



MEMORANDUM

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| DATE | March 23, 2022 |
| TO | Veterinary Medical Board (Board) |
| FROM | Jessica Sieferman, Executive Officer |
| SUBJECT | Agenda Item 16.D. 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.

On Saturday, April 2, the Board’s President and Executive Officer virtually attended the California Veterinary Medical Association (CVMA) Board of Governors (BOG) meeting. CVMA was provided status updates on Board operations, including licensing, enforcement, and Board meeting topics.

Educational Webinars *(Strategic Plan Objective 5.1.3)*

The Board’s Executive Officer and Enforcement Managers began working with DCA’s SOLID Training Solutions team to develop an educational enforcement course, with the goal of launching the course on June 2, 2022. The course will provide an overview of the enforcement process, common violations, including top ten inspection violations, and ways to avoid them.

Later this year, the Board plans to launch a Veterinary Practice Act course and a course jointly provided by the Board’s inspectors and the Drug Enforcement Administration.

Participants completing these virtual, interactive courses will be able to earn free continuing education credit from the Board.

Social Media Outreach Regarding RVTs *(Strategic Plan Objective 5.4)*

On March 1, 2022, DCA created the attached outreach article for the Board to post on its social media regarding the importance of RVTs in the veterinary profession. The article was reshared by multiple individuals shortly after it posted. The Board received multiple appreciative comments from the RVT profession for posting the article.

AAVSB Collaboration *(Strategic Plan Objective 5.5)*

Multiple Board members and the Board’s Executive Officer continues to collaborate with

AAVSB regarding issues impacting all member Boards. Since the last Board meeting, the Executive Officer was appointed to AAVSB's conference committee where she can provide input to the AAVSB Board on the annual guest speakers, presentation topics and future venues. As the Board requested, AAVSB confirmed the 2022 annual conference will include a virtual participation option. This was imperative to the Board, since the conference is held in a state the Board is banned from traveling.

On March 17, 2022, the Board's Executive Officer participated in the AAVSB's Executive Directors Roundtable. This is an opportunity where all member boards can discuss current issues facing the Board. During the March meeting, the executive directors spoke primarily about AAVAB's 2019 revisions to the VCPR definition and their telehealth guidelines. The Kentucky Executive Director and the Board's Executive Officer requested the process to have these documents revisited at a future meeting. This will be discussed further during Agenda Item 14C.



News from the California Department of Consumer Affairs

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ANIMALS

Registered Veterinary Technicians: Professional Partners in Animal Care

written by [Brady Oppenheim](#) | March 1, 2022



Vital, licensed members of the veterinary health care team

You may be familiar with doctors of veterinary medicine (DVM)—most commonly called veterinarians—but have you heard about registered veterinary technicians (RVT)?

Numbering approximately 10,000 in California, RVTs are vital members of the veterinary health care team who are trained and licensed to provide a wide variety of services to animals in their care.

RVT DUTIES

RVTs are skilled animal health care professionals who have completed an education program approved by the Department of Consumer Affairs (DCA) Veterinary Medical Board (VMB) or equivalent experience, and who have passed

Under direct DVM supervision, an RVT may:

- Administer anesthesia.
- Suture skin and oral tissue.
- Extract teeth.
- Create a relief hole in the skin for placement of an intravascular catheter.
- Perform drug compounding from bulk substances.

Under indirect DVM supervision, an RVT may:

- Operate radiographic equipment.
- Administer medications.
- Apply a splint or cast.
- Perform drug compounding from non-bulk substances.
- Animal physical therapy.



Routine RVT duties include:

- Preparing animal patients and instruments for surgery.
- Assisting in and monitoring after surgery.
- Dental prophylaxis (teeth cleaning).
- Applying bandages.
- Inserting IV catheters.
- Drawing blood and urine samples.
- Running lab tests.
- Collecting and recording animal patient case histories.

An RVT may perform many other animal health care tasks under either direct or indirect DVM supervision consistent with standards of good veterinary medical practices. Direct supervision means the DVM is present and is quickly available where the animal health care task is being performed. Indirect supervision means the DVM is not present, but has given instructions for the animal's care.

CHECK THE LICENSE

Like veterinarians, RVTs must conspicuously display their Board registration at the veterinary premises. DVMs and RVTs who provide services away from a hospital should carry the pocket version of their license/registration. Consumers may ask to see the license/registration before agreeing to any treatments—you can check license or registration status for DVMs and RVTs anytime with DCA's online license search tool: <https://search.dca.ca.gov>.

For more information on RVTs and their education, licensure, and key animal health care services, as well as information on other [veterinary professionals](#), visit www.vmb.ca.gov.

Related Reading: [Vets Aren't Just for Pets](#)



BRADY OPPENHEIM



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