

**Veterinary Medical Examining Board**  
**DRAFT Proposed New Rules**  
**November 2019**

875-015-0035

Minimum Standards for Veterinary Telemedicine (VTM)

- (1) Veterinary Telemedicine (VTM) occurs in Oregon when either the animal who is receiving the care is located in Oregon when receiving VTM or the person providing the care to the animal is located in Oregon when providing VTM.
- (2) VTM may be used when a veterinarian has a VCPR only when:
  - (a) A physical examination of the patient has been conducted within the last year; and
  - (b) If it is possible to make a diagnosis and create a treatment plan without a new physical exam.
- (3) At the discretion of the veterinarian, VTM may be used by a veterinarian who has not personally physically examined the animal within the last year only under the following circumstances:
  - (a) The veterinarian has reviewed the records of another licensed veterinarian who has seen the animal within the previous year; and
  - (b) Only if it is possible to make a diagnosis and create a treatment plan without a physical examination.
- (4) VTM may be used with an existing client when there has not been a previous physical examination for the purpose of prescribing sedation for an aggressive or fractious patient prior to an initial visit.
- (5) Prescriptions may only be issued when VTM occurs if the veterinarian has evaluated the safety of doing so via VTM, and in compliance with all state and federal laws.
- (6) A veterinarian shall not substitute VTM for a physical exam when a physical exam is warranted or necessary for an accurate diagnosis of any medical condition or creation of an appropriate treatment plan.
- (7) When practicing VTM in Oregon, licensees must conform to all minimum standards of practice and applicable laws. Licensees are fully responsible and accountable for their conduct when using VTM under the Board's statutes and rules.
- (8) Whenever VTM is practiced in Oregon, a veterinarian must:
  - (a) Ensure that any technology used in the provision of VTM is sufficient and of appropriate quality to provide accuracy of remote assessment and diagnosis.
  - (b) Ensure that medical information obtained via VTM is recorded completely in the patient medical record and meets all applicable requirements of OAR 875-015-0030(1).
- (9) A veterinarian may only delegate the provision of VTM to a Certified Veterinary Technician who is acting under direct or indirect supervision and in accordance with OAR 875-030-0040. A valid VCPR established by a physical examination conducted by the veterinarian must exist for the CVT to provide VTM services.
- (10) Veterinarians and CVTs providing VTM shall at the time of service provide their contact information to the client or practice using the service. All VTM records shall be provided to the client or practice and are subject to the provisions of 875-011-0010 (12), (13).

