when determining how to provide veterinary services during this challenging time.

If you have questions for the College, please contact the College's Practice Advisory Service at practiceadvice@cvo.org. Please find below links to resources that may be useful to you.

Resources for mobile veterinarians:

Considerations for Mobile Veterinarians during the COVID-19 pandemic

<https://www.avma.org/resources-tools/animal-health-and-welfare/covid-19/mobile-house-call-veterinarians-covid19-pandemic>

Worms and Germs Blog - Dr. Scott Weese

<https://www.wormsandgermsblog.com/>

Resources for veterinarians - equine:

The American Association of Equine Practitioners have resources to assist you with staying safe during the COVID-19 pandemic.

<https://aaep.org/resources/covid-19-resources-veterinarians>

The Ontario Animal Health Network also has resources related to COVID-19 for the horse industry.

<https://oahn.ca/networks/equine/>

Resources for veterinarians - food animal:

American Association of Bovine Practitioners have an information sheet with guidance for veterinarians.

<https://aabp.org/members/resources/AABPcv19info.pdf>

University of Minnesota swine group offers a compilation of practical biosecurity recommendations.

<https://umnswinenews.com/2020/03/20/practical-biosecurity-recommendations-to-prevent-covid-19-in-farm-workers-and-allied-operations/>

National Biosecurity Standards and Biosecurity Principles (livestock, poultry, bees)

<https://inspection.gc.ca/animal-health/terrestrial-animals/biosecurity/standards-and-principles/eng/1344707905203/1344707981478>

National Farm-Level Biosecurity Planning Guide

<https://inspection.gc.ca/animal-health/terrestrial-animals/biosecurity/standards-and-principles/proactive-management/eng/1374175296768/1374176128059?chap=0>