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State	Citation	VCPR Definitions	VCPR Provisions
AL	<i>Veterinary Practice Act:</i> §34-29-61 (19) <i>Administrative Code (SBVME):</i> Rule 930-X-1-.11	A relationship when the veterinarian has assumed responsibility for making medical judgments regarding the health of the animal or animals and the need for medical treatment and is created by actual examination by the veterinarian of the animal or a representative segment of a consignment or herd.	A licensed veterinarian shall not prescribe or dispense, deliver or order delivered: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Any drug or medicinal agent carrying the legend “Federal (USFDA) law restricts this drug to the use by or on the order of a licensed veterinarian” to be administered to animals with which he or she has not established a patient-veterinarian relationship, or as defined by the United States Food and Drug Administration. • Any controlled substance as defined by the U.S. Food and Drug Administration without first having established a patient-veterinarian relationship by having personally examined the individual animal, herd or representative segment or consignment lot thereof and determined that such controlled substance is therapeutically indicated following said examination.
AK	None Found	None Found	None Found
AZ	Arizona Revised Statutes §32-2201 §32-2232	"Veterinarian client patient relationship" means all of the following: (a) The veterinarian has assumed the responsibility for making medical judgments regarding the animal's health and need for medical treatment and the client, owner or caretaker has agreed to follow the veterinarian's instructions. (b) The veterinarian has sufficient knowledge of the animal to initiate at least a general or preliminary diagnosis of the animal's medical condition. Sufficient knowledge is obtained when the veterinarian has recently seen and is personally acquainted with the keeping	As used in this chapter, unprofessional or dishonorable conduct includes: 25. Performing veterinary services without having a valid veterinarian client patient relationship. 26. Releasing, prescribing or dispensing any prescription drugs in the absence of a valid veterinarian client patient relationship.

		<p>and caring of the animal as a result of examining the animal, when the veterinarian makes medically appropriate and timely visits to the premises where the animal is kept or when a veterinarian affiliated with the practice has reviewed the medical record of such examinations or visits.</p> <p>(c) The veterinarian is readily available for a follow-up evaluation or the veterinarian has arranged for either of the following:</p> <p>(i) Emergency coverage.</p> <p>(ii) Continuing care and treatment by another veterinarian who has access to the animal's medical records.</p>	
<p>AR</p>	<p><i>Veterinary Medical Practice Act:</i> §17-101-102 (11) §17-101-305 (14)</p>	<p>VCPR means:</p> <p>(A) The veterinarian has assumed the responsibility for making medical judgments regarding the health of the animal and the need for medical treatment, and the client, that is, the owner or caretaker, has agreed to follow the instruction of the veterinarian;</p> <p>(B) There is sufficient knowledge of the animal by the veterinarian to initiate at least a general or preliminary diagnosis of the medical condition of the animal. This means that the veterinarian has recently seen and is personally</p>	<p>The board may deny, suspend for a definite period, or revoke the license of any veterinarian, and/or impose a civil penalty for:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The use, prescription, or sale of any veterinary prescription drug or the prescription of an extra-label use of any over-the-counter drug in the absence of a valid veterinarian-client-patient relationship

		<p>acquainted with the keeping and care of the animal, by virtue of an examination of the animal or by medically appropriate and timely visits to the premises where the animal is kept; and</p> <p>(C) The practicing veterinarian is readily available for follow-up in case of adverse reactions or failure of the regimen of therapy;</p>	
<p>CA</p>	<p><i>Administrative Rules (VMB):</i> 16 CCR 2032.1, 2032.15, 2032.25</p>	<p>A veterinarian-client-patient relationship shall exist when all of the following occur:</p> <p>(1) The client has authorized the veterinarian to assume responsibility for making medical judgments regarding the health of the animal, including the need for medical treatment; and</p> <p>(2) The veterinarian has assumed responsibility for making medical judgments regarding the health of the animal and has communicated with the client a course of treatment appropriate to the circumstance; and</p> <p>(3) The veterinarian has sufficient knowledge of the animal(s) to initiate at least a general or preliminary diagnosis of the medical condition of the animal(s). This means that the veterinarian is personally acquainted with the care of the animal(s) by virtue of a hands-on examination of the animal or by medically appropriate and timely visits to the premises where the animals are kept.</p> <p>A VCPR may continue to exist, in the</p>	<p>It is unprofessional conduct for a veterinarian to administer, prescribe, dispense or furnish a drug, medicine, appliance, or treatment of whatever nature for the prevention, cure, or relief of a wound, fracture or bodily injury or disease of an animal without having first established a veterinarian-client-patient relationship with the animal patient or patients and the client, except where the patient is a wild animal or the owner is unknown.</p> <p>A drug shall not be prescribed for a duration inconsistent with the animal(s) medical condition or type of drug prescribed. The veterinarian shall not prescribe a drug for a duration longer than one year from the date the veterinarian examined the animal(s) and prescribed the drug.</p> <p>Written Prescriptions in Absence of Originally Prescribing Veterinarian</p> <p>(a) Prescribing, dispensing, or furnishing dangerous drugs as defined in Section 4022 without an appropriate prior examination and a medical indication, constitutes unprofessional conduct.</p> <p>(b) No licensee shall be found to have committed unprofessional conduct within the meaning of this section if, at the time the drugs were prescribed, dispensed, or furnished, any of the following applies:</p> <p>(1) The licensee was a designated veterinarian serving in the absence of the animal patient's veterinarian, as the case may be, and if the drugs were prescribed, dispensed, or furnished only as</p>

		<p>absence of client communication, when:</p> <p>(1) A VCPR was established with an original veterinarian, and another designated veterinarian serves in the absence of the original veterinarian, and;</p> <p>(2) The designated veterinarian has assumed responsibility for making medical judgments regarding the health of the animal, and;</p> <p>(3) The designated veterinarian has sufficient knowledge of the animal(s) to initiate at least a general or preliminary diagnosis of the medical condition of the animal(s). This means that the veterinarian is personally acquainted with the care of the animal(s) by virtue of an examination of the animal(s) or by medically appropriate and timely visits to the premises where the animals are kept, or has consulted with the veterinarian who established the VCPR, and;</p> <p>(4) The designated veterinarian has continued the medical, treatment, diagnostic and/or therapeutic plan as was set forth and documented in the medical record by the original veterinarian.</p> <p>(b) If the medical, treatment, diagnostic and/or therapeutic plan differs from that which was communicated to the client by the original veterinarian, then the designated veterinarian must attempt to communicate the necessary changes with the client in a timely manner.</p>	<p>necessary to maintain the animal patient until the return of the originally prescribing veterinarian, but in any case no longer than 72 hours.</p> <p>(2) The veterinarian transmitted the order for the drugs to another veterinarian or registered veterinary technician, and if both of the following conditions exist:</p> <p>(A) The practitioner had consulted with veterinarian or registered veterinary technician who had reviewed the patient's records.</p> <p>(B) The practitioner was designated as the practitioner to serve in the absence of the animal patient's veterinarian, as the case may be.</p> <p>(3) The licensee was a designated veterinarian serving in the absence of the animal patient's veterinarian, as the case may be, and was in possession of or had utilized the animal patient's records and ordered the renewal of a medically indicated prescription for an amount not exceeding the original prescription in strength or amount or for more than one refill.</p>
CO	<p><i>Administrative Rules (BVM)</i> 4 CCR 727 (Rule</p>	<p>The veterinary client patient relationship is the basis for veterinary care. To establish such a relationship, the</p>	<p>Veterinarians may only prescribe medication when they have a VCPR with the animal (herd, flock, litter, or large group). Under federal and state law, veterinarians may not sell, distribute,</p>

	<p>III (7) and (8), Rule V)</p> <p><i>Veterinary Licensure Rules</i> CRS 12-64-104, 12-64-111</p>	<p>veterinarian should have sufficient knowledge of the animal to understand its current health and render at least a preliminary diagnosis. This would require that the veterinarian is personally acquainted with the animal (herd, flock, litter, or large group) either through office or home visits.</p>	<p>dispense or participate in or arrange for the sale of prescription medicines in any fashion except through a VCPR. Veterinarians are charged with knowledge of the pharmacy practice act provisions that apply to their practice, as well as the laws and regulations of the federal food and drug administration. When a client requests a copy of a prescription for their animal under current treatment, the veterinarian must provide it to the client.</p> <p>The board may revoke or suspend the license of, place on probation, or otherwise discipline or fine, any licensed veterinarian for:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Administering, dispensing, distributing, or prescribing any prescription drug other than in the course of a veterinarian-client-patient relationship; <p>In an emergency situation where a licensed veterinarian who has a VCPR prescribes a prescription drug that the licensed veterinarian does not have in stock and is not available at a local pharmacy, another licensed veterinarian who does not have a VCPR with the animal and owner may administer, distribute, or dispense the prescription drug to the animal based on the examining veterinarian's expertise and VCPR as long as the following conditions are met: the examining veterinarian with the VCPR must document the emergency and immediate need for the prescription and his or her efforts to obtain the drug from a local pharmacy, including documentation of contact with at least one pharmacy that does not have the drug immediately available, the examining veterinarian must provide a written prescription and must have direct communication with the dispensing veterinarian, and the veterinarian who administers or dispenses the drug must document the date the prescription was administered or dispensed.</p>
<p>CT</p>	<p>Connecticut General Statutes, Title 20, Ch. 384, Veterinary Med., § 20-202,</p>	<p>A. The veterinarian-client-patient relationship (VCPR) is the basis for interaction among veterinarians, their clients, and their patients. A VCPR means that all of the following are</p>	<p>In determining whether the holder of such license has acted with negligence, the board may consider standards of care and guidelines published by the American Veterinary Medical Association.</p>

