

§ 698.1 SHORT TITLE

Chapter 15 of this title shall be known and may be cited as the "Oklahoma Veterinary Practice Act".

§ 698.2 DEFINITIONS

As used in the Oklahoma Veterinary Practice Act:

1. **"Board"** means the State Board of Veterinary Medical Examiners;

2. **"Animal"** means any animal other than humans and includes, but is not limited to, fowl, fish, birds and reptiles, wild or domestic, living or dead;

3. **"Veterinarian"** means a person who has received a degree in veterinary medicine or its equivalent from a school of veterinary medicine;

4. **"Licensed veterinarian"** means any veterinarian who holds an active license to practice veterinary medicine in this state;

5. **"School of Veterinary Medicine"** means any veterinary college or division of a university or college that offers the degree of doctor of veterinary medicine or its equivalent, which conforms to the standards required for accreditation by the American Veterinary Medical Association (AVMA) and which is recognized and approved by the Board;

6. **"Veterinary Technician"** means a person who has graduated from a program accredited by the American Veterinary Medical Association, or its equivalent which is recognized and approved by the Board, and who has passed the examination requirements set forth by the Board is certified to practice under the direct supervision of a licensed veterinarian. For the purpose of the Oklahoma Veterinary Practice Act, "registered veterinary technician (RVT)" will be used interchangeably with veterinary technician who is certified pursuant to Sections 698.21 through 698.26 of this title;

7. **"Veterinary technologist"** means a person who has successfully graduated from an AVMA-accredited bachelor degree program of veterinary technology, or its AVMA equivalent;

8. **"Veterinary assistant"** means an individual who may perform the duties of a veterinary technician or veterinary technologist, however, has not graduated from an AVMA-accredited technology program or its equivalent, and has not been certified by the Board;

9. **"Veterinary technology"** means the science and art of providing all aspects of professional medical care, services, and treatment for animals with the exception of diagnosis, prognosis, surgery, and prescription of any treatments, drugs, medications, or appliances, where a valid veterinarian-client-patient relationship exists;

10. **"Direct Supervision"** means:

a. directions have been given to a veterinary technician, nurse, laboratory technician, intern, veterinary assistant or other employee for medical care following the examination of an animal by the licensed veterinarian responsible for the professional care of the animal, or

b. that, under certain circumstances following the examination of an animal by a licensed veterinarian responsible for the professional care of the animal, the presence of the licensed veterinarian on the premises in an animal hospital setting or in the same general area in a range setting is required after directions have been given to a veterinarian who has a certificate issued pursuant to Section 698.8 of this title;

11. **"License"** means authorization to practice veterinary medicine granted by the Board to an individual found by the Board to meet certain requirements pursuant to the Oklahoma Veterinary Practice Act or any other applicable statutes;

12. **"Supervised Doctor of Veterinary Medicine Certificate"** means authorization to practice veterinary medicine with certain limitations or restrictions on that practice, set by the Board or authorization to perform certain enumerated functions peripheral to the practice of veterinary medicine as set by the Board and has a certificate issued pursuant to Section 698.8 of this title;

13. **"Veterinarian-client-patient relationship"** means when:

a. the licensed veterinarian has assumed the responsibility for making medical judgments regarding the health of an animal or animals and the need for medical treatment, and the client, owner or other caretaker has agreed to follow the instructions of the licensed veterinarian; and

b. there is sufficient knowledge of the animal or animals by the licensed veterinarian to initiate at least a general or preliminary diagnosis of the medical condition of the animal or animals in that:

1. the licensed veterinarian has recently seen or is personally acquainted with the keeping and care of the animal or animals, or

2. the licensed veterinarian has made medically necessary and timely visits to the premises where the animal or animals are kept or both, and

c. the licensed veterinarian is readily available for follow-up in case of adverse reactions or failure of the regimen of therapy, or has arranged for emergency medical coverage, and

d. the licensed veterinarian's actions would conform to applicable federal law and regulations;

14. **"Veterinary premises"** means any facility where the practice of veterinary medicine occurs, including, but not limited to, a mobile unit, mobile clinic, outpatient clinic, satellite clinic, public service outreach of a veterinary facility, or veterinary hospital or clinic. The term "veterinary premises" shall not include the premises of a client of a licensed veterinarian or research facility;

15. **"Veterinary prescription drugs"** means such prescription items as are in the possession of a person regularly and lawfully engaged in the manufacture, transportation, storage, or wholesale or retail distribution of veterinary drugs and the federal Food and Drug Administration-approved human drugs for animals which because of their toxicity or other potential for harmful effects, or method of use, or the collateral measures necessary for use, are labeled by the manufacturer or distributor in compliance with federal law and regulations to be sold only to or on the prescription order or under the supervision of a licensed veterinarian for use in the course of professional practice. Veterinary prescription drugs shall not include over-the-counter products for which adequate directions for lay use can be written.

16. **"ECFVG certificate"** means a certificate issued by the American Veterinary Medical Association Education Commission for Foreign Veterinary Graduates, indicating that the holder has demonstrated knowledge and skill equivalent to that possessed by a graduate of an accredited or approved college of veterinary medicine;

17. **"Executive Director"** means the Executive Director of the State Board of Veterinary Medical Examiners or the authorized representative of such official;

18. **"Telemedicine"** shall mean the transmission of diagnostic images such as, but not limited to, radiographs, ultrasound, cytology, endoscopy, photographs and case information over ordinary or cellular phone lines to a licensed veterinarian or board-certified medical specialist for the purpose of consulting regarding case management with the primary care licensed veterinarian who transmits the cases;

19. **"Person"** means any individual, firm, partnership, association, joint venture, cooperative, corporation, or any other group or combination acting in concert, and whether or not acting as a principal, trustee, fiduciary, receiver, or as any other kind of legal or personal representative, or as the successor in interest, assignee, agent, factor, servant, employee, director, officer, fictitious name certificate, or any other representative of such person;

20. **"Food animal"** means any mammalian, poultry, fowl, fish, or other animal that is raised primarily for human food consumption;

21. **"Surgery"** means the branch of veterinary science conducted under elective or emergency circumstances, which treats diseases, injuries and deformities by manual or operative methods including but not limited to, cosmetic, reconstructive, ophthalmic, orthopedic, vascular, thoracic, and obstetric procedures. The