

Peer Review of Medical Records Assessment Questions



Food Producing Animal, Equine, and Poultry

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Section 1: Patient Identification
<p>Statement <i>The patient is clearly identified to prevent gaps in continuity of care.</i></p>
<p>Legislation 22(2) The records required in respect of each food-producing animal or herd shall contain the following information: 1. Individual or herd identification, including breed and sex. 2. 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.</p> <p>22(3) The records required in respect of a horse are the same as those required in respect of a food-producing animal.</p> <p>22(4) The records required in respect of poultry, for each bird or flock, shall contain the following information: 1. Bird or flock identification, or both, including species and type.</p>
<p>Professional Practice Standards and College Policy The breed and sex should be clearly identified within the medical record.¹ When advice or care is given to an individual animal, the animal's name, tattoo or ear-tag number or the animal's colour, markings or distinguishing features should be documented.² Herds or groups of animals should also be identified by location (i.e., barn, pen).³ In addition to species and type, a flock identification that clearly refers to a specific group of birds (i.e., entire flock, band of specific age group or other designation) should be documented.⁴ When advice or care is given to an individual bird, the bird's name or other identifying information (colour, markings or distinguishing features) should be documented.⁵</p>
<p>RECORD CONTENT</p>
1. (a) Individual identification (e.g. name, tattoo, ear-tag number, or patient's colour, markings, or distinguishing physical features)
1. (b) Group identification (identified by location if applicable, e.g. barn, pen)
2. Type of breed
3. Sex of the animal (food producing animal and equine only)
4. Type of species (required for poultry)

¹ Guide: Medical Records, page 9

² Guide: Medical Records, page 9

³ Guide: Medical Records, page 9

⁴ Guide: Medical Records, page 9

⁵ Guide: Medical Records, page 9

Section 2: Client and Emergency Contact Information
<p>Statement <i>The client contact information is clearly identified to ensure responsibility for care is clear. Emergency contact information is documented in the client record; and authorization is clearly noted for financial and care decision in the absence of the client.</i></p>
<p>Legislation 22(2) The records required in respect of each food-producing animal or herd shall contain the following information: 3. The client's name, address and telephone numbers. 4. The name and telephone number of a person to be contacted in the absence of the client.</p> <p>22(3) The records required in respect of a horse are the same as those required in respect of a food-producing animal.</p> <p>22(4) The records required in respect of poultry, for each bird or flock, shall contain the following information: 2. The client's name, address and telephone numbers. 3. The name and telephone number of a person to be contacted in the absence of the client.</p>
<p>Professional Practice Standards and College Policy Herds or groups of animals should also be identified by location (i.e., barn, pen).⁶ A flock identification that clearly refers to a specific group of birds (i.e., entire flock, band of specific age group or other designation) should be documented.⁷ An established client should designate individuals to act as authorized representatives who can provide consent in situations when the client cannot be contacted. A written document (e.g., client information sheet) listing names and contact information for all authorized representatives should be included in the medical record. Documentation of limitations on financial and medical care decisions (e.g. authorization to consent to surgery, euthanasia) is advised.⁸</p>
<p>RECORD CONTENT</p>
1. Client's Name(s)
2. Client's Address(es)
3. Client's telephone number(s)
4. Address/location of patient(s) if different from address of client
5. Name of alternate contact person
6. Phone number(s) of alternate contact person
7. Authority for financial and care decisions in the absence of the client

⁶ Guide: Medical Records, page 9

⁷ Guide: Medical Records, page 9

⁸ Guide: Informed Client Consent, page 1

Section 3: Date
<p>Statement <i>Content of the record accurately reflects when the service/treatment was provided.</i></p>
<p>Legislation 22(2) The records required in respect of each food-producing animal or herd shall contain the following information: 5. Date of each service.</p> <p>22(3) The records required in respect of a horse are the same as those required in respect of a food-producing animal.</p> <p>22(4) The records required in respect of poultry, for each bird or flock, shall contain the following information: 4. Date of each service.</p>
<p>Professional Practice Standards and College Policy N/A</p>
RECORD CONTENT
1. All entries are dated
2. Consistent date format used throughout.

