



Sudan Veterinary Council

Role of the Sudan Veterinary Council in the Regulation of the Practices of Veterinary Paraprofessionals

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Introduction

- Sudan is a vast country with a large livestock population widely distributed, mostly kept in nomadic and semi nomadic systems.
- Provision of quality veterinary services to livestock owners in remote places is difficult in the foreseeable future.
- Employment of veterinary paraprofessionals as part of the veterinary care system helps alleviate the acute shortage and provide affordable services.

Sudan Veterinary Council (S V C) – 1

- Powers, role and functions of the SVC are derived from its 1995 Act amended 2004.
- Based on the Act, the council organizes, regulates, supervises, promotes and controls the veterinary profession to the most ideal aspect.
- SVC sets standards for the recognition of the qualifications for veterinarians and veterinary paraprofessionals
- SVC sets regulations that define duties and obligations of veterinarians and the tasks of the veterinary paraprofessionals .
- It specifies qualifications for enrollment in its registers.

SVC - 2

- SVC implements the code of ethics and investigates contraventions committed against the professional or public conduct when incompatible with the professional conduct, and takes the appropriate measures.
- The council functions through its standing committees:
 - a) Complaints and professional committee
 - b) Education committee.
 - c) Finance committee.
- It may constitute ad hoc committees for particular purposes.

SVC - 3

- The council keeps provisional registers, permanent registers, temporary registers, and specialist registers for veterinarians.
- It keeps separate registers for veterinary technicians.
- SVC Act (under revision) sets regulations that specify activities of the veterinary paraprofessionals and delineate their professional relationship with veterinarians.

Veterinary Paraprofessionals

- Categories of veterinary paraprofessionals in the Sudan include:
 - CBAHWs
 - Veterinary nurses
 - Veterinary assistants
 - Veterinary technicians
- They participate in veterinary services within the public and private sectors.
- They perform different tasks depending upon their qualifications and/or training and the type of veterinary facility they work in.
- Their number is < 2000
- Only technicians are registered with SVC.(< 300)

CBAHWs

- Local pastoral livestock producers with little or no education who are selected for training (2-3 weeks) , they work within their communities.
- Provide vital veterinary services to nomads, pastoralists and the displaced.
- Their activities are specified and regulated by regulations sets by SVC
- They are controlled by the local veterinary authority.

Veterinary nurses

- Have no formal animal health training or qualifications
- Receive on job training
- Designed to assist veterinarians and work under their direct supervision and instructions .
- Not registered with SVC and do not require a license or certification to assist.
- Assist in: handling and restraining of animals for clinical examinations and surgery, sample collection, vaccination, administration of drugs, venipuncture and nursing.

Veterinary assistants

- At high level of veterinary paraprofessionals .
- Have a degree of formal education, but no qualifications .
- Assist veterinarians in tasks such as :
 - Clinical and surgical management
 - Meat inspection .
 - Laboratory diagnosis.
- They are not registered with SVC and legislature does not permit them to have their autonomous practice

Veterinary technicians - 1

- At the higher level of Veterinary paraprofessionals.
- Qualified as they take 3 years of formal study and get their diplomas from institutions of higher study .
- Registered in SVC after accreditation of their prescribed curricula .
- Veterinary technicians practice under supervision of veterinarians.

Veterinary technicians - 2

- Some have a degree of autonomy and work with indirect supervision of veterinarians in skills like:
 - * X-Ray radiography ,clinical examinations, specimens collection, laboratory diagnosis and minor surgeries
 - * Meat inspection.
 - * Extension Services.
- They work in animal hospitals, abattoirs, veterinary laboratories, research centers, veterinary faculties and veterinary drugs stores usually in rural areas.

Training

To cope with accumulation of Knowledge and to provide better practice to livestock owners:

- * SVC Provides in partnership with universities, organizations, veterinary authorities, veterinary associations and veterinary training centers an ad hoc Continuous Education (CE).

- * What is required is strategically planned , accurately specified, regular and attractive CE , to various levels of veterinary paraprofessionals to impact the services.

Pros and Cons of Vet. Paraprofessionals

□ Pros

- * Spread affordable and available services.
- * Live with and understand the nomads.

□ Cons

- * Abandon their jobs .
- * Assume the duties of veterinarians
- * Poor qualifications and quality of services .
- * Trade in veterinary drugs
- * Misuse of drugs and stimulating drugs resistance .
- * Difficult to regulate and control.

Issues for consideration

- Adoption of the universal definition of paraprofessionals .
- Their categories, levels of training and functions.
- Their relationship with statutory bodies.
- Their regulation and control.

Thank you for your
attention