



Addiction doesn't discriminate It can affect anyone, at any time, no matter their occupation, education, or other demographic factors. In fact, people working in healthcare are at a greater risk for developing an addiction due to the stress of the job and ready access to pharmaceuticals.

The results of a survey published in the September 2015 issue of the Journal of the American Veterinary Medical Association found that

- 72% of respondents said they worked with someone that they suspected of having a drug problem
- More than 40% said they knew of two or more colleagues who may have a drug problem
- 68% said addiction is at least as big a problem in the veterinary profession as in the general population, if not bigger.

Signs, symptoms, and warning signs of an addiction:

- Drop in performance at work, tardiness, frequent absences
- Engaging in secretive or suspicious behaviors; isolating
- Unexplained change in personality – irritable, anxious, frustrated
- Lack of motivation and energy, appears lethargic or “spaced out”
- Tremors, slurred speech, or impaired coordination

The North Carolina Veterinary Health Program (NCVHP) works with the North Carolina Veterinary Medical Board (NCVMB) to screen for and assist people suffering with the disease of addiction.

NCVHP offers:

Confidential program participation	Free screening interviews*
Compassionate Support	Evidence-based Advocacy
Comprehensive Monitoring	* Free for licensees of the NCVMB

NCVHP is here to help you. If you or a colleague think you have a problem with drugs or alcohol, please contact us.

NCVHP helps veterinary professionals so they can help their patients!