

# South African Association for Veterinary Para Professionals

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# Role and Responsibilities

Veterinary and Para Veterinary  
Professions Act,  
Act 19 of 1982

# Role and Responsibilities

I believe we in South Africa have a well regulated and well managed Veterinary Statutory body, willing to listen to VPP and address concerns.

# Role and Responsibilities

## **SAAPVP**

In existence since 1998

Serve as a forum for all registered VPP groups in SA.

To discuss and address matters of mutual interest.

Recently - the implementation of CPD for VPP

Combined congresses every 3 years.

# Role and Responsibilities

## **Veterinary Para Professional Groups**

4 registered groups – 1 representative per group elected to represent a group on the SAVC

Veterinary Nurses

Veterinary Technologists

Animal Health Technicians

Laboratory Animal Technologists

Veterinary Welfare Assistants (*Authorized*)

# Role and Responsibilities

## **Veterinary Para Professional Groups**

New groups applying for registration:

Veterinary Physiotherapists

Meat Inspectors (Veterinary Public Health)

Equine Dental Technicians

# Role and Responsibilities

## Scope of Practice

### Veterinary Nurses

Will be presented by the member of  
council Sr Lotter

# Role and Responsibilities

## Scope of Practice

Animal Health Technicians

Will be presented by the Chairperson of the  
SAAAHT



# Role and Responsibilities

## Scope of Practice

### Laboratory Animal Technologists

2.1 Care of experimental animals;

2.2 oral and parenteral administration and administration by inhalation of scheduled and experimental substances;

2.3 administration of scheduled substances for anaesthesia and euthanasia;

2.4 collection of body fluids including blood, urine by free flow and the collection of tissues including smears, faeces, post mortal samples and bacterial swabs for diagnostic and experimental purposes;

# Role and Responsibilities

## Scope of Practice

### Laboratory Animal Technologists

2.5 clinical observation;

2.6 preparation of animals for surgery;

2.7 monitoring of animals before, during and after an operation;

2.8 performance of minor surgical procedures such as lancing of abscesses and suturing of superficial wounds:

2.9 assisting with experimental surgical procedures;

2.10 use of the tranquilliser dart gun and blow pipe;

2.11 capture of wild animals for the purpose of research;

# Role and Responsibilities

## Scope of Practice

### **Veterinary Technologists**

2.1.1 Laboratory tests on plant matter, feeds, blood or organs for the isolation and identification of microorganisms for veterinary purposes, serological tests, biochemical analyses, chemical and biochemical tests to determine the presence of toxins, the identification of internal and external parasites and the preparation of histological preparations for examinations.

2.1.2 The conducting of laboratory procedures which are required for specific veterinary examinations or research projects and the maintaining of records of observations and results arising from such research projects.

2.1.3 The preparation of veterinary biological products for diagnostic tests, and vaccines for the prevention of diseases.

# Role and Responsibilities

## Training

Veterinary Nurses – 2 year diploma

Veterinary Technologists – 3 year diploma

Animal Health Technicians – 3 year diploma and or degree

Laboratory Animal Technologists – None (currently)

Veterinary Welfare Assistants (Authorized) – 1 year certificate

# Role and Responsibilities

## **Challenges**

Career pathing for all VPP – differences per province (Dep/director level)

Articulation into the Veterinary degree

Opportunities to work for own gain

# Role and Responsibilities

## **Conclusion**

Notwithstanding shortfalls and problems I think South Africa has moved forward during the last 10 – 15 years in recognizing and admiring the important role VPP play as part of the veterinary team.

**Thank You**