	disciplinary action; grounds	<p>required:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. The veterinarian has assumed the responsibility for making clinical judgments regarding the health of the patient and the client has agreed to follow the veterinarians' instructions. 2. The veterinarian has sufficient knowledge of the patient to initiate at least a general or preliminary diagnosis of the medical condition of the patient. This means that the veterinarian is personally acquainted with the keeping and care of the patient by virtue of a timely examination of the patient by the veterinarian, or medically appropriate and timely visits by the veterinarian to the operation where the patient is managed. 3. The veterinarian is readily available for follow-up evaluation or has arranged for the following: veterinary emergency coverage, and continuing care and treatment. 4. The veterinarian provides oversight of treatment, compliance, and outcome. 5. Patient records are maintained. 	
DE	None found	None found	<p>Unprofessional conduct in the practice of veterinary medicine shall include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Prescribing medication without examining the animal within a period of one year.
DC	None found	None found	None Found
FL	<i>Veterinary Practice</i>	Veterinarian/client/patient relationship	The Board of Veterinary Medicine may discipline a licensee for

	<p><i>Act</i> Fla. Stat. §474.202</p> <p><i>Veterinary Practice Act</i> Fla. Stat. § 474.214 (1)(y)</p> <p><i>Administrative Rules</i> 61G18-30.001, F.A.C (1)(y)</p>	<p>means a relationship where the veterinarian has assumed the responsibility for making medical judgments regarding the health of the animal and its need for medical treatment.</p> <p>**The documented veterinarian/client/patient relationship is defined as a veterinarian’s record of a client’s animal which documents that the veterinarian has seen the animal in a professional capacity within a period of 12 months or less.</p>	<p>using the privilege of ordering, prescribing, or making available medicinal drugs, drugs, or controlled substances for use other than for the specific treatment of animal patients for which there is a documented veterinarian/client/patient relationship. The veterinarian shall:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> (1) have sufficient knowledge of the animal to initiate at least a general or preliminary diagnosis of the medical condition of the animal, which means that the veterinarian is personally acquainted with the keeping and the caring of the animal and has recent contact with the animal or has made medically appropriate and timely visits to the premises where the animal is kept; (2) be available to provide for follow up care and treatment in case of adverse reactions or failure of the regimen or therapy; and (3) maintain records which document patient visits, diagnosis, treatment and other relevant information.
<p>GA</p>	<p><i>Veterinary Practice Act</i> §43-50-3(15)</p> <p><i>Administrative Rules (SBVM)</i> 700-8-.01</p>	<p>Within the meaning of Ga. Code subsection 43-50-21(a)(7), unprofessional conduct means:</p> <p>(d) Failure to have an appropriate Veterinarian/Client/Patient Relationship. An appropriate veterinarian/client/patient relationship will exist when:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. The veterinarian has assumed the responsibility for making medical judgments regarding the health of the animal(s) and the need for medical treatment, and the client (owner or other caretaker) has agreed to follow the instructions of the veterinarian; 	<p>It is unlawful for a veterinarian to release, prescribe, and/or dispense any prescription drugs without having examined the animal and established a valid veterinary/client/patient relationship.</p>

		<p>2. There is sufficient knowledge of the animal(s) by the veterinarian to initiate at least a general or preliminary diagnosis of the medical condition of the animal(s). This means that the veterinarian has seen the animal within the last twelve (12) months and is personally acquainted with the keeping and care of the animal(s) by virtue of an examination of the animal(s), and/or by medically appropriate and timely visits to the premises where the animal(s) are kept; and</p> <p>3. When the practicing veterinarian is readily available for follow-up in case of adverse reactions or failure of the regimen of therapy.</p>	
<p>HI</p>	<p><i>Veterinary Practice Act</i> HRS § 471-10 (b)(10) and (12)</p> <p><i>Uniform Controlled Substance Act</i> §329-1 §329-41(b)</p> <p><i>AVMA Principles of Veterinary Medical Ethics</i> *Adopted by Hawaii Veterinary Practice Act HRS § 471-10 (b)(12)</p>	<p><i>Uniform Controlled Substances Act:</i></p> <p>"Physician-patient relationship" means the collaborative relationship between physicians and their patients. To establish this relationship, the treating physician or the physician's designated member of the health care team, at a minimum shall:</p> <p>(A) Personally perform a face-to-face history and physical examination of the patient that is appropriate to the specialty training and experience of the physician or the designated member of the physician's health care team, make a diagnosis and formulate a therapeutic plan, or personally treat a specific injury or condition;</p>	<p>The Board may revoke or suspend the license of any veterinarian or fine the licensee, or both, for any cause authorized by law, including but not limited to the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (1) violation of the Uniform Controlled Substances Act, or any rule adopted pursuant thereto; or (2) conduct or practice contrary to the recognized principles of medical ethics of the veterinary profession as adopted by the Hawaii Veterinary Medical Association and the American Veterinary Medical Association. <p><i>Uniform Controlled Substances Act:</i></p> <p>It shall be unlawful for any person, except a pharmacist, to administer, prescribe, or dispense any controlled substance without a bona fide physician-patient relationship. (Veterinarians are included as practitioners pursuant to the UCSA)</p> <p><i>AVMA Principles of Veterinary Medical Ethics:</i></p>

		<p>(B) Discuss with the patient the diagnosis or treatment, including the benefits of other treatment options; and</p> <p>(C) Ensure the availability of appropriate follow-up care.</p> <p><i>AVMA Principles of Veterinary Ethics:</i></p> <p>A. The veterinarian-client-patient relationship (VCPR) is the basis for interaction among veterinarians, their clients, and their patients. A VCPR means that all of the following are required:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none">1. The veterinarian has assumed the responsibility for making clinical judgments regarding the health of the patient and the client has agreed to follow the veterinarians' instructions.2. The veterinarian has sufficient knowledge of the patient to initiate at least a general or preliminary diagnosis of the medical condition of the patient. This means that the veterinarian is personally acquainted with the keeping and care of the patient by virtue of a timely examination of the patient by the veterinarian, or medically appropriate and timely visits by the veterinarian to the operation where the patient is managed.3. The veterinarian is readily available for follow-up evaluation or has arranged for the following: veterinary emergency	<p>It is unethical for veterinarians to prescribe or dispense prescription products in the absence of a VCPR.</p>
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ID	<p><i>Administrative Code (BVME)</i> IDAPA 46.01.01.150</p> <p><i>Administrative Code (BVME)</i> IDAPA 46.01.01.152</p> <p><i>Idaho Code</i> § 54-1732</p>	<p>An appropriate veterinarian/client/patient relationship will exist when:</p> <p>(A) The veterinarian has assumed the responsibility for making medical judgments regarding the health of the animal and the need for medical treatment, and the client (owner or other caretaker) has followed the instructions of the veterinarian.</p> <p>(B) There is sufficient knowledge of the animal by the veterinarian to initiate at least a general or preliminary diagnosis of the medical condition of the animal. This means that the veterinarian has seen the animal within the last twelve (12) months or is personally acquainted with the keeping and care of the animal, either by virtue of an examination of the animal, or by medically appropriate visits to the premises where the animals are maintained within the last twelve (12) months.</p>	<p>A veterinarian shall not dispense or prescribe controlled substances, prescription, or legend drugs except in the course of his professional practice and after a bona fide veterinarian/client/patient relationship has been established.</p> <p>A veterinarian may dispense or deliver a legend drug prescribed for an animal upon the prescription, drug order, or prescription drug order of another veterinarian.</p>