Section 4: History – Subjective Data
<p>Statement <i>The history is clearly, completely, and adequately documented to support continuity of veterinary care.</i></p>
<p>Legislation 22(2) The records required in respect of each food-producing animal or herd shall contain the following information: 6. A history of the presenting complaint.</p> <p>22(3) The records required in respect of a horse are the same as those required in respect of a food-producing animal.</p> <p>22(4) The records required in respect of poultry, for each bird or flock, shall contain the following information: 5. A history of the presenting complaint.</p>
<p>Professional Practice Standards and College Policy The history should document the presenting complaint and recent health status of the animal(s).⁹ A vaccination record is an important component of the history.¹⁰</p>
<p>RECORD CONTENT</p>
1. Statement of presenting complaint or reason for visit
2. Description of presenting complaint
3. History of recent health status (in progress notes, template, or protocol)
4. Vaccine record (in progress notes, cumulative patient profile, or summary view)

⁹ Guide: Medical Records, page 2

¹⁰ Guide: Medical Records, page 2

Section 5: Assessments – Objective Data
<p>Statement <i>Objective data should be noted in the record including the findings on the examination of the patient and the diagnostic and laboratory tests results.</i></p>
<p>Legislation 22(2) The records required in respect of each food-producing animal or herd shall contain the following information: 7. If there is a presenting complaint, particulars of each assessment, including any laboratory investigations performed or ordered by the member and the results of each assessment.</p> <p>22(3) The records required in respect of a horse are the same as those required in respect of a food-producing animal.</p> <p>22(4) The records required in respect of poultry, for each bird or flock, shall contain the following information: 6. If there is a presenting complaint, particulars of each assessment, including any laboratory investigations performed or ordered by the member and the results of each assessment.</p>
<p>Professional Practice Standards and College Policy The veterinarian should indicate that all body systems are examined.¹¹</p>
<p>RECORD CONTENT</p>
<p>1. Physical examination details (in progress notes, template, or protocol)</p>
<p>2. Presence of diagnostic tests and laboratory results</p>

¹¹ Guide: Medical Records, page 2

Section 6: Assessment – Diagnosis
<p>Statement <i>The records clearly articulate the differential and tentative/final diagnosis allowing a colleague to reach similar conclusions based on the information documented.</i></p>
<p>Legislation 22(2) The records required in respect of each food-producing animal or herd shall contain the following information: 7. If there is a presenting complaint, particulars of each assessment, including any laboratory investigations performed or ordered by the member and the results of each assessment.</p> <p>22(3) The records required in respect of a horse are the same as those required in respect of a food-producing animal.</p> <p>22(4) The records required in respect of poultry, for each bird or flock, shall contain the following information: 6. If there is a presenting complaint, particulars of each assessment, including any laboratory investigations performed or ordered by the member and the results of each assessment.</p>
<p>Professional Practice Standards and College Policy Information and reasoning to arrive at a diagnosis should be recorded. Regular updates on differential diagnosis should be recorded until a final diagnosis is determined.¹² Records should provide sufficient information to document that the veterinarian has reviewed and interpreted data from diagnostic tests to confirm a diagnosis.¹³ It is not sufficient to include only reports of test results. The record should reflect the veterinarian's interpretation of the test results.¹⁴</p>
<p>RECORD CONTENT</p>
1. Problem list
2. Differential diagnoses
3. Tentative or final diagnoses
4. Diagnostic test result interpretation is present.

