



MEMORANDUM

DATE	October 14, 2022
TO	Veterinary Medical Board (Board)
FROM	Jessica Siefertman, Executive Officer
SUBJECT	Agenda Item 16D. Outreach

Association Meetings *(Strategic Plan Objective 5.1.1)*

The Board’s Executive Officer and Licensing/Administration Manager continue to hold monthly meetings with representatives from the California Registered Veterinary Technicians Association (CaRVTA) to provide updates, answer questions, and address any concerns they may have.

During the September 2022 meeting with CaRVTA, Board staff shared concerns about the number of complaints against registered veterinary technicians (RVTs) providing and charging for veterinary services independent from licensed veterinarians. To assist in educating their members, CaRVTA distributed the attached regulatory alert regarding the requirement for indirect supervision.

On September 30, 2022, the Board’s Executive Officer (EO) attended the California Veterinary Medical Association (CVMA) Board of Governors (BOG) meeting in Palm Springs, CA. CVMA was provided status updates on Board operations, including licensing, enforcement, and Board meeting topics.

Educational Webinars *(Strategic Plan Objective 5.1.3)*

The next webinars will be on November 10, 2022. As stated during the July Board meeting, Board staff improved these webinars using the feedback provided after the previous session. These improvements included splitting the webinars into two one-hour sessions, ditching the scripts, moving statutes and laws to the end in a reference section, and providing more opportunity to interact with the panelists.

AAVSB Collaboration *(Strategic Plan Objective 5.5)*

In September 2022, the MDC Chair, Richard Sullivan, DVM and the Board’s EO attended AAVSB’s Annual Conference. This conference and the various areas of collaboration will be discussed in more detail during Agenda Item 6.

Celebrating National Veterinary Technician Week

National Veterinary Technician Week is October 16-22, 2022. The Board and DCA’s Office of Public Affairs again partnered to create social media graphics celebrating RVTs which will be disseminated throughout the week.

2022 Veterinary Medicine Loan Repayment Program

In September 2022, the Board distributed information to its licensees and stakeholders from the California Department of Food and Agriculture (CDFA) regarding their loan repayment program. As stated in more detail [here](#), the [2022/2023 Veterinary Medicine Loan Repayment Program \(VMLRP\)](#) aims to provide an incentive for veterinarians to practice in areas currently in need of additional veterinary expertise within large animal private practice and the public sector. For veterinary awardees that are willing to commit to at least three years of service in a selected practice area, USDA NIFA may provide up to \$25,000 per year, for a total of \$75,000 over 3 years, to offset veterinary education loan debts, along with additional funding to offset tax liability.

From: [REDACTED]
To: Sieferman, Jessica@DCA
Subject: Fwd: CaRVTA REGULATORY ALERT 9.29.22
Date: Thursday, September 29, 2022 1:09:32 PM

WARNING: This message was sent from outside the CA Gov network. Do not open attachments unless you know the sender: [REDACTED]

Hi Jessica,

We sent this out to our members today. I hope it helps.

Nancy

Sent from my iPhone

Begin forwarded message:

From: California Registered Veterinary Technicians Association
<Carvta@wildapricot.org>
Date: September 29, 2022 at 1:03:09 PM PDT
To: Nancy Ehrlich [REDACTED]
Subject: CaRVTA REGULATORY ALERT 9.29.22
Reply-To: CaRVTA Webmaster <carvta.webmaster@gmail.com>

Regulations Regarding RVTs Administering Home Treatments

Nancy Ehrlich, RVT

Regulatory/Legislative Advocate, CaRVTA

It has come to our attention that it is now common for RVTs to be setting up their own businesses to provide home care to animal patients. While it is legal for RVTs to provide home care, it must be done within the laws and regulations of California. The Veterinary Medicine Practice Act provides for RVTs to provide prescribed treatments under Indirect Supervision.

Sec. 2034 (f) "Indirect Supervision" means: (1) that the supervisor is not physically present at the location where animal health care job tasks are to be performed, but has given either written or oral instructions ("direct orders") for treatment of the animal patient; and (2) the animal has been examined by a veterinarian at such times as good veterinary medical practice requires, consistent with the particular delegated animal health care task and the animal is not anesthetized as defined in Section 2032.4.

The key word here is **supervisor**. RVTs providing home treatments **must be supervised** by the prescribing veterinarian. RVTs may not administer any treatment to an animal unless the prescribing veterinarian has agreed to supervise the RVT.

The [Veterinary Medical Board](#) has received several complaints about RVTs who are not supervised while providing home treatments. To avoid a complaint and possible discipline, be sure to coordinate with the prescribing veterinarian before administering any home treatments. In addition, if you are providing home care through your own business, be sure to have **Liability Insurance**.



[Safehold](#) is one company that offers RVT Liability Insurance, follow the link and [HERE is their application form](#).

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