		(C) The practicing veterinarian or designate is readily available for follow-up in case of adverse reactions or failure of the regimen of therapy.	
IL	<p><i>Veterinary Medicine & Surgery Practice Act</i> 225 ILCS 115/3</p> <p><i>Veterinary Medicine & Surgery Practice Act</i> 225 ILCS 115/25 (FF)</p>	<p>"Veterinarian-client-patient relationship" means that all of the following conditions have been met:</p> <p>(1) The veterinarian has assumed the responsibility for making clinical judgments regarding the health of an animal and the need for medical treatment and the client, owner, or other caretaker has agreed to follow the instructions of the veterinarian;</p> <p>(2) There is sufficient knowledge of an animal by the veterinarian to initiate at least a general or preliminary diagnosis of the medical condition of the animal. This means that the veterinarian has recently seen and is personally acquainted with the keeping and care of the animal by virtue of an examination of the animal or by medically appropriate and timely visits to the premises where the animal is kept, or the veterinarian has access to the animal patient's records and has been designated by the veterinarian with the prior relationship to provide reasonable and appropriate medical care if he or she is unavailable;</p> <p>(3) The practicing veterinarian is readily</p>	<p>Authority to dispense drugs in emergency situations.</p> <p>(a) A veterinarian licensed under this Act, in the absence of a traditional veterinarian-client-patient relationship, may dispense up to 5 days worth of non-controlled substance medication or up to 3 days worth of controlled substance medication in an emergency situation if:</p> <p>(1) the pet has a medical condition that has been diagnosed by another licensed veterinarian, who then prescribed medication that, if ceased or skipped, could result in a decline of the pet's condition or could be deleterious to the pet's health;</p> <p>(2) the current veterinarian who prescribed the medication is unavailable to issue a refill within a timely manner or the client is not in reasonable proximity to the initial prescriber to obtain a refill within a timely manner; and</p> <p>(3) the client has evidence and can produce evidence of the ongoing medical need for the prescription, either in the form of the medical records or most recent prescription vial or a phone number or other means in which to reach the current prescriber.</p> <p>(b) The second veterinarian must keep a record containing:</p> <p>(1) the name, address, and contact or phone number of the owner and initial prescriber;</p> <p>(2) the name, age, sex, and breed of the pet in question;</p> <p>(3) the name, strength, and quantity of medication dispensed, along with use instructions; and</p> <p>(4) the medical condition and reason medication is being dispensed.</p> <p>(c) A maximum of 5 days of medication may be dispensed per patient per year. All dispensed medication must be properly labeled and dispensed to the owner. Notification of the dispensing shall be communicated to the initial prescriber by the dispensing veterinarian.</p>

		<p>available for follow-up in case of adverse reactions or failure of the treatment regimen, or, if unavailable, has designated another available veterinarian who has access to the animal patient's records to provide reasonable and appropriate medical care.</p> <p>“Veterinarian-client-patient relationship” does not mean a relationship solely based on telephonic or other electronic communications.</p>	<p>(d) A veterinarian shall not be required to dispense medication under this provision.</p>
<p>IN</p>	<p><i>Veterinary Practice Act</i> In. Code §25-38.1-1-14.5</p> <p><i>Veterinary Practice Act</i> In. Code §25-38.1-4-5</p>	<p>"Veterinarian-client-patient relationship" means a relationship between a veterinarian and client that meets the following conditions:</p> <p>(A) The veterinarian has assumed the responsibility for making clinical judgments regarding the health of the animal and the need for medical treatment, and the client has agreed to follow the veterinarian's instructions.</p> <p>(B) The veterinarian has sufficient knowledge of the animal to initiate a diagnosis of the medical condition of the animal. The veterinarian has recently seen and is personally acquainted with the keeping and care of the animal by either of the following:</p> <p style="padding-left: 40px;">(1) An examination of the animal. (2) By recently seeing and being personally acquainted with the keeping and care of representative animals and associated husbandry practices by</p>	<p>A valid veterinarian-client-patient relationship must exist before a licensed veterinarian dispenses or prescribes a prescription product.</p> <p>Veterinary prescription products, including drugs and immunizing products restricted by state and federal law for use by licensed veterinarians, may not be diverted or transferred to an individual for use on an animal if there is not a current veterinarian-client-patient relationship with the original prescribing veterinarian.</p> <p>The requirement that a valid VCPR must exist before a licensed veterinarian dispenses or prescribes a prescription product does not apply to livestock (as defined by IC 15-11-5-1) or an animal immunized by its owner.</p>

		<p>making medically appropriate and timely visits to the premises where the animal is kept.</p> <p>(C) The veterinarian is readily available or has arranged for emergency coverage for follow-up evaluation if there is an adverse reaction or failure of the treatment regimen.</p> <p>(D) When appropriate, the veterinarian has arranged for continuing care with another licensed veterinarian who has access to the animal's medical record.</p>	
IA	<p><i>Administrative Rules (VMB)</i> 811 IAC 12.1 (169)</p>	<p>The board shall determine, on a case-by-case basis, if a valid veterinarian/client/patient relationship exists. This relationship shall be deemed to exist when all of the following criteria have been met:</p> <p>a. The licensed veterinarian has assumed the responsibility for making medical judgments regarding the health of the patient and the need for medical treatment, and the client has agreed to follow the instructions of the licensed veterinarian;</p> <p>b. The licensed veterinarian has sufficient knowledge of the patient to initiate at least a general or preliminary diagnosis of the medical condition of the patient. Sufficient</p>	<p>A prescription veterinary product shall not be deemed to be used "in the course of the veterinarian's professional practice" unless the veterinarian is supervising the use of the product or a veterinarian/client/patient relationship exists.</p> <p>The board shall determine, on a case-by-case basis, if a veterinarian/client/patient relationship exists.</p> <p>Any extra-label use of veterinary drugs, medications or immunization products shall be by or under the order of a licensed veterinarian and there must be a veterinarian/client/patient relationship</p>

		<p>knowledge means that the licensed veterinarian has recently seen or is personally acquainted with the care of the patient by virtue of an examination of the patient or by medically appropriate and timely visits to the premises where the patient is kept; and</p> <p>c. The licensed veterinarian is readily available or provides for follow-up in case of adverse reactions or failure of the regimen of therapy.</p> <p>A valid veterinarian/client/patient relationship cannot be established by contact solely based on a telephonic or electronic communication.</p>	
KS	<i>Veterinary Practice Act</i> §47-816 (n) <i>Veterinary Practice Act</i> §47-830 (r)	<p>"Veterinary-client-patient relationship" means:</p> <p>(A) The veterinarian has assumed the responsibility for making medical judgments regarding the health of the animal or animals and the need for medical treatment, and the client, owner or other caretaker has agreed to follow the instruction of the veterinarian;</p> <p>(B) there is sufficient knowledge of the animal or animals by the veterinarian to initiate at least a general or preliminary diagnosis of the medical condition of the animal or animals. This means that the veterinarian has recently seen or is</p>	<p>The Board may refuse to issue a license, revoke, suspend, limit, condition, reprimand or restrict a license to practice veterinary medicine for the use, prescription, administration, dispensation or sale of any veterinary prescription drug or the prescription of an extra-label use of any over-the-counter drug in the absence of a valid veterinary-client-patient relationship.</p>

		<p>personally acquainted with the keeping and care of the animal or animals by virtue of an examination of the animal or animals, or by medically appropriate and timely visits to the premises where the animal or animals are kept, or both; and</p> <p>(C) the practicing veterinarian is readily available for followup in case of adverse reactions or failure of the regimen of therapy.</p>	
KY	<p><i>Veterinary Practice Act</i> KRS §321.185</p> <p><i>Administrative Rules</i> 201 KAR 16:010 (Section 22)</p>	<p>In order for a veterinarian to practice veterinary medicine, a relationship among the veterinarian, the client, and the patient shall be established and maintained. "Veterinarian-client-patient relationship" means that:</p> <p>(A) The veterinarian has assumed the responsibility for making judgments regarding the health of the animal and the need for veterinary treatment, and the client, whether owner or other caretaker, has agreed to follow the instructions of the veterinarian;</p> <p>(B) There is sufficient knowledge of the animal by the veterinarian to initiate at least a general or preliminary diagnosis of the medical condition of the animal. This means that the veterinarian has recently seen and is personally acquainted with the keeping and care of the animal by virtue of an examination of the animal or by medically appropriate and timely visits to the premises where</p>	<p>A veterinarian shall not prescribe, dispense or administer controlled substances except in the course of his professional practice and when a bona fide veterinarian-client-patient relationship has been established.</p>

		<p>the animal is kept; and</p> <p>(C) The practicing veterinarian is readily available or shall provide medical service for follow-up in case of adverse reactions or failure of the regimen of therapy. A new regimen of therapy shall be contingent only upon cooperation of the client and availability of the subject animal.</p>	
LA	<p><i>Veterinary Practice Act</i> LAC 46:LXXXV.700</p> <p><i>Veterinary Practice Act</i> LAC 46:LXXXV.705</p>	<p>A Veterinarian-Client-Patient-Relationship exists when:</p> <p>(A) the veterinarian has assumed the responsibility for making medical judgments regarding the health of the animal(s) and the need for medical treatment; and</p> <p>(B) the client (owner or duly authorized agent) has agreed to follow the instructions of the veterinarian; and</p> <p>(C) the veterinarian has sufficient knowledge of the animal(s) to initiate at least a general or preliminary diagnosis of the medical condition of the animal(s). This means that:</p> <p>(i) the veterinarian or associate veterinarian has recently seen and is personally acquainted with the keeping and care of the animal(s) by virtue of an examination of the animal(s)</p>	<p>No legend drug shall be administered, prescribed, dispensed, delivered to, or ordered for animals with which the veterinarian has not established a veterinarian-client-patient relationship as a primary care provider or as a consultant to the primary care provider.</p> <p>No controlled substance shall be administered, prescribed, dispensed, delivered to, or ordered for animals with which the veterinarian has not established a veterinarian-client-patient relationship as a primary care provider by having personally examined the individual animal, herd, or a representative segment or a consignment lot thereof, and determined that such controlled substance is therapeutically indicated following said examination.</p>

