



MEMORANDUM

DATE	April 10, 2025
TO	California Veterinary Medical Board (Board)
FROM	Justin Sotelo, Policy Specialist
SUBJECT	Agenda Item 22.D. Outreach

FDA Letter to Veterinarians

On January 7, 2025, the Board informed its email subscribers and social media followers that the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) issued a letter to veterinarians regarding the use of aspirin products in lactating dairy cattle. The Board also posted an [announcement](#) about the letter on its website.

In summary, the letter's intent was to notify veterinarians about adverse events reported on the FDA's Center for Veterinary Medicine's (CVM) evaluation of adverse events reported in dogs of various sizes treated with Librela. The letter provided information on Librela's approved use and resources on steps to take following an adverse event for a patient treated with Librela and information on adverse events reported to the FDA. The letter also included contact information for the CVM.

California State Board of Pharmacy Waiver

On January 10, 2025, the Board informed its email subscribers that the California State Board of Pharmacy issued a waiver allowing manufacturers, wholesalers, or third-party logistics providers to deliver dangerous drugs or dangerous devices to alternate locations other than an address of record, under specified conditions. The waiver was issued in response to the Southern California wildfires and Governor Gavin Newsom's [proclamation](#) of a state of emergency.

Veterinarians were informed that they were not required to change their address of record in order to receive these products. The waiver became effective January 10, 2025 and expired on February 9, 2025.

The Board also informed its social media followers about the waiver and posted an [announcement](#) on its website.

Misbranded Drugs Webinar

On January 24, 2025, the Board informed its email subscribers about the free two-hour Misbranded Drugs Webinar it hosted virtually on January 28, 2025. During the webinar, Board inspectors were joined by representatives from the California State Board of Pharmacy to discuss misbranded drugs in veterinary medicine.

There were approximately 250 attendees who participated in the webinar and the Board issued 190 continuing education (CE) certificates to eligible attendees. In February, a [link](#) to the webinar video was posted on the Board's website.

Executive Order Deferring Renewal Fees for Licensees Impacted by Los Angeles Fires

On February 3, 2025, the Board informed its email subscribers that Governor Newsom issued [Executive Order N-15-25](#), which postpones for one year the license renewal fees for Department of Consumer Affairs (DCA) licenses that expire between January 1, 2025 and June 30, 2025, and for licensees whose residential or business addresses are within the impacted zip codes. Upon renewal, licensees eligible for the fee postponement will renew with no payment due. This year's renewal fees will automatically be postponed to 2026.

The Board's social media followers were also informed about the executive order. Additionally, Board staff reached out directly to impacted licensees via email, telephone, and regular mail and informed them about the fee postponement.

Notice of CURES Fee Increase

On March 13, 2025, the Board informed its email subscribers and social media followers that the Controlled Substance Utilization Review and Evaluation System (CURES) fee would increase from \$9 to \$15 annually for licenses expiring on and after July 1, 2025 and that most licensees would see a \$30 CURES fee due to the biennial renewal cycle. This fee is assessed at the time of license renewal on licensees who are authorized to prescribe, order, administer, or furnish Schedule II, Schedule III, Schedule IV, or Schedule V controlled substances.

CURES fees cover the reasonable regulatory costs of the Department of Justice (DOJ) for operating and maintaining CURES, a critical element in the state's continued effort to address the danger of opioid addiction stemming from prescription drug abuse. An announcement regarding the CURES fee increase was also posted on the Board's website on March 13, 2025.

Additionally, Board staff asked the California Veterinary Medical Association (CVMA) and the California Registered Veterinary Technicians Association to share the fee increase information with its members via their websites, social media platforms, and/or email.

CVMA's Board of Governor's Meeting

On Saturday, March 22, 2025, the Board's President and Executive Officer attended CVMA's Board of Governors meeting and presented updates regarding Board activities and pending topics the Board will be covering at its April 2025 meeting. This included an update on the owner exemption legislative proposal and the feedback provided through various stakeholder meetings with the Unlicensed Subcommittee. It also included an update regarding the fee structure legislative proposal.

