

North Carolina Veterinary Medical Board

September 2019

Regulatory Bulletin

Volume 3 Issue 3

From the NCVMB website: <http://www.ncvmb.org/>

Veterinary Reporting of Dispensed Controlled Drugs

General Statute 90-113.70 (STOP Act) requires that the North Carolina Department of Health and Human Services (NC DHHS) establish and maintain a reporting system of prescriptions for all Schedule II -V controlled substances. This statute requires that all dispensers of controlled substances submit information in accordance with the transmission methods and frequency promulgated by the Commission for Mental Health, Developmental Disabilities and Substance Abuse Services.

The purpose of this legislation is to improve the State's ability to identify controlled substance misusers and refer them for treatment, and to identify and stop diversion of prescription drugs in an efficient and cost-effective manner that will not impede the appropriate medical utilization of licit controlled substances.

NCVMB FACEBOOK Page

<https://www.facebook.com/NCVetMedicalBoard>

The NCVMB Facebook page has a vast variety of information available for veterinarians, technicians, and pet owners. Examples of recent posting include the following topics:

- AVMA: More veterinary technicians equals higher practice efficiency
- Raleigh Vet sees more than 170 cases of mysterious dog illness in one month (ABC11.com)
- Toxin Topic: Snakebites and Horses
- Platelet Estimates from Blood Smears in Dogs
- Alternatives to Opioids for Analgesia Management



You may be inspected by
the DEA, NC DHHS,
and/or NC Department of
Radiation

It has come to the attention of the NCVMB that a number of practices were recently inspected by either the DEA, NC DHHS, or the NC Department of Radiation.

These inspections are not linked to the NCVMB and are an independent function of these agencies.

It is important for all veterinary practices to be aware of the requirements of these agencies.

Information can be found at the following web sites:

DEA:

www.DeaDiversion.usdoj.gov

NC Department of Radiation:

<http://www.ncradiation.net/Xray/documents/healartsprog.pdf>

NC DHHS:

<https://www.ncdhhs.gov/divisions/mhddsas/ncdcu/nc-controlled-substances-regulatory>

North Carolina Veterinary Response Corps

Mission and Membership

The North Carolina Veterinary Response Corps (NCVRC) is a North Carolina Department of Agriculture & Consumer Services initiative to train and prepare professionals in the animal care community to respond to disaster events that affect livestock and companion animals. Membership is open to North Carolina veterinarians, veterinary technicians, veterinary and veterinary technician students, animal shelter employees, animal control officers, and Cooperative Extension agents.

Requirements for deployment

- ICS 100, 200, and 700 (online)
- Biosecurity/PPE and Animal Sheltering Training - provided by NCDA&CS
- Basic awareness of NC Emergency Management concepts and the NC Emergency Operations Plan, Emergency Support Functions (specifically ESF-11)
- Sign a Code of Conduct

Upcoming Trainings

NCDA&CS provides training to all veterinary technician students and veterinary students at the NCSU CVM during their programs.

- NCAVT Fall Conference – October 12 – Conference registration required
- NC Veterinary Conference – November 1 – Conference registration required

Please complete the following survey to help us plan more trainings!

<https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/LY7HPND>



Radiology Compliance Branch

Division of Health Service Regulation/N.C. Department of Health and Human Services

As required by the "North Carolina Regulations For Protection Against Radiation" rule .1603 Radiation Protection Programs. Each licensee or registrant shall **develop, document, and implement** a radiation protection program. The registrant (Radiation Safety Officer) shall annually review the radiation protection program's content and implementation.

(Personal note from the NCVMB Executive Director: It is a good practice to review each dosimetry report, as it arrives, with all involved employees and have them sign/initial and date the document for your records).

ITEMS TO INCLUDE IN RADIATION PROTECTION PROGRAM AND OPERATING PROCEDURES

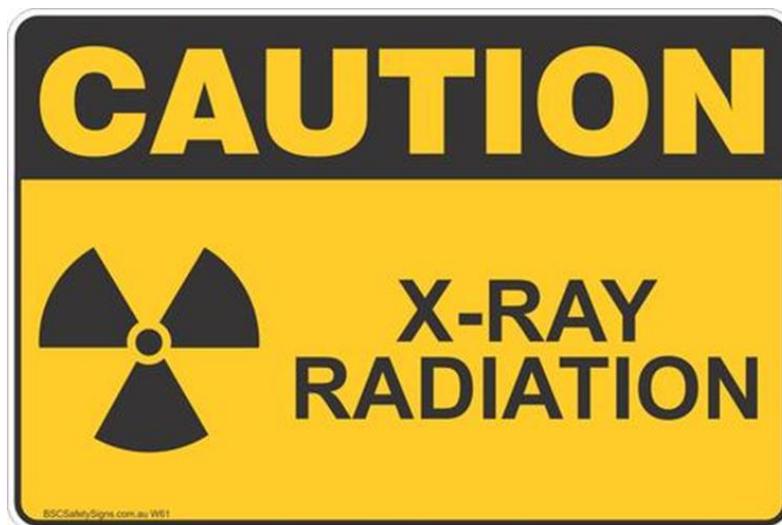
Radiation Protection Program: [.1603(a)]

ALARA (As Low As Reasonably Achievable) Radiation Protection Principles

- Describe the procedures and engineering controls that are used based upon sound radiation principles to achieve occupational doses and doses to members of the public ALARA. [.1603(b)]
- Identify any additional procedures or controls used that are specific to the facility to achieve ALARA.