		<p>and/or the animal's records, and/or by medically appropriate and timely visits to the premises where the animal(s) are kept; or</p> <p>(ii) the veterinarian has agreed to serve as a consultant to the licensed, primary care veterinarian with whom the client and patient have established a relationship which meets the criteria of Subparagraph a above; and</p> <p>(iii) the primary veterinarian is readily available for follow-up in the event of adverse reactions or the failure of the regimen of therapy.</p>	
ME	MRSA 4853 (7), 4877	<p>A veterinarian-client-patient relationship exists when a veterinarian:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Has been engaged by the client; 2. Has assumed responsibility for making medical judgments regarding the health of the patient; 3. Has sufficient knowledge of the patient to initiate a preliminary diagnosis of the medical condition of the patient and has personal knowledge of the keeping and care of the patient as a result of: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> A. A timely examination of the patient by the veterinarian; or B. A medically appropriate and timely visit or visits by the veterinarian to the patient while that patient is under the care of the veterinarian's practice; 	<p>The practice of veterinary medicine must occur within an established veterinarian-client-patient relationship.</p> <p>A licensed veterinarian may sell and dispense the written prescription of another licensed veterinarian with respect to any prescription or administration of a drug, medicine or nutritional substance on, for or to any animal.</p>

		<p>4. Is readily available for follow-up evaluation or has arranged for veterinary emergency coverage and continuing care and treatment; and</p> <p>5. Maintains patient records.</p>	
MD	<p><i>Administrative Rules (SBVME)</i> COMAR 15.14.01.03 (10)</p> <p><i>Administrative Rules (SBVME)</i> COMAR 15.14.01.04 (9)</p> <p><i>Administrative Rules (SBVME)</i> COMAR 15.14.01.05</p>	<p>"Veterinarian-client-patient relationship" means that all of the following conditions exist:</p> <p>(A) The veterinarian has assumed the responsibility for making clinical judgments regarding the health of the animal and the need for medical treatment, and the client has agreed to follow the veterinarian's instructions;</p> <p>(B) The veterinarian has sufficient knowledge of the animal to initiate at least a general or preliminary diagnosis of the medical condition of the animal because the veterinarian has recently seen and is personally acquainted with the keeping and care of the animal through either:</p> <p>(i) A physical examination; or</p> <p>(ii) Medically appropriate and timely visits to the location where the animal is kept; and</p> <p>(C) The veterinarian is readily available or has arranged for emergency coverage or follow-up evaluation in the event of adverse reactions or the failure of the treatment regimen.</p>	<p>The principal objectives of the veterinary profession are to render service to society, to conserve our livestock resources, and to relieve suffering of animals. A veterinarian shall act in relation to the public, the veterinarian's colleagues, and their patients, and the allied professions so as to merit their full confidence and respect. Examples of conduct which are prohibited by this standard include, but are not limited to, the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Prescribing or dispensing veterinary prescription drugs outside of a veterinarian-client-patient relationship. <p>Maryland regulations differentiate the requirement of establishing a VCPR in emergency and non-emergency situations as follows:</p> <p>Non-emergency presentation. A veterinarian may choose whom he will serve. Once a veterinarian has undertaken care of a patient, and a veterinarian-client-patient relationship has been established, the veterinarian may not neglect the patient.</p> <p>Emergency Presentation. In an emergency, a veterinarian should render service to the best of the veterinarian's ability, but this does not require a veterinarian to accept financial responsibility for the care and treatment of any animal. The following procedures may be performed during an emergency without such actions constituting the establishment of a veterinarian-client-patient relationship:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Initial evaluation • Diagnostics to assist in the initial evaluation; or • Initial treatments to stabilize a patient

<p>MA</p>	<p><i>Administrative Rules</i> 256 CMR 2.01</p> <p><i>Administrative Rules</i> 256 CMR 7.00</p>	<p>Veterinarian-Client-Patient-Relationship exists when:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (A) The veterinarian has assumed the responsibility for making medical judgments regarding the health of the animal(s) and the need for medical treatment, and the client has agreed to follow the instructions of the veterinarian; and (B) There is sufficient knowledge of the animal(s) by the veterinarian to initiate at least a general or preliminary diagnosis of the medical condition of the animal(s). This means the veterinarian has recently seen and is personally acquainted with the keeping and care of the animal(s) by virtue of an examination of the animal(s) and/or by medically appropriate and timely visits to the premises where the animal(s) are kept; and (C) The practicing veterinarian is readily available for follow-up care in adverse reactions or failure of the regimen of therapy. 	<p>A licensee shall dispense or prescribe controlled substances only in the course of his or her professional practice after establishing a genuine veterinarian-client patient relationship.</p>
<p>MI</p>	<p><i>Veterinary Medicine – General Rules</i></p> <p>MICH. ADMIN. CODE R 338.4922</p>	<p>All of the following requirements shall be met for a veterinarian-client-patient relationship to exist:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (a) A veterinarian shall assume responsibility for making clinical judgments regarding the health of the 	<p>Dispensing or prescribing a prescription product; veterinarian-client-patient relationship required.</p> <p>(1) If a veterinarian recommends a specific medication for a patient, the veterinarian shall honor a client's request for a prescription in lieu of dispensing a prescription product.</p>

	<p><i>Veterinary Medicine – General Rules</i></p> <p>MICH. ADMIN. CODE R 338.4923</p>	<p>patient and the need for medical treatment, and a client shall have agreed to follow the veterinarian's instructions.</p> <p>(b) A veterinarian shall have sufficient knowledge of the patient to initiate at least a general or preliminary diagnosis of the medical condition of the patient. "Sufficient knowledge," as used in this subrule, means that the veterinarian has recently seen and is personally acquainted with the keeping and care of the patient by virtue of an examination of the patient, or by medically appropriate and timely professional visits to where the patient is kept.</p> <p>(c) A veterinarian shall be readily available, or shall arrange for emergency coverage, for follow-up evaluation in the event of adverse reactions or the failure of the treatment regimen.</p>	<p>(2) Without a veterinarian-client-patient relationship, a veterinarian's merchandising or use of veterinary prescription drugs, including the extra-label use of any pharmaceutical, may be considered unprofessional conduct in violation of section 16221 of the code.</p>
<p>MN</p>	<p><i>Veterinary Practice Act</i> Minn. Stat. § 156.16</p> <p><i>Administrative Rules</i> Minn. R. 9100.0700</p> <p><i>Veterinary Practice Act</i> Minn. Stat. §156.18</p>	<p>"Veterinarian-client-patient relationship" means a relationship in which the conditions in paragraphs (a) to (d) have been met.</p> <p>(A) The veterinarian has assumed the responsibility for making medical judgments regarding the health of the animal and the need for medical treatment, and the client has agreed to follow the instructions of the veterinarian.</p> <p>(B) The veterinarian has sufficient</p>	<p>The following act by a licensed veterinarian is unprofessional conduct and constitutes grounds for disciplinary action against the licensee: prescribing or dispensing, delivering, or ordering delivered a controlled substance without first having established a veterinarian-client-patient relationship by having personally examined the individual animal, herd, or a representative segment or a consignment lot and determining that treatment with the controlled substance is therapeutically indicated. Use of euthanizing drugs in recognized animal shelters or government animal control facilities is exempt from this requirement.</p> <p>A veterinarian or the veterinarian's authorized employee may dispense veterinary prescription drugs, human drugs for extra-label use, or an over-the-counter drug for extra-label use by a client</p>

		<p>knowledge of the animal to initiate at least a general, preliminary, or tentative diagnosis of the medical condition of the animal. The veterinarian must be acquainted with the keeping and care of the animal by virtue of an examination of the animal or medically appropriate and timely visits to the premises where the animal is kept.</p> <p>(C) The veterinarian is available for consultation in case of adverse reactions or failure of the regimen of therapy.</p> <p>(D) The veterinarian maintains records documenting patient visits, diagnosis, treatments, and drugs prescribed, dispensed, or administered, and other relevant information.</p>	<p>without a separate written prescription, providing there is documentation of the prescription in the medical record and there is an existing veterinarian-client-patient relationship. The prescribing veterinarian must monitor the use of veterinary prescription drugs, human drugs for extra-label use, or over-the-counter drugs for extra-label use by a client.</p> <p>A veterinarian may dispense prescription veterinary drugs and prescribe and dispense extra-label use drugs to a client without personally examining the animal if a bona fide veterinarian-client-patient relationship exists and in the judgment of the veterinarian the client has sufficient knowledge to use the drugs properly.</p>
<p>MS</p>	<p><i>Veterinary Practice Act</i> § 73-39-53</p> <p><i>Veterinary Practice Act</i> § 73-39-59</p> <p><i>Veterinary Practice Act</i> § 73-39-77</p>	<p>"Veterinarian-client-patient relationship" means that all of the following are required:</p> <p>(A) The veterinarian has assumed the responsibility for making clinical judgments regarding the health of the animal and the need for medical treatment, and the client has agreed to follow the veterinarian's instructions.</p> <p>(B) The veterinarian has sufficient knowledge of the animal to initiate at least a general or preliminary diagnosis of the medical condition of the animal because the veterinarian has recently seen and</p>	<p>No person may practice veterinary medicine in the state except within the context of a veterinarian-client-patient relationship.</p> <p>Upon a written complaint sworn to by any person, the Board, in its sole discretion, may, after a hearing, revoke, suspend or limit for a certain time a license, impose an administrative fine for each separate offense, or otherwise discipline any licensed veterinarian for the dispensing, distribution, prescription or administration of any veterinary prescription drug, or the extralabel use of any drug in the absence of a veterinarian-client-patient relationship.</p>

