



February 2022 Bulletin

Nevada Board of Veterinary Medical Examiners

Updated Legislation and Rules for Nevada

During the 2021 Legislative Session, there were several changes to the Nevada Revised Statutes (NRS) Chapter 638 that may affect practice of the veterinary community. The February issue of the Board's bulletin will summarize those changes and explain how they may affect your practice and/or licensure. The two bills that are discussed below are AB200 and AB101.



The bills that created the most significant changes in the practice act were bill AB200 and AB101. Below is a discussion of the main components of those bills. Several sections of the bills that are being presented cover language affecting Board administration only and are not included in the discussion below. The bill is broken up by section, that correspond to the sections found in the full bill text, which you may access using the links provided, or by going to the legislative website.

Summary of AB200

The full text of AB200 can be found here: [AB200-As Enrolled](#).*

Section 2:

Definition of Telemedicine

“Veterinary telemedicine” means the use of medical information exchanged from one site to another via electronic communications regarding the health status of an animal or a group of animals and includes, without limitation, communication via telephone, video, a mobile application or an online platform on an Internet website “

Section 3:

Veterinary Practice and VCPR

1. Veterinary medicine may only be practiced within the context of a veterinarian-client-patient-relationship (VCPR)
 - a. (Exemption) In an emergency or when urgent care is required when the owner cannot be identified, veterinary medicine may be practiced without a VCPR.

*Please ensure that if you are reading the full bill language that you select ‘As Enrolled’ as this is the final version of the language that went into affect.

How to establish a VCPR

A VCPR is established if the veterinarian:

1. Assumes responsibility for medical judgements concerning the health and need for treatment
2. Has knowledge of the present care and health of the animal sufficient to provide general or preliminary diagnosis of the animal
 - a. The knowledge must be gathered with a physical examination or
 - b. Visiting the area where the animal is kept within an appropriate time frame for the condition of the animal
3. Obtains an agreement with the client to follow the instructions provided by the veterinarian for the care and treatment of animal
4. Is readily available for follow-up care, or
 - a. has arranged for emergency or urgent care coverage, or
 - b. continuing medical care and treatment which has been designated by the veterinarian by another veterinarian that has access to records or can provide reasonable and appropriate medical care
5. Provides oversight of treatment

Can a VCPR be Established Through Telemedicine Alone?

No. However, a VCPR can be maintained by telemedicine once a valid VCPR has been established between

- a. Medically necessary examinations.
- b. Visits within a period of time that are appropriate or to the premise where the animal is kept.

If there is no valid VCPR established:

1. Advice given must be general and not specific to a particular animal or its diagnosis and its treatment.
2. Advice and recommendations may be made in an emergency but only until the animal may be seen by a veterinarian.

Section 4:

Supervising staff using electronic means/telemedicine

Only in some circumstances.

1. A supervising veterinarian who has previously established a VCPR may provide off-site supervision over a licensed veterinary technician if the veterinary technician and supervisors are employed by the same facility and the facility is in Nevada.

Section 6:

Exemptions for the telemedicine requirements if it is for a class or exam

The requirements of a VCPR for telemedicine do not apply to the practice of a veterinarian or veterinary technician while they lecture, teach, administer a practical examination, or conduct a laboratory demonstration in a facility in connection with a seminar or course of CE approved by the Board listed in NAC 638.042.

Poison control or Advice During an Emergency

Advice that is given in an emergency or recommendations given by poison control center until the animal can be examined by a veterinarian is exempt.

Section 12:

Changes to Renewals

1. Renewals will be open no later than May 15 of each odd year.
2. All licensees submitting renewals must pay any fines or other money (citations, disciplinary costs, etc.) to the Board prior to being able to renew.
3. All licenses will become delinquent/expire on June 30 of every odd year.
4. A \$50 late fee will be added to the renewal fee on July 1 and August 1 for delinquent renewals.
5. All licenses not renewed on or before August 31 will be forfeited.

Section 13-14

Investigation by Committee

The Board may now investigate and decide on complaints that have been submitted the Board's office through a new structure. The committee structure involves a portion of the Board members (2-3) that review complaints and investigation reports. They may render decisions as a committee. If the committee votes to proceed to a disciplinary action, the full Board will review and approve any settlement agreements or participate in hearings (except for the members of the committee that first reviewed the case). Investigations are presented anonymously to the committee members.

Section 15

Letters of Correction

A letter of correction is a new element to decisions that may come from a committee or the Board. A letter of correction is a non-disciplinary action (and is not public) that requires a licensee to earn continuing education in a specific topic. Currently, the letter of correction is issued to address concerns in medical record keeping, continuing education audits, and facility inspections.

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Summary of AB101: The full text of AB101 can be found here: [AB101-As Enrolled](#).*

CBD/Hemp Products

A licensed veterinarian may administer a product containing hemp or CBD if the product has a THC concentration of less than 0.3% on a dry weight basis and it is consumed (by the patient) through means other than inhalation. Additionally, the veterinarian is able to recommend CBD or hemp products to treat a condition of the animal.

Upcoming Board Meetings:

April 21, 2022 (LV)

The Board intends to hold meetings in-person and with a

July 22, 2022 (Reno)

teleconference option for those that would like to participate

October 20, 2022 (LV)

remotely. Please contact staff with any questions.



SPECIAL ANNOUNCEMENT!

THE IN-PERSON REQUIREMENT FOR CE FOR 2022-2023 HAS BEEN WAIVED.

This means you are able to obtain all CE online
for your license renewal due June 30, 2023



CE CORNER

Please refer to NAC 638.042 for a complete list of the types of courses approved the Board to ensure that CE you are taking is approved.

Searchable CE Sites:

- Free AVMA seminars online: <https://axon.avma.org/page/covid19-courses>
- List of 2021's Best Conference: <https://vetintegrations.com/insights/best-veterinary-conferences/>
- VetFolio is offering free CE here: https://www.vetfolio.com/learn/article/free-ce-from-vetfolio?gclid=Cj0KCQjwgJv4BRCrARIsAB17JI4ejCJgAqebu0UQV--7VZSp_-Eh_1Dl9kdVhi8Ncg8k2MURexIMOoaAvegEALw_wcB
- VetMedTeam List of Free CE: <https://www.vetmedteam.com/classes-free.aspx>
- NAVTA's List of Free CE: navta.net/page/continuing_education
- Search for Board approved CE any time at <https://www.aavsb.org/RACE>

Upcoming CE Courses:

- Western Veterinary Conference (WVC): March 6-9, Las Vegas-Register here: <https://www.viticusgroup.org/wvc-conference>
- ACVIM Forum: June 23-25, 2022, Austin, TX-Register here: <https://www.acvim.org/acvim-forum/2022-acvim-forum>
- Vet Show: April 5-6 (Austin) May 12-13 (Chicago) Oct. 12-15 (Reno) Nov 3-4 (NY)-Register here: <https://us.vetshow.com/>
- Internal Medicine and Dermatology: March 18-20, 2022: Register here: <https://vetvacationce.com/product/online-conference-internal-medicine-and-dermatology-march-2022/>
- Emergency and Critical Care: May 13-15, 2022: Register here: <https://vetvacationce.com/product/online-conference-emergency-critical-care-may-2022/>
- Ongoing: AVMA Workplace Wellbeing Certificate Program: 5 credit hours-Register here: <https://axon.avma.org/local/catalog/view/product.php?productid=22>