¹² Guide: Medical Records, page 2

¹³ Guide: Medical Records, page 2

¹⁴ Guide: Medical Records, page 2

Section 7: Medical Treatment
<p>Statement <i>Detailed information is documented for all drugs prescribed, dispensed and/or administered.</i></p>
<p>Legislation 22(2) The records required in respect of each food-producing animal or herd shall contain the following information: 9. A complete record of all written prescriptions and drugs that the member has prescribed or dispensed.</p> <p>22(3) The records required in respect of a horse are the same as those required in respect of a food-producing animal.</p> <p>22(4) The records required in respect of poultry, for each bird or flock, shall contain the following information: 8. A complete record of all written prescriptions and drugs dispensed or prescribed by the member, made in accordance with section 27.</p> <p>27(1) A member who dispenses a drug shall make a written record showing, (a) the name and address of the owner of the animal or group of animals for which the drug is prescribed; (b) the name, strength and quantity of the prescribed drug; (c) the directions for use if they are different than the directions for use on the manufacturer's label or if the manufacturer's label does not specify the directions for use; (d) the date on which the drug is dispensed; and (e) the price charged.</p> <p>31(2) 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.</p> <p>31(4) When a member dispenses a drug or substance for use in food-producing animals and the member knows or suspects that use will be made or a dosage will be administered of the drug or substance that is different than the use or dosage that is customary or recommended by the manufacturer, the member shall, in addition to the advice required under subsection (2), 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.</p>
<p>Professional Practice Standards and College Policy Future treatment plans describe recommendations for additional tests, drugs, treatments, medical procedures, referrals for specialized care and a follow-up schedule.¹⁵ Withdrawal times of any drug that is prescribed, dispensed or administered by a veterinarian must be documented. Records should document the withdrawal time for any drug(s) and should be at least as long as that recommended by the manufacturer.¹⁶</p>
<p>RECORD CONTENT</p>
<p>1. Medical treatments and procedures are described in appropriate detail.</p>
<p>2. (a) Type of fluid therapy</p>
<p>2. (b) Route of fluid therapy</p>

¹⁵ Guide: Medical Records, page 2

¹⁶ Guide: Medical Records, page 9

2. (c) Rate of fluid therapy
2. (d) Total amount of fluid therapy
3. (a) Names and strengths of drugs administered
3. (b) Doses of drugs administered
3. (c) Routes of drugs administered
4. (a) Types of vaccines administered
4. (b) Routes of vaccines administered
4. (c) Details (manufacturer and serial numbers) of vaccines administered
5. (a) Names and strengths of drugs dispensed or prescribed
5. (b) Quantities of drugs dispensed or prescribed
5. (c) Doses of drugs dispensed or prescribed
5. (d) Directions for use of drugs dispensed or prescribed including route
6. (a) Withholding time is documented
6. (b) Indication client was advised of withholding time

Section 8: Surgical Treatment and Anesthetic Notes/Protocols
Statement <i>The surgical notes detail the treatment and care provided during surgery and post-operatively.</i>
Legislation N/A
Professional Practice Standards and College Policy Future treatment plans describe recommendations for additional tests, drugs, treatments, medical procedures, referrals for specialized care and a follow-up schedule. ¹⁷
RECORD CONTENT
1. Surgical treatment details are recorded (in progress notes or a protocol) and include the approach used, findings and type of repair.
2. The anesthetic details are recorded.

¹⁷ Guide: Medical Records, page 2

Section 9: Informed Client Consent
Statement <i>Informed client consent obtained is recorded, dated and maintained as part of the client record.</i>
Legislation N/A
Professional Practice Standards and College Policy In general, written consent should be obtained when a procedure or treatment presents significant risks. Complex cases and higher risk procedures warrant greater detail in documenting the process of obtaining informed client consent. ¹⁸ A veterinarian should document that consent was obtained, whether it was written or verbal, and if not in writing, whether it was implied or explicit. ¹⁹ A veterinarian should fully explain to the client the consequences of taking no action and document, in writing, the fact that this information was provided, as well as the client's refusal. ²⁰ Discussions to obtain consent and, in situations when treatment is refused, a notation of the rationale for refusing the recommendation. ²¹ It is advisable to provide a range of total costs that might be involved in a particular procedure or treatment. Written cost estimates assist in ensuring that the client understand the financial implications of the proposed intervention. ²²
RECORD CONTENT
1. Documentation of consent (written or verbal)
2. Refusal of treatment documented
3. Estimates for procedures are documented (on consent form, in progress notes, or itemized estimate).