		<p>is personally acquainted with the keeping and care of the animal either by virtue of an examination of the animal or by medically appropriate and timely visits to the premises where the animal is kept.</p> <p>A veterinarian-client-patient relationship cannot be established solely by telephonic or other electronic means.</p>	
MO	<p><i>Veterinary Practice Act</i> §340.200</p> <p><i>Administrative Rules (VMB)</i> 20 CSR 2270-4.031</p>	<p>"Veterinarian-client-patient relationship" means: The veterinarian has assumed the responsibility for making medical judgments regarding the health of the animal and the need for medical treatment, and the client, owner or owner's agent has agreed to follow the instructions of the veterinarian. There is sufficient knowledge of the animal by the veterinarian to initiate at least a general or preliminary diagnosis of the medical condition of the animal.</p> <p>"Veterinarian-client-patient relationship" means that the veterinarian has recently seen and is personally acquainted with the keeping and care of the animal by virtue of an examination or by medically appropriate and timely visits to the premises where the animal is kept. The practicing veterinarian is readily available for follow-up care in case of adverse reactions or failure of the prescribed course of therapy.</p>	<p>No legend drug or biologic shall be prescribed, dispensed or administered without the establishment of a veterinarian-client-patient relationship or the direct order of a licensed veterinarian who has an established veterinarian-client-patient relationship with that animal(s).</p>
MT	<i>Administrative</i>	A "veterinarian/client/patient	Dispensing or prescribing a veterinary prescription drug without a

	<p><i>Rules</i> Mont. Admin. R. 24.225.301</p> <p><i>Administrative Rules</i> Mont. Admin. R. 24.225.550</p>	<p>relationship" exists when all of the following conditions have been met:</p> <p>(A) the veterinarian has assumed the responsibility for making clinical judgments regarding the health of the animal(s) and the need for medical treatment, and the client has agreed to follow the veterinarian's instructions;</p> <p>(B) the veterinarian has sufficient knowledge of the animal(s) to initiate at least a general or preliminary diagnosis of the medical condition of the animal(s). This means that the veterinarian has recently seen and is personally acquainted with the keeping and care of the animal(s) by virtue of an examination of the animal(s) or by medically appropriate and timely visits to the premises where the animal(s) are kept; and</p> <p>(C) the veterinarian is available for follow-up evaluation in the event of adverse reactions or failure of the treatment regimen.</p>	<p>valid veterinarian/client/patient relationship is considered unprofessional conduct.</p>
<p>NE</p>	<p><i>Veterinary Practice Act</i> R.R.S. Neb. § 38-3316</p> <p><i>Veterinary Practice Act</i> R.R.S. Neb. § 38-3312 (1)</p>	<p>Veterinarian-client-patient relationship means that:</p> <p>(A) The veterinarian has assumed the responsibility for making clinical judgments regarding the health of the animal and the need for medical treatment, and the client has agreed to follow the veterinarian's instructions;</p>	<p>A veterinarian may not prescribe or administer any drug, medicine or biologic without a valid veterinarian-client-patient-relationship.</p>

		<p>(B) The veterinarian has sufficient knowledge of the animal to initiate at least a general or preliminary diagnosis of the medical condition of the animal. This means that the veterinarian has recently seen and is personally acquainted with the keeping and care of the animal by virtue of an examination of the animal or by medically appropriate and timely visits to the premises where the animal is kept; and</p> <p>(C) The veterinarian is readily available or has arranged for emergency coverage and for followup evaluation in the event of adverse reactions or the failure of the treatment regimen.</p>	
<p>NV</p>	<p><i>Administrative Rules</i> NAC 638.0175</p>	<p>1. A veterinarian shall be deemed to have a "veterinarian-client-patient relationship" concerning a nonhuman animal if the veterinarian satisfies all of the following conditions:</p> <p>a. The veterinarian assumes the responsibility for making medical judgments concerning the health of the animal and the need for medical treatment of the animal.</p> <p>b. The veterinarian has knowledge of the present care and health of the animal sufficient to provide at least a general or preliminary diagnosis of the medical condition of the animal. This knowledge must be acquired by:</p>	<p>A veterinarian shall not prescribe, dispense, deliver or order another person to deliver any prescription drug, including, without limitation, any controlled substance in schedules I to V, inclusive, and any dangerous drug unless he first: (a) establishes a veterinarian-client-patient relationship; and (b) makes a medical determination that the prescription drug is therapeutically indicated for the health and well-being of the animal.</p>

		<p>(1) Conducting a physical examination of the animal; or</p> <p>(2) Visiting the premises where the animal is kept in a timely manner that is appropriate to the medical condition of the animal.</p> <p>c. The veterinarian obtains the informed consent of the client for medical treatment of the animal.</p> <p>d. The veterinarian obtains the agreement of the client to follow the instructions provided by the veterinarian for the care and medical treatment of the animal.</p> <p>2. As used in this section, “informed consent” means that the client, after having been informed in a manner that would be understood by a reasonable person, of the diagnostic and treatment options, risk assessment and prognosis for the animal and of an estimate of the fees expected for provisions of veterinary services to be rendered to the animal, has consented to the recommended treatment.</p>	
NH	<p><i>*Administrative Rules (N.H. Admin. Rules, Vet 501.01) adopt the AVMA Principles of Veterinary Medical Ethics. The definition of VCPR</i></p>	<p>A. The veterinarian-client-patient relationship (VCPR) is the basis for interaction among veterinarians, their clients, and their patients. A VCPR means that all of the following are required:</p> <p>1. The veterinarian has assumed the responsibility for making clinical</p>	<p>It is unethical for veterinarians to prescribe or dispense prescription products in the absence of a VCPR.</p>

	<p>and the prescription rule from the AVMA Principles are included here.</p>	<p>judgments regarding the health of the patient and the client has agreed to follow the veterinarians' instructions.</p> <p>2. The veterinarian has sufficient knowledge of the patient to initiate at least a general or preliminary diagnosis of the medical condition of the patient. This means that the veterinarian is personally acquainted with the keeping and care of the patient by virtue of a timely examination of the patient by the veterinarian, or medically appropriate and timely visits by the veterinarian to the operation where the patient is managed.</p> <p>3. The veterinarian is readily available for follow-up evaluation or has arranged for the following: veterinary emergency coverage, and continuing care and treatment.</p> <p>4. The veterinarian provides oversight of treatment, compliance, and outcome.</p> <p>5. Patient records are maintained.</p>	
<p>NJ</p>	<p><i>Administrative Rules (SBVME)</i> N.J.A.C. §13:44-4.1</p>	<p>A "veterinarian-client-patient relationship" means:</p> <p>(A) The veterinarian has undertaken to make medical judgments regarding the health of an animal or animals, herd or flock being treated and the need for medical treatment;</p> <p>(B) The client has retained the services</p>	<p>A licensed veterinarian may prescribe, sell, dispense, or distribute any prescription item, providing there is a bona fide veterinarian-client-patient relationship, and the prescription item is properly recorded in the medical record.</p> <p>A licensed veterinarian may dispense prescription items to a person without a bona fide veterinarian-client-patient relationship on the basis of a prescription issued by another licensed veterinarian subject to certain provisions.</p>

