

**Title 16. Professional and Vocational Regulations
Division 20. Veterinary Medical Board**

2032.1. Veterinarian-Client-Patient Relationship

(a) It is unprofessional conduct for a veterinarian to administer, prescribe, dispense or furnish a drug, medicine, appliance, or treatment of whatever nature for the prevention, cure or relief of a wound, fracture, bodily injury or disease of an animal without having first established a veterinarian-client-patient relationship with the animal patient or patients and the client, except where the patient is a wild animal or the owner is unknown.

(b) A veterinarian-client-patient relationship shall be established by the following:

(1) The veterinarian has assumed responsibility for the health of the animal and has communicated with the client a course of treatment appropriate to the circumstance; and

(2) The veterinarian has sufficient knowledge of the animal(s) to initiate at least a general or preliminary diagnosis of the medical condition of the animal(s). This means that the veterinarian is personally acquainted with the care of the animal(s) by virtue of an examination of the animal(s) or by medically appropriate and timely visits to the premises where the animals are kept.

(c) A drug shall not be prescribed for a duration inconsistent with the animal(s) medical condition or type of drug prescribed. The veterinarian shall not prescribe a drug for a duration longer than one year from the date the veterinarian examined the animal(s) and prescribed the drug.

(d) As used herein, "drug" shall mean any controlled substance, as defined by Section 4021 of the code, and any dangerous drug, as defined by Section 4022 of the code.

"SECOND DRAFT"