



THE COLLEGE OF
VETERINARIANS
OF ONTARIO

POLICY STATEMENT

Satellite Location – Remote Dispensing Options for Farmed and Large Animal Anti-Microbial Drugs

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Introduction

On December 1, 2018 Health Canada will require veterinary oversight of the prescribing of any antimicrobial drug for the purposes of use in animals. While this is not a change in practice for companion animal medicine, it is a significant shift in practice in farmed and large animal medicine.

One primary concern of veterinarians and owners is access to antimicrobial drugs in bulk and in a timely fashion. To accommodate this stewardship imperative related to reducing antimicrobial resistance in human and animal health care, the College of Veterinarians of Ontario (CVO) has approved the establishment of a satellite location for the purposes of the remote dispensing of anti-microbials to farmed or large animal owners pursuant to a prescription from a licensed veterinarian and within a valid VCPR.

This satellite location functions as a component of an existing food animal or equine accredited facility as named in section 11(1) of Ontario Regulation 1093. The satellite location must be accredited by the College and listed on the Public Register.

Purpose and Scope

This policy statement applies to all veterinarians who are considering the use of remote dispensing for antimicrobial drugs intended for use by farmed or large animal clients.

A veterinarian must practice at an accredited food animal or equine facility that has a satellite location accredited for the purpose of the dispensing of antimicrobials to farmed or large animal clients.

The Director of the accredited facility must apply to the College to determine if the proposed satellite location will meet regulatory requirements inclusive of security, confidentiality and integrity of medical records, identification of the dispenser (associate veterinarian or delegated to a registered veterinary technician under indirect supervision), and inventory control. Once the satellite location is approved and accredited, the Director must sign an undertaking with the College acknowledging that all veterinarians employed by or under contract to the accredited facility have the ability to dispense through the satellite location as needed.

The College will accredit a remote dispensing satellite location in accordance with its legislative authority and issue a new certificate of accreditation to each facility Director with a current signed undertaking. An accredited facility with an accredited satellite location and a signed undertaking will be listed and directly linked on the Public Register.

Records related to dispensing must be maintained as per the College Professional Practice Standard on Medical Record Keeping.

Legislative Authority

Ontario Regulation 1093, R.S.O. 1990, s. 11 (1)

Policy statements published by the College provide descriptions of how the College interprets existing legislation.