		<p>of the veterinarian;</p> <p>(C) The veterinarian has sufficient knowledge of the animal or animals, herd or flock to initiate at least a general or preliminary diagnosis of the medical condition of the animal or animals, herd or flock;</p> <p>(D) The veterinarian is available for follow-up treatment; and</p> <p>(E) The veterinarian maintains proper records on the animal or animals, herd or flock.</p>	
NM	<p><i>Veterinary Practice Act</i> §61-14-2</p> <p><i>Veterinary Practice Act</i> § 61-14-13</p>	<p>Valid veterinarian-client-patient relationship" means:</p> <p>(A) the veterinarian has assumed responsibility for making medical judgments regarding the health of an animal being treated and the need for and the course of the animal's medical treatment;</p> <p>(B) the client has agreed to follow the instructions of the veterinarian;</p> <p>(C) the veterinarian is sufficiently acquainted with an animal being treated, whether through examination of the animal or timely visits to the animal's habitat for purposes of assessing the condition in which the animal is kept, to be capable of making a preliminary or general diagnosis of the medical</p>	<p>The Board may deny, suspend for a definite period or revoke a license, certificate or permit held or applied for under the Veterinary Practice Act, or may reprimand, place on probation, enter a stipulation with or impose an administrative penalty in an amount not to exceed five thousand dollars (\$ 5,000) on a holder of a license, certificate or permit, upon a finding by the board that the licensee, certificate or permit holder, or applicant has used a prescription or has sold any prescription drug or prescribed extra-label use of any over-the-counter drug in the absence of a valid veterinarian-client-patient relationship.</p>

		condition of the animal being treated; and (D) the veterinarian is reasonably available for follow-up treatment.	
NY	<i>No statutory/regulatory text found. Information included here from the NY Office of Professions Practice Guidelines</i>	The VCPR exists when: (A) The veterinarian has sufficient knowledge of the animal to initiate at least a general or preliminary diagnosis of the medical condition of the animal. This means that he/she has recently seen and are personally acquainted with the care of the animal by a physical examination of the animal and/or by medically appropriate and timely visits with the animal; and (B) The veterinarian is readily available or have arranged for emergency coverage for follow-up evaluations in the event of adverse reactions or the failure of the treatment regimen.	Veterinarians should only prescribe, deliver, or have delivered prescription drugs when a VCPR has been established and the veterinarian has determined that the prescription drug is therapeutically indicated for the health and/or well being of the animal. A veterinarian cannot fill prescriptions from other veterinarians.
NC	<i>Veterinary Practice Act § 90-181</i> <i>Veterinary Practice Act § 90-187.8 (c)(18)</i>	"Veterinarian-client-patient relationship" means that: (A) The veterinarian has assumed the responsibility for making medical judgments regarding the health of the animal and the need for medical treatment, and the client (owner or other caretaker) has agreed to follow the instruction of the veterinarian. (B) There is sufficient knowledge of the animal by the veterinarian to initiate	Grounds for disciplinary action shall include but not be limited to: selling, dispensing, prescribing, or allowing the sale, dispensing, or prescription of biologics, controlled substances, drugs, or medicines without a veterinarian-client-patient relationship with respect to the sale, dispensing, or prescription.

		<p>at least a general or preliminary diagnosis of the medical condition of the animal. This means that the veterinarian has recently seen and is personally acquainted with the keeping and care of the animal by virtue of an examination of the animal, or by medically appropriate and timely visits to the premises where the animal is kept.</p> <p>(C) The practicing veterinarian is readily available or provides for follow-up in case of adverse reactions or failure of the regimen of therapy.</p>	
<p>ND</p>	<p><i>Veterinary Practice Act</i> §43-29-01.1 (9)</p> <p><i>Veterinary Practice Act</i> § 43-29-14 (1)(o)</p>	<p>"Veterinarian-client-patient relationship" means:</p> <p>(A) A veterinarian has assumed the responsibility for making medical judgments regarding the health of an animal and the need for medical treatment, and the client, who is the owner or other caretaker, has agreed to follow the instructions of the veterinarian.</p> <p>(B) There is sufficient knowledge of the animal by the veterinarian to initiate at least a general or preliminary diagnosis of the medical condition of the animal.</p> <p>(C) The practicing veterinarian is readily available for follow-up in the case of adverse reactions or failure of the regimen of therapy. This relationship exists only when the veterinarian has</p>	<p>The state board of veterinary medical examiners may refuse to issue a license or certificate of registration, or may suspend or revoke a license and certificate of registration, upon any of the following grounds:</p> <p>o. The use, prescription, or dispensing of any veterinary prescription drug, or the prescription or extra-label use of any over-the-counter drug, in the absence of a valid veterinarian-client-patient relationship, except as provided by section 2 of this Act.</p> <p>Section 2. Veterinary prescription drugs.</p> <p>1. Except as provided under subsection 2, a veterinary prescription drug must be dispensed, used, or prescribed within the context of a veterinarian - client - patient relationship</p> <p>2. Other than a controlled substance, a licensed veterinarian may dispense a veterinary prescription drug without establishing a veterinarian - client - patient relationship if</p> <p>a. The drug is prescribed by a licensed veterinarian or by a veterinarian licensed in another jurisdiction who has established a veterinarian - client - patient relationship;</p> <p>b. The prescribing veterinarian has an inadequate supply of the</p>

		recently seen and is personally acquainted with the keeping and care of the animal by virtue of an examination of the animal and by medically appropriate and timely visits to the premises where the animal is kept.	drug, failure to dispense the drug would interrupt a therapeutic regimen, or failure to dispense the drug would cause an animal to suffer; and c. The dispensing veterinarian verifies the prescription with the prescribing veterinarian
OH	<p><i>Veterinary Practice Act</i> §4741.04</p> <p><i>Veterinary Practice Act</i> §4741.22 (AA)</p>	<p>A veterinary-client-patient relationship exists when all of the following conditions have been met:</p> <p>(A) A veterinarian assumes responsibility for making clinical judgments regarding the health of a patient and the need for medical treatment, medical services, or both for the patient, and the client has agreed to follow the veterinarian's instructions regarding the patient.</p> <p>(B) The veterinarian has sufficient knowledge of the patient to initiate at least a general or preliminary diagnosis of the medical condition of the patient. In order to demonstrate that the veterinarian has sufficient knowledge, the veterinarian shall have seen the patient recently and also shall be acquainted personally with the keeping and care of the patient either by examining the patient or by making medically appropriate and timely visits to the premises where the patient is kept.</p> <p>(C) The veterinarian is readily available for a follow-up evaluation, or has arranged for emergency coverage, in the event the patient suffers adverse reactions</p>	<p>The state veterinary medical licensing board may refuse to issue or renew a license, limited license, registration, or temporary permit to or of any applicant who, and may issue a reprimand to, suspend or revoke the license, limited license, registration, or the temporary permit of, or impose a civil penalty pursuant to this section upon any person holding a license, limited license, or temporary permit to practice veterinary medicine or any person registered as a registered veterinary technician who: uses, prescribes, or sells any veterinary prescription drug or biologic, or prescribes any extra-label use of any over-the-counter drug or dangerous drug in the absence of a valid veterinary-client-patient relationship.</p>

		to the treatment regimen or the treatment regimen fails.	
OK	<p><i>Veterinary Practice Act</i> §698.2 (13)</p> <p><i>Veterinary Practice Act</i> §698.11 (A)(1)</p> <p><i>Veterinary Practice Act</i> § 698.14a (E)(20)</p>	<p>"Veterinarian-client-patient relationship" means:</p> <p>(A) The licensed veterinarian has assumed the responsibility for making medical judgments regarding the health of an animal or animals and the need for medical treatment, and the client, owner or other caretaker has agreed to follow the instructions of the licensed veterinarian; and</p> <p>(B) There is sufficient knowledge of the animal or animals by the licensed veterinarian to initiate at least a general or preliminary diagnosis of the medical condition of the animal or animals in that:</p> <p>(i) the licensed veterinarian has recently seen or is personally acquainted with the keeping and care of the animal or animals, or</p> <p>(ii) by medically necessary and timely visits to the premises where the animal or animals are kept or both, and</p> <p>(C) the licensed veterinarian is readily available for follow-up in case of adverse reactions or failure of the regimen of therapy, or has arranged for emergency medical coverage, and</p> <p>(D) would conform to applicable</p>	<p>The Board may take disciplinary action or other sanctions upon clear and convincing evidence of unprofessional or dishonorable conduct, which shall include the practice of veterinary medicine in the absence of a bona fide veterinarian-client-patient relationship.</p> <p>The "practice of veterinary medicine" (§698.11(A)(1)) includes the prescribing or administering of any drug, medicine, biologic, apparatus, application, and anesthetic.</p>

		federal law and regulations.	
OR	<p><i>Administrative Rules (VMEB)</i> §875-005-0005 (14)</p> <p><i>Administrative Rules (VMEB)</i> §875-015-0030 (6)(b)</p>	<p>Except where the patient is a wild or feral animal or its owner is unknown; a VCPR shall exist when the following conditions exist: The veterinarian must have sufficient knowledge of the animal to initiate at least a general or preliminary diagnosis of the medical condition of the animal. This means that the veterinarian has seen the animal within the last year and is personally acquainted with the care of the animal by virtue of a physical examination of the animal or by medically appropriate and timely visits to the premises where the animal is kept.</p>	<p>Pursuant to the minimum veterinary practice standards, Legend drugs shall be dispensed, ordered or prescribed based on a VCPR.</p>
PA	<p><i>Administrative Rules (SBVM)</i> 49 Pa. Code § 31.21 (Principle 8: Drugs)</p>	<p>"Under the veterinarian's care" means that the veterinarian or one of the veterinarian's licensed associates has examined the animal or has made medically appropriate and timely visits to the premises where the animal is kept.</p>	<p>A veterinarian shall only prescribe prescription drugs to animals that are under the veterinarian's care.</p>
RI	<p><i>Veterinary Practice Act</i> §5-25-2 (6)</p> <p><i>Veterinary Drug Laws</i> § 21-31.1-2 § 21-31.1-12 § 21-31.1-13</p>	<p>"Veterinarian/client/patient relationship" means a relationship where all of the following conditions have been met:</p> <p style="padding-left: 40px;">(A) The veterinarian has assumed the responsibility for making medical judgments regarding the health of the animal or animals and the need for medical treatment, and the client has agreed to follow the instructions of the veterinarian.</p> <p style="padding-left: 40px;">(B) The veterinarian has sufficient knowledge of the animal or animals to initiate at least a general or preliminary</p>	<p>The distribution of a prescription veterinary drug to, or its possession by, any person other than the following is prohibited:</p> <p style="padding-left: 40px;">A veterinarian's client or his or her agent, provided that the drug is dispensed by or on the prescription of the veterinarian when a VCPR has been established.</p> <p>The extra-label use of any veterinary drug in or on a food-producing animal by any person other than a veterinarian or a person working under the control of a veterinarian is a prohibited act. Extra-label use of these drugs by or on the order of a veterinarian is not prohibited provided that a careful medical diagnosis is made by the veterinarian within the context of a valid veterinarian-client/patient relationship.</p>