Personnel

- The office individual in charge of your "radiation oversight program" needs to be an educationally qualified individual (either a DVM or RVT).
- Describe how individuals are notified if occupational doses exceed 1 mSv (100 mrem) TEDE or 1 mSv (100 mrem) to any individual organ or tissue [.1004] (*effective 1/1/14*)
- State the facilities annual occupational dose limits. [.1604(a)]
- Explain how doses that an individual may receive in the current year are reduced by the occupational exposures received while employed by another person. [.1604(f)]
- State the dose limits to an Embryo/Fetus. [.1610] [.1614(1)(c)]
- Explain the facilities personnel voluntary declared pregnancy policy. [.1640(f)]
- Describe the facilities personnel monitoring exposure policy. [.1614]
 - Frequency of exchanging badges
 - Storage of control and personnel badges
- Explain the facilities retention period for exposure records. (keep all dosimetry reports) [.1640(a)(1)&(g)]



Employment Opportunity (position to be available June 30, 2020)

The North Carolina Veterinary Medical Board is seeking a part time veterinarian or registered veterinary technician to serve as a Practice Facility Inspector for the eastern part of the state. Duties would include conducting routine biennial inspections of approximately 425 licensed facilities and mobile practices, as well as new practices and ownership changes. The employee will provide guidance and direction on all facility issues to licensees in the area. The area comprises the eastern 39 counties of the state.

Work load would be approximately 20 to 25 hours per week with about 12,000 miles driven per year. The employee is able to set up their own work schedule to meet their responsibilities. The employee should reside within one of the following counties: Wake, Johnston, Wayne, Wilson, Nash, Franklin, Harnett, Greene, Pitt, or Edgecombe.

The employee is paid on an hourly rate commensurate with experience and qualifications. Mileage and meals are also reimbursed. Occasional trips to the Raleigh office will be expected (3x/year). State Statute prevent a NC licensee or registrant from practicing in North Carolina while employed as an inspector by the Board.

The employee is expected to be professional, possess good interpersonal communication skills, work efficiently without direct supervision, be well organized, a self-starter, and have good computer skills and technical competency. The qualified applicant needs to be either a DVM or RVT.

Questions regarding the position can be referred to the current Inspection Supervisor, Dr. David Marshall at dmarshall@ncvmb.org . Email a cover letter and resume to the NCVMB Executive Director, Dr. Schadler, at: tschadler@ncvmb.org. The NCVMB is an Equal Employment Opportunity employer.

NCVMB Facility Inspection Information

Social Media

Social media is a wonderful tool to help get the word out about numerous subjects and events. Be careful though, this is a double-edged sword, not everyone will view your posts or comments the way you do. Before you post, have someone else read and review it. Ask them what they think. Before responding to a negative or false review, ask yourself, "Does this need a response?". Remember, once you have posted it and it has been shared, you will never be able to completely remove it or delete it.

Inspection Schedule

The NCVMB is currently adjusting inspection schedules due to large amount of new facilities and to better utilize our inspectors. This may cause your facility to be inspected earlier than usual. This adjustment will allow us to serve the citizens and animals of this great state even better than before and it will help consolidate inspections for our inspectors.

Controlled Substances

Please ensure that you and your staff are complying with all federal and state laws when it comes to controlled substances. Unless in use, all controlled substances should be in a secured location.

Donating Expired Drugs--It is legal only if the drug has not reached its expiration date

GENERAL ASSEMBLY PASSES AND GOVERNOR COOPER SIGNS INTO LAW LEGISLATION ALLOWING DONATION OF MORE DRUGS TO FREE AND CHARITABLE PHARMACIES. Late last month, the General Assembly passed an amendment to NCGS 90-85.44, which governs the donation of drugs and devices in North Carolina. Prior to this amendment, North Carolina law required that a donated drug or device have at least six months remaining on its expiration date at the time of donation. As amended, the statute makes a drug eligible for donation if, among other things, **the drug has not reached its expiration date at the time of donation.**



DEA Requirement-Employee Screening:

It is the position of DEA that the obtaining of certain information is a matter of business necessity for any employee who will have access to controlled substances. It is believed that conviction of crimes and unauthorized use of controlled substances are activities that are proper subjects for inquiry. In this regard, the DEA assumes that the following questions will become a part of an employer's comprehensive employee screening program (21 CFR §1301.90):

Question: *Within the past five years, have you been convicted of a felony, or within the past two years, of any misdemeanor or are you presently formally charged with committing any criminal offense? (Do not include any traffic violations, juvenile offenses or military convictions, except by general court martial.) If the answer is yes, furnish details of conviction, offense, location, date and sentence.*

Question: *In the past three years, have you ever knowingly used any narcotics, amphetamines or barbiturates, other than those prescribed to you by a physician? If the answer is yes, furnish details.*

Note: The stated intent is to prevent a DEA registrant from hiring anyone with access to controlled substances who probably would be denied a DEA registration due to risk of diversion. DEA can revoke DEA registration if such registration is inconsistent with the public interest (21 USC 823(f) & 824(a)(4)). Conduct that has led to consideration of criminal charges, as well as misdemeanor or felony drug convictions are sufficient to deny or revoke registration (Federal Register Vol. 56, No. 148, August 1, 1991).