¹⁸ Guide: Informed Client Consent, page 3.

¹⁹ Guide: Informed Client Consent, page 3.

²⁰ Guide: Informed Client Consent, page 2.

²¹ Guide: Medical Records, page 2.

²² Guide: Informed Client Consent, page 2.

Section 10: Advice and Communication
<p>Statement <i>The record notes all professional advice given and indicates when and to whom such advice was provided.</i></p>
<p>Legislation 22(2) The records required in respect of each food-producing animal or herd shall contain the following information: 8. A note of any professional advice regarding the individual or herd and an indication of to whom the advice was given if other than to the client.</p> <p>22(3) The records required in respect of a horse are the same as those required in respect of a food-producing animal.</p> <p>22(4) The records required in respect of poultry, for each bird or flock, shall contain the following information: 7. A note of any professional advice regarding the bird or flock and an indication of to whom the advice was given if other than to the client.</p>
<p>Professional Practice Standards and College Policy Records should document advice provided including diagnoses, treatment plans, required tests and interpretation of results, referrals, and discharge directions.²³ A complete and accurate record includes documentation of all communications with the client. This includes face to face, telephone, electronic and other mechanisms to communicate with owners and/or alternate decision makers.²⁴</p>
<p>RECORD CONTENT</p>
1. Description of the advice given
2. To whom the advice was provided (e.g. owner, other)
3. Mode of communication (e.g. phone, email, voicemail)

²³ Guide: Medical Records, page 2.

²⁴ Guide: Medical Records, page 2.

Section 11: Reports, Invoices
<p>Statement <i>All relevant reports, invoices and other documents related to patient care is maintained as part of the health record.</i> <i>The records reflect the fees charged to the client including an itemized break-down of fees for drugs.</i></p>
<p>Legislation 22(2) The records required in respect of each food-producing animal or herd shall contain the following information: 10. A copy of any report prepared by the member in respect of the individual or herd. 11. The fees and charges, showing separately those for drugs and those for advice or other services.</p> <p>22(3) The records required in respect of a horse are the same as those required in respect of a food-producing animal.</p> <p>22(4) The records required in respect of poultry, for each bird or flock, shall contain the following information: 9. A copy of any report prepared by the member in respect of the bird or flock. 10. The fees and charges showing separately those for drugs and those for advice or other services.</p>
<p>Professional Practice Standards and College Policy A medical record includes... health certificates, insurance applications, certificates of rabies vaccination, referral letters to and from others and export documents.²⁵ Invoices... are included in medical records to demonstrate the advice and services provided. Fees for drugs and vaccines are itemized separately. Dispensing fees may be incorporated into drug costs or itemized separately.²⁶ Fees should be easily cross referenced with all treatments and procedures described in the medical record.²⁷</p>
<p>RECORD CONTENT</p>
<p>1. Copies of any non-diagnostic/non-laboratory reports</p>
<p>2. Invoices note the itemized list of drugs and services provided.</p>
<p>3. The invoices reflect the recommendation(s) and/or care or services provided.</p>

²⁵ Guide: Medical Records, page 3.

²⁶ Guide: Medical Records, page 3.

²⁷ Guide: Medical Records, page 3.

Section 12: Radiographic Logs²⁸
Statement <i>A radiographic log is complete and provides required details.</i>
Legislation The <i>Minimum Standards for Veterinary Facilities in Ontario</i> requires veterinarians in food producing animal and equine facilities to maintain logs for radiographs.
Professional Practice Standards and College Policy N/A
RECORD CONTENT
1. The date each radiograph is taken
2. The identification of the animal and of the client
3. MAS and KV, if varies from the technique chart
4. The area of the body exposed to the radiograph
5. The number of radiographs taken of each animal on a particular visit