		<p>(e.g. tentative) diagnosis of the medical condition of the animal or animals. This means that the veterinarian has recently seen and is personally acquainted with the keeping and care of the animal or animals, and/or by medically appropriate and timely visits to the premises where the animal or animals are kept.</p> <p>(C) The veterinarian is readily available for follow-up in cases of adverse reactions or failure of the regimen of therapy.</p> <p>(D) The veterinarian maintains records, which document patient visits, diagnosis, treatment, and other relevant information.</p>	
<p>SC</p>	<p><i>Administrative Rules (BVME)</i> §120-1 (C)</p> <p><i>Administrative Rules (BVME)</i> §120-10 (D)(1)</p>	<p>"Veterinarian-client-patient relationship" means:</p> <p>(1) The veterinarian has recently seen and is personally acquainted with the keeping and care of the animal through an examination of or visit to the premises where the animal is kept.</p> <p>(2) The veterinarian has assumed the responsibility for making clinical judgments regarding the health of the animal and the need for medical treatment.</p> <p>(3) The veterinarian has sufficient knowledge of the animal to initiate a general or preliminary diagnosis of the</p>	<p>A veterinarian shall not prescribe, dispense or administer any drug or biological agent that bears the legend "Caution: Federal Law restricts this drug to the use by or on the order of a licensed veterinarian," or any other term which specifies the medication as a legend drug, without the establishment of a veterinarian/client/patient relationship.</p>

		<p>medical condition of the animal.</p> <p>(4) The veterinarian is available or has arranged for emergency coverage for follow-up and evaluation.</p> <p>(5) The client has agreed to follow the veterinarian's instructions.</p> <p>(6) The veterinarian-client-patient relationship lapses when the licensee has not seen the animal within one year.</p>	
SD	<p><i>Food and Drug Laws</i> § 39-18-34.1</p> <p><i>Veterinary Practice Act</i> §36-12-22 (9)</p>	<p>A valid relationship shall exist if the veterinarian has assumed the responsibility for making medical judgments regarding the health of the animal and the need for medical treatment, and the client has agreed to follow the instructions of the veterinarian; and if there is sufficient knowledge of the animal by the veterinarian to initiate at least a general or preliminary diagnosis of the medical condition of the animal and the veterinarian is readily available for follow-up in case of adverse reactions or failure of the regimen of therapy.</p>	<p>The sale, dispensing, shipping or otherwise making available of a veterinary drug product label containing the legend "Caution: Federal Law restricts this drug to use by or on the order of a licensed veterinarian" shall result from a relationship between the veterinarian and his client or patient.</p> <p>The State Board of Veterinary Medical Examiners may either refuse to issue a license or refuse to issue a certificate of registration or suspend or revoke a license and certificate of registration for: the use, prescription, or sale of any veterinary prescription drug in the absence of a valid veterinary client-patient relationship.</p>
TN	<p>Tenn. Code §63-12-103(17)</p> <p><i>Administrative Rules (BVME)</i> §1730-02-.05</p>	<p>"Veterinarian-client-patient relationship" means:</p> <p>(A) The veterinarian has assumed responsibility for making clinical judgments regarding the health of the animal and the need for medical treatment, has obtained informed consent, and the client has agreed to follow the</p>	<p>(b) Before prescribing animal drugs, the veterinarian must first, pursuant to appropriate protocols or veterinary orders, complete and appropriately document all of the following for the animal, herd, or flock on whose behalf the prescription is to be written:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Perform an appropriate history and physical examination; 2. Make a diagnosis based upon the history, physical examination, and pertinent diagnostic and laboratory tests; 3. Formulate a therapeutic plan and discuss it with the animal's owner, along with the basis for it and the risks and benefits of

		<p>veterinarian's instructions;</p> <p>(B) The veterinarian has sufficient knowledge of the animal to initiate at least a general or preliminary diagnosis of the medical condition of the animal;</p> <p>(C) The veterinarian has seen the animal within the last twelve (12) months or is personally acquainted with the keeping and care of the animal, either by virtue of an examination of the animal or by medically appropriate visits to the premises where the animal is maintained within the last twelve (12) months;</p> <p>(D) The veterinarian is readily available or has arranged for emergency coverage for follow-up evaluation in the event of adverse reactions or the failure of the treatment regimen;</p> <p>(E) The veterinarian must maintain medical records as required by the board of veterinary medical examiners; and</p> <p>(F) The veterinarian-client-patient relationship cannot be established or maintained solely by telephone or other electronic means;</p>	<p>various treatment options, a part of which might be a prescription or drug; and</p> <p>4. Ensure availability of the veterinarian or the veterinarian's staff for appropriate follow-up care.</p> <p>(c) Notwithstanding the provisions of subparagraph (b), a veterinarian, pursuant to appropriate protocols or veterinary orders, may prescribe or dispense drugs for an animal when such prescribing or dispensing is consistent with sound veterinary practice, examples of which are as follows:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. As part of an initial evaluation order; or 2. For an animal/patient of another veterinarian for whom the prescriber is taking calls or for whom the prescriber has verified the appropriateness of the medication; or 3. For continuation medications on a short-term basis before the veterinarian personally examining the animal, herd, or flock; or 4. For medications administered by the owner of the animal, herd, or flock when the veterinarian has prescribed and/or dispensed in a manner consistent with this rule. <p>(3) (a) Distribution of veterinary prescription drugs to laymen may occur only on the prescription or other order of a licensed veterinarian. The prescriptions must be issued in the course of professional practice, with a veterinarian-client-patient relationship existing</p>
TX	<p><i>Veterinary Licensing Act</i> Tex. Occ. Code § 801.351 <i>Veterinary</i></p>	<p>A veterinarian-client-patient relationship exists if the veterinarian:</p> <p>(A) assumes responsibility for medical judgments regarding the health of an animal and a client, who is the owner or</p>	<p>A person may not practice veterinary medicine unless a veterinarian-client-patient relationship exists.</p> <p>A person is subject to denial of a license or to disciplinary action if the person orders a prescription drug or controlled substance for the treatment of an animal without first establishing a veterinarian-</p>

	<p><i>Licensing Act</i> Tex. Occ. Code §801.402 (13)</p> <p>22 TAC §573.20</p> <p><i>Rabies Control Act</i> Texas Health and Safety Code § 826.018</p>	<p>other caretaker of the animal, agrees to follow the veterinarian's instructions;</p> <p>(B) possesses sufficient knowledge of the animal to initiate at least a general or preliminary diagnosis of the animal's medical condition; and</p> <p>(C) is readily available to provide, or has provided, follow-up medical care in the event of an adverse reaction to, or a failure of, the regimen of therapy provided by the veterinarian.</p> <p>A veterinarian possesses sufficient knowledge of the animal if the veterinarian has recently seen, or is personally acquainted with, the keeping and care of the animal by:</p> <p>(1) examining the animal; or (2) making medically appropriate and timely visits to the premises on which the animal is kept.</p> <p>A veterinarian-client-patient relationship may not be established solely by telephone or electronic means.</p>	<p>client-patient relationship.</p> <p>A veterinarian may attain sufficient knowledge of animals by visiting the premises on which herd animals are kept. A veterinarian must individually and personally examine all animals that are not members of a herd prior to practicing veterinary medicine on them.</p> <p>A veterinarian may refill a prescription written by another veterinarian as long as the two veterinarians are within the same practice, clinic, or hospital; the veterinarian who wrote the original prescription has an established VCPR with the specific animal; and the veterinarian refilling the prescription has access to the VCPR veterinarian's current medical records for that animal.</p> <p>Exception: A veterinarian who is employed by a county or municipality (or administers or supervises the administration of rabies vaccine as part of a local rabies control program established by a county or municipality) is not required to establish a veterinarian-client-patient relationship before administering a rabies vaccine or supervising the administration of a rabies vaccine.</p>
<p>UT</p>	<p><i>Veterinary Practice Act</i> Utah Code Ann. §58-28-102 (11) and (15)</p> <p><i>Veterinary Practice Act</i> Utah Code Ann. §58-28-604</p>	<p>Veterinarian-client-patient relationship means:</p> <p>(A) a veterinarian licensed under this chapter has assumed responsibility for making clinical judgments regarding the health of an animal and the need for medical treatment of an animal, and the client has agreed to follow the veterinarian's instructions;</p>	<p>A licensee may only practice under a veterinarian-client-patient relationship.</p> <p>The “practice of veterinary medicine, surgery, and dentistry” includes the administration, prescription or dispensing of any drug, medicine, treatment, or method.</p>