CDFA Adopts Commercial Animal Blood Banking Regulations

On April 3, 2025, the Board shared an announcement with its email subscribers and social media followers from the California Department of Food and Agriculture regarding

their new regulations to establish a clear regulatory framework for operating commercial animal blood banks in California. These regulations, which go into effect on July 1, 2025, will define licensing, registration, reporting, and fee requirements to ensure that animal blood and blood component products are safe, effective, and produced in a humane manner.

Additional Activity Related to the Southern California Wildfires

Since January, DCA boards and bureaus have been asked to regularly report fire-related activity to DCA's OPA, which has then been reported to California Business, Consumer Services and Housing Agency. More specifically, boards and bureaus have been asked to amplify social media messaging and to report any fire-related operational and communications efforts.

Since January, the Board has made approximately 90 posts on its social media platforms regarding fire-related information, updates, and resources.

In addition to the efforts noted above regarding the California State Board of Pharmacy waiver and the license renewal fee postponement, the Board also reported the following activity to OPA in February:

- Met with the California Department of Food and Agriculture and discussed their mobilized efforts with shelter groups in the impacted areas.
- Met with the California State Board of Pharmacy regarding its waiver before it was released to ensure there were no concerns or negative impacts to the Board's licensees.
- Referred callers (licensees) who wanted to volunteer their services to CVMA's [Veterinary Medical Reserve Corps](#) (they deploy during natural disasters).
- Met with both national testing vendors to ensure candidates had a variety of options if any of their testing centers were closed as a result of the fires.
- Encouraged veterinary students in Southern California to serve as fosters for displaced animals.
- Monitored biological fluid testing centers and potential impacts to probationers.
- Reached out to the California Animal Welfare Association to see if the Board could assist with disseminating important information.
- Worked with DCA's OPA to disseminate information on where impacted Californians could go to look for their missing pet and who to contact if interested in fostering misplaced pets.

CURES Webinar

On May 6, 2025, the Board is hosting a free CURES webinar. Representatives from DOJ will be available to discuss CURES reporting requirements. Two hours of CE credit will again be provided to eligible attendees. More information regarding the webinar and registering to attend will be provided in future announcements.

Strategic Plan Updates

Unlicensed Veterinary Practice Outreach Materials (Strategic Plan Objective 5.1)

The Board's Strategic Plan Objective 5.1 is to "Educate consumers on how to recognize unlicensed veterinary practice so they make informed decisions." As part of that objective, the Outreach Subcommittee was tasked with exploring the feasibility of staffing booths at animal shows and creating outreach materials for consumers.

On January 22, 2025, the Outreach Subcommittee and Board staff met with a veterinarian who previously raised concerns about unlicensed practice occurring at dog shows. Specifically, the veterinarian reported unlicensed individuals are offering and providing reproductive services at dog shows without a veterinarian or veterinarian supervision. The Outreach Subcommittee is working on drafting materials for consumer education and dog show organizers.

On Friday, March 21 and Saturday, March 22, Subcommittee Member Kathy Bowler and the Board's Executive Officer attended a local dog show to learn more about the setup, the audience, and various ways the Board could disseminate information to consumers.

Licensure Exemptions in Business and Professions Code section 4827 (Strategic Plan Objective 4.3)

On March 10, 2025, the Board's Unlicensed Practice Subcommittee (UPC) held stakeholder meetings with representatives from various branches of the veterinary industry including food animals, shelters, and polo events and horse shows to better understand their experiences with unlicensed practice. On March 17, 2025, the UPC held a meeting with the California Cattlemen's Association to discuss unlicensed practice observations in their area of practice.

Inspection Process Video (Strategic Plan Objective 5.6)

On March 14, 2025, Board staff, a Board inspector, and DCA's Office of Public Affairs (OPA) met at a registered veterinary premises to create a video providing an overview of the inspection process. The intent of the video is to increase licensee understanding and compliance with inspections and will be posted on the Board's website when complete.