²⁸ Not applicable to poultry

Section 13: Controlled Drug Logs
<p>Statement <i>A member who dispenses controlled substance shall keep a controlled substance register to ensure proper tracking.</i></p>
<p>Legislation 28. (1) A member who dispenses a controlled substance shall keep a controlled substance register and shall enter the following information in it, 1. The date the controlled substance is dispensed or administered. 2. The name and address of the client. 3. The name, strength and quantity of the controlled substance dispensed or administered. 4. The quantity of the controlled substance remaining in the member's inventory after the controlled substance is dispensed or administered.</p>
<p>Professional Practice Standards and College Policy A controlled drug log must indicate 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.²⁹</p>
RECORD CONTENT
1. The date the controlled substance is dispensed or administered
2. The name and address of the client
3. The name, strength and quantity of the controlled substance dispensed or administered
4. The quantity of the controlled substance remaining in the member's inventory after the controlled substance is dispensed or administered

²⁹ Guide: Medical Records, page 3.

Section 14: Anesthetic and Surgical Logs³⁰
Statement <i>It is an expectation that surgical and anesthetic logs are complete.</i>
Legislation The <i>Minimum Standards for Veterinary Facilities in Ontario</i> requires veterinarians in food producing animal and equine facilities to maintain logs for surgical procedures and administration of anesthetics. Anesthetic and surgical logs may be maintained separately or in combination.
Professional Practice Standards and College Policy N/A
RECORD CONTENT
1. The date of induction/procedure
2. The name of the client
3. The breed, age, sex, estimated weight and identity of the anesthetized animal/animal upon which the procedure is performed
4. The pre-anesthetic condition/pre-operative condition of the animal
5. The name, dose, and route of administration of any pre-anesthetic agents
6. The name, dose, and route of administration of the anesthetic agents
7. Nature of the procedures performed under the anesthetic
8. Post-anesthetic condition/post-operative condition of the animal
9. The name of the surgeon
10. The length of the time of the surgery/procedure

³⁰ Not applicable to poultry

Section 15: General Requirements
<p>Statement <i>The records present a chronology of care and are legible, understandable and are prepared and maintained in a timely and systematic manner.</i></p>
<p>Legislation 22(5) The records required under this section shall be,</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (a) Legibly written or typewritten; (b) Kept in a systematic manner; (b.1) In practices of more than one practitioner or practices that employ locums, identified after each entry with the initials or code of the veterinarian responsible for the procedure; and (c) Retained for a period of at least five years after the date of the last entry in the record or until two years after the member ceases to practise veterinary medicine, whichever occurs first.
<p>Professional Practice Standards and College Policy Use of tools such as master problem lists... contribute to the efficient collection of information and a sufficiently documented record.³¹ Formats such as Subjective-Objective-Assessment-Plan (SOAP) or Data-Assessment-Plan (DAP) are generally accepted practice.³² A unique number or code should be assigned to each animal, flock or herd. Each component of the record should include the identification number. Paper based records should have the number on both sides of every page.³³ Whenever information is entered into the record, the entry should be documented with the initials of the person making the entry and the date the entry was made. For electronic records, the software should have the capacity to track and record who enters information and when it is recorded.³⁴ Each time a record is updated, a veterinarian must ensure that the update or change to the record is dated and documented in a clearly identifiable manner and that the content of the record before each change or update is preserved.³⁵</p>
<p>RECORD CONTENT</p>
<p>1. Master problem list or cumulative patient profile is maintained and up-to-date.</p>
<p>2. The components of the record are organized in a logical manner and are easy to find (e.g. uses SOAP or DAP).</p>
<p>3. The record content is legible.</p>
<p>4. Patient and client identifications are clearly marked on each page of the file.</p>
<p>5. Each entry is identified by a signature or initials.</p>
<p>6. Changes are noted so the original entry is still legible (even if records are electronic).</p>
<p>7. Abbreviation or acronyms used are commonly known or explained (e.g. abbreviation list).</p>

³¹ Guide: Medical Records, page 1.

³² Guide: Medical Records, page 1.

³³ Guide: Medical Records, page 3.

³⁴ Guide: Medical Records, page 5.

³⁵ Guide: Medical Records, page 5.