

OIE Workforce and VPP workshop Session 2 on Veterinary Legislation and Regulation (15 June 2021): Answers to questions and comments received during the workshop session

As of 23 June 2021

Q. Is there an option for appeal after rejection of the registration? Or is the statutory body the final authority?

(Answered live) There is an option for appeal. The VSB may decide through policy to whom the appeal is directed for final decision.

Q. Please explain the requirements of a veterinarian direct supervision. Does it require actual physical presence?

(Answered live) Direct does require the presence of a veterinarian.

Q. What is your opinion about the regulation of the paraprofessionals regulated by separate veterinary statute body or same veterinary statute body of veterinarians?

(Answered live) One VSB for both (as set out by the OIE guidelines) helps to clearly define the different categories in terms of prerogatives and permitted tasks and to ensure they are consistently regulated/enforced. Separate bodies may result in a fragmented system (for any number of reasons, from a lack of communication to divergent interests) with a greater risk of inconsistencies or conflicts whereas the objective is to have a coherent overall system.

It is possible to have an effective system with two VSBs, but they would need to coordinate closely to ensure there are no gaps, overlaps or inconsistencies among the different categories, both in how they are defined (including permitted acts) and in how they are regulated.

In the end, while the OIE guidelines should be considered, the question of one vs. two VSBs depends on the particular country's circumstances, needs and resources.

Q. Please explain the requirements of a veterinarian direct supervision of vpps. In my country, it is not possible, so vpps will regulate by only act and regulations.

(Answered live) You can have indirect supervision. VPPs often work in areas where there are no vets so direct supervision is impossible

Q. Whether qualifications of VPP also include those having a degree?

(Answered live) VPPs can have other degrees such as in Agriculture but they still need to be have the standard approved training for the VPP category they wish to work in. VPPs

themselves should also have the option to become Veterinarians, and allowance made for their training (qualification) to enter higher education.

Q. Are there any examples of VSB regulating non veterinarian university teachers teaching animal husbandry techniques?

(Answered post-workshop) Not that we are aware of. It is of course possible, but it would seem unlikely.

Q. Will VPPs provide all categories of veterinary services or only first aid only?

(Answered post-workshop) This is a decision of the regulatory body (VSB) in each country to determine the categories of VPPs they will register, the academic qualifications required for each category and the activities or prerogatives that can be performed or allowed for each category. If it suited the purposed and conditions of the country, they could decide to establish a category of VPP known as a first aid worker or something like that, but it seems unlikely.

Q. Are there any reference that how many VPP will be under Veterinarian's direction?

(Answered post-workshop) We are not aware of any specific references. It is up the country and the VSB depending on the circumstances in the country.

Q. What are the regulations thereof for a VPP to prescribe Schedule H drugs like life-saving viz. Antibiotics?

(Answered live)

This answer will vary depending on the country and local certification requirements. In most jurisdictions, antibiotics and similarly scheduled drugs can only be prescribed by a veterinarian, or by a VPP under the supervision of a veterinarian. But some jurisdictions permit or do not disallow VPPs from prescribing antibiotics within either or both of their veterinary practice acts or drug scheduling system. In other jurisdictions, although VPPs are not legislatively allowed to prescribe, it happens anyway due to poor enforcement.

Note – see below for more information about OIE resources on AMR.

Q. What about international harmonization to guarantee veterinarians' and other professionals' mobility?

(Answered live) Interesting question on international harmonization. Economic/regional blocs may harmonize standards and requirements to facilitate mobility. Requires strong political commitment and coordinated legislative initiatives.

(Answered post-workshop): In ASEAN, the initiative to harmonise VEE accreditation standards would be the first step to facilitate regional mobility of veterinarians.

Q. What are the categories of VPP (Like Vet. nurses etc.) in Thailand?

(Answered post-workshop): There are 10 categories - (1) Companion animal health care; (2) Immune production in animals; (3) Practices and control for animal and carcass quarantine; (4) Practices and control for animal and carcass transportation; (5) Animal health care (Swine) (Poultry) (Ruminant); (6) Medicated feed quality control; (7) Veterinary technology; (8) Meat quality control inspection at slaughter house; (9) Artificial insemination; and (10) Inspection and monitoring animal waste management system. Vet nurses are in the category of Companion animal health care.

Q. For Malaysia; How did you elect the members of each VSB and composition? Are each of the VSBs with similar elected members?

(Answered live) Based on the Act it has ex-officio, representative elected various areas and groups (regions) and appointed by the Minister.

Q. which countries of Asia implemented VLSP? Please share the list.

(Answered live) List of VLSP countries are available in <https://www.oie.int/en/what-we-offer/improving-veterinary-services/pvs-pathway/targeted-support/veterinary-legislation-support/status-of-missions-3/>.

For PVS related activities in Asia and the Pacific region:

<https://rr-asia.oie.int/en/projects/performance-of-veterinary-services-pvs/>.

For VLSP status, please click on: "PVS State of play in the Region- Targeted Support" on the PVS page.

Q. What is OIE' s position on regulation of antimicrobials?

The OIE promotes the responsible and prudent use of antimicrobial agents in terrestrial and aquatic animals, so as to preserve their therapeutic efficacy and prolong their use in both animals and humans. It has developed intergovernmental standards on antimicrobial resistance and on the monitoring of the quantities of antimicrobial agents used. The OIE has also developed standards and guidelines to provide methodologies for OIE Members to appropriately address the risk of the emergence or spread of resistant bacteria that result from the use of antimicrobial agents in food-producing animals.

Its texts cover both terrestrial animals and aquatics animals and are found in the following publications:

- *Terrestrial Animal Health Code* (chapters 6.7 , 6.8. , 6.9. , 6.10. and 6.11 .
- *Manual of Diagnostic Tests and Vaccines for Terrestrial Animals*. (Chapter 2.1.1.)
- *Aquatic Animals Health Code* (Chapters 6.1. , 6.2 ., 6.3. , 6.4 . and 6.5.)

OIE has also published the list of antimicrobial agents of veterinary importance since 2007 to support prudent and responsible use of antimicrobials.

https://www.oie.int/fileadmin/Home/eng/Our_scientific_expertise/docs/pdf/AMR/A_OIE_List_antimicrobials_July2019.pdf

All OIE Standards and Guidelines and Resolution on the topic are also gathered in the book:

https://www.oie.int/fileadmin/Home/eng/Media_Center/docs/pdf/PortailAMR/book-AMR-ANG-FNL-LR.pdf

The OIE guidelines on veterinary and VPP competencies and curricula include responsible and prudent use of antimicrobial agents. More information at:

[Antimicrobial resistance - OIE - World Organisation for Animal Health](#)