		<p>(B) the veterinarian has sufficient knowledge of the animal to initiate at least a general or preliminary diagnosis of the medical condition of the animal, including knowledge of the keeping and care of the animal as a result of recent personal examination of the animal or by medically appropriate visits to the premises where the animal is housed; and</p> <p>(C) the veterinarian has arranged for emergency coverage for follow-up evaluation in the event of adverse reaction or the failure of the treatment regimen.</p> <p>A veterinarian-client-patient relationship may not be established solely by telephone or other electronic means.</p>	
VT	<i>Administrative Rules (SVB)</i> CVR 04-030-320 (Part 3, §3.7)	<p>The V.C.P.R. exists when all of the following conditions have been met:</p> <p>(A) The veterinarian has assumed the responsibility for making clinical judgments regarding the health of the animal(s) and the need for medical treatment, and the client has agreed to follow the veterinarian's instructions.</p> <p>(B) The veterinarian has sufficient knowledge of the animal(s) to initiate at least a general or preliminary diagnosis of the medical condition of the animal(s). This means that the veterinarian has recently seen and is personally</p>	<p>The State Veterinary Board endorses the following AVMA policy statements and guidelines as recommended guidelines for the practice of veterinary medicine:</p> <p>Veterinary prescription drugs should be dispensed only by or on the order of a licensed veterinarian in the presence of a valid veterinarian-client-patient relationship (V.C.P.R.).</p> <p>Orders issued by licensed veterinarians authorizing drug distributors to deliver veterinary prescription drugs to a specific client should be based on a valid V.C.P.R.</p> <p>Prescriptions or orders issued by licensed veterinarians authorizing pharmacists to dispense veterinary prescription drugs to a specific client should be based on a valid V.C.P.R.</p>

		<p>acquainted with the keeping and care of the animal(s) by virtue of an examination of the animal(s) or by medically appropriate and timely visits to the premises where the animal(s) are kept.</p> <p>(C) The veterinarian is readily available or arranged for emergency coverage for follow-up evaluation in the event of adverse reactions or failure of the treatment regimen.</p>	
VA	<i>Pharmacy Rules</i> Va. Code Ann. §54.1-3303 (A)	<p>A bona fide practitioner-patient relationship means that the practitioner shall (i) ensure that a medical or drug history is obtained; (ii) provide information to the patient about the benefits and risks of the drug being prescribed; (iii) perform or have performed an appropriate examination of the patient, either physically or by the use of instrumentation and diagnostic equipment through which images and medical records may be transmitted electronically; except for medical emergencies, the examination of the patient shall have been performed by the practitioner himself, within the group in which he practices, or by a consulting practitioner prior to issuing a prescription; and (iv) initiate additional interventions and follow-up care, if necessary, especially if a prescribed drug may have serious side effects.</p>	<p>A prescription for a controlled substance may be issued only by a practitioner of medicine, osteopathy, podiatry, dentistry or veterinary medicine who is authorized to prescribe controlled substances, or by a licensed nurse practitioner, a licensed physician assistant, or a TPA-certified optometrist. The prescription shall be issued for a medicinal or therapeutic purpose and may be issued only to persons or animals with whom the practitioner has a bona fide practitioner-patient relationship.</p>
WA	<i>None found</i>	None found	None Found
WV	<i>Administrative Rules (BVM)</i>	A relationship between a veterinarian, a client and a patient, exists if:	A veterinarian shall not prescribe, dispense or administer any drug or biological agent that bears the legend "Caution: Federal Law

	<p>W. Va. CSR § 26-4-4 (4.2), (4.3), and (4.5)</p> <p>Department of Agriculture, Livestock Care Standards, 61-31-2 and 61-31-6</p>	<p>(A) A veterinarian assumes responsibility for medical judgments regarding the health of an animal and the client who is the owner or other caretaker of the animal agrees to follow the veterinarian's instructions; or</p> <p>(B) A veterinarian, through personal examination of an animal or a representative sample of a herd or flock, obtains sufficient information to make at least a general or preliminary diagnosis of the medical condition of the animal, herd, or flock, which diagnosis is expanded through medically appropriate visits to the premises where the animal, herd, or flock is kept.</p> <p>Upon the formation of a veterinarian/client/patient relationship, in order for a veterinarian to exercise properly the rights granted by a veterinary license, the veterinarian shall:</p> <p>(1) Perform a physical examination of the animal. When a group of farm animals of one species is under a single ownership, it may be considered as a single entity; A veterinarian/client/patient relationship is established for the whole group if a representative number of animals have been examined;</p> <p>(2) Discuss with the client a diagnostic assessment and treatment plan, including</p>	<p>restricts this drug to the use by or on the order of a licensed veterinarian" or any other term which specifies the medication as a legend drug without the establishment of a veterinarian/client/patient relationship.</p> <p>Prescription and extra-label medications shall be administered as directed by a licensed veterinarian with a valid-client-patient relationship (as defined in the rule). This provision appears in the rule governing the care and well-being of livestock, including beef cattle, bison, veal, dairy cattle, equine, swine, small ruminant and poultry.</p>
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		<p>recommendations and medications, and shall enter the plan into the patient's medical record. A group of animals of one species under a single ownership may be considered as a single entity, when a representative number of the animals have been examined sufficient to enable the veterinarian to obtain a reasonable medical judgment with regard to a diagnostic assessment and treatment plans, and</p> <p>(3) Discuss follow up recommendations with the client.</p>	
<p>WI</p>	<p><i>Administrative Rules (VEB)</i> Wis. Stat. § 453.02 (8)</p> <p><i>Administrative Rules (VEB)</i> Wis. Stat. § 453.068 (1)(c)</p>	<p>"Veterinarian-client-patient relationship" means a relationship between a veterinarian, a client and the patient in which all of the following apply:</p> <p>(A) The veterinarian has assumed the responsibility for making medical judgments regarding the health of the patient and the patients need for medical treatment, and the client has agreed to accept those medical judgments and to follow the related instructions of the veterinarian.</p> <p>(B) The veterinarian has sufficient knowledge of the patient to initiate a general or preliminary diagnosis of the medical condition of the patient because the veterinarian has recently examined the patient or has made medically appropriate and timely visits to the premises on which the patient is kept.</p>	<p>A veterinarian may not do any of the following:</p> <p>(1) Prescribe for or dispense to a client a veterinary prescription drug or a drug for extra-label use without personally examining the patient unless a veterinary-client-patient relationship exists between the veterinarian, client and patient and the veterinarian determines that the client has sufficient knowledge to administer the drug properly.</p> <p>(2) Prescribe or dispense a veterinary prescription drug to a client unless the veterinarian indicates in the appropriate records, within 72 hours after the prescription is issued or the drug is dispensed, that the prescription has been issued or that the drug has been dispensed.</p> <p>(3) Prescribe a drug to a client for extra-label use on a patient unless all of the following apply:</p> <p>a. A veterinary-client-patient relationship exists between the veterinarian, client and patient and the veterinarian has made a careful medical diagnosis of the condition of the patient within the context of that veterinarian-client-patient relationship.</p>

		<p>(C) The veterinarian is readily available for follow-up treatment of the patient if the patient has an adverse reaction to veterinary treatment.</p>	<p>b. The veterinarian determines that there is no drug that is marketed specifically to treat the patients diagnosed condition, or determines that all of the drugs that are marketed for that purpose are clinically ineffective.</p> <p>c. The veterinarian recommends procedures for the client to follow to ensure that the identity of the patient will be maintained.</p> <p>d. If the patient is a food-producing animal, the veterinarian prescribes a sufficient time period for drug withdrawal before the food from the patient may be marketed.</p> <p>(4) Transmit a prescription electronically unless the client approves the transmission and the prescription is transmitted to a pharmacist or veterinarian designated by the client.</p>
<p>WY</p>	<p><i>Administrative Rules (BVM)</i> WCWR 024-251-004 (§3)</p>	<p>A veterinarian-client-patient relationship shall be characterized by:</p> <p>(A) The Licensee assuming the responsibility for making medical judgments regarding the health of the animal and the need for medical treatment;</p> <p>(B) The client has agreed to follow the instructions of the Licensee;</p> <p>(C) The Licensee having sufficient knowledge of the animal to initiate at least a general or preliminary diagnosis of its medical condition. This means that the Licensee has recently seen and is personally acquainted with the keeping and care of the animal as a result of an examination or by medically appropriate</p>	<p>For a licensee to properly exercise the rights granted by the license, a veterinarian-client-patient relationship shall exist.</p> <p>No prescription drug shall be prescribed, dispensed or administered without the establishment of a valid veterinarian-client-patient relationship.</p>

		and timely visits to the location where the animal is kept. (D) Readily available follow up care in case of adverse reactions or failure of the regimen of therapy.	
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Source: Staff research, AVMA State Relations

Contact: [State Policy Analyst](#), AVMA State Relations