

**ADOPTED REGULATION OF THE NEVADA STATE
BOARD OF VETERINARY MEDICAL EXAMINERS**

LCB File No. R041-02

Effective August 7, 2003

EXPLANATION – Matter in *italics* is new; matter in brackets ~~omitted material~~ is material to be omitted.

AUTHORITY: §§1-6, NRS 638.070; §7, NRS 453.375, 638.070 and 638.124.

Section 1. Chapter 638 of NAC is hereby amended by adding thereto the provisions set forth as sections 2, 3 and 4 of this regulation.

Sec. 2. *“Unlicensed veterinary assistant” means a person who has less training, knowledge and skills than a licensed veterinary technician and whose basic tasks include, without limitation, feeding, watering, bathing, restraining, transporting and exercising animals.*

Sec. 3. 1. *An unlicensed veterinary assistant in an animal hospital may perform the tasks described in section 4 of this regulation under the immediate, direct or indirect supervision of a veterinarian or a licensed veterinary technician as set forth in section 4 of this regulation.*

2. The supervising veterinarian is responsible for determining the competency of the unlicensed veterinary assistant to perform delegated tasks of animal health care.

Sec. 4. 1. *An unlicensed veterinary assistant in an animal hospital may perform the following tasks under immediate supervision:*

(a) Assisting a licensed veterinarian in surgery or in monitoring anesthesia.

(b) Application of bandages.

(c) Collection of a laboratory specimen for analysis of blood.

(d) Collection of tissue during or after a postmortem examination by a licensed veterinarian.

2. An unlicensed veterinary assistant in an animal hospital may perform the following tasks under immediate or direct supervision:

(a) Blood administration with a preplaced catheter.

(b) Monitoring of vital signs.

(c) Administration of an electrocardiogram.

(d) Introduction of food into the stomach through a preplaced tube.

(e) Ear cleaning.

(f) Positioning of animals for X rays.

(g) Operation of X-ray machines.

(h) Starting and restarting of intravenous fluids through a preplaced intravenous catheter.

(i) Administration of intramuscular, subcutaneous or intravenous injections, except anesthetics and sedatives, with a preplaced catheter.

(j) Physical examination.

3. An unlicensed veterinary assistant in an animal hospital may perform the following tasks under immediate, direct or indirect supervision:

(a) Administration of oral and topical medications, except controlled substances.

(b) Collection of a laboratory specimen for analysis of free catch urine or feces, skin, parasites and microorganisms.

Sec. 5. NAC 638.001 is hereby amended to read as follows:

638.001 As used in this chapter, unless the context otherwise requires, the words and terms defined in NAC 638.003 to 638.0185, inclusive, *and section 2 of this regulation* have the meanings ascribed to them in those sections.

Sec. 6. NAC 638.016 is hereby amended to read as follows:

638.016 “Supervising veterinarian” means a veterinarian licensed to practice in this state who employs, supervises, or employs and supervises a licensed veterinary technician ~~or~~, *a* veterinary technician in training ~~or~~ *or an unlicensed veterinary assistant.*

Sec. 7. NAC 638.053 is hereby amended to read as follows:

638.053 1. A licensed veterinary technician may not perform the following tasks of animal health care:

- (a) Surgery.
- (b) Diagnosis and prognosis of animal diseases.
- (c) Except as authorized by a veterinarian, prescribe, administer or dispense drugs, medicines or appliances.
- (d) Any other activity which represents the practice of veterinary medicine or which requires the knowledge, skill and training of a licensed veterinarian.

2. A licensed veterinary technician in an animal hospital may perform the following tasks under immediate supervision : ~~only:~~

- (a) Application of casts and splints.
- (b) Dental extractions.
- (c) Induction of anesthesia.
- (d) Assisting a licensed veterinarian in surgery.
- (e) Euthanasia.

3. A licensed veterinary technician in an animal hospital may perform the following tasks under immediate or direct supervision:

- (a) Endotracheal intubation.
- (b) Blood administration.
- (c) Fluid aspiration ~~[]~~ *from a body cavity.*
- (d) Monitoring of vital signs.
- (e) Application of casts for the immobilization of fractures.
- (f) Tasks listed in subsection 4, if the animal is anesthetized.
- (g) External noninvasive ultrasonography.

4. A licensed veterinary technician in an animal hospital may perform the following tasks under *immediate, direct or* indirect supervision : ~~[, unless the animal is anesthetized:]~~

- (a) Teeth cleaning.
- (b) Administration of enemas.
- (c) Administration of an electrocardiogram.
- (d) Application of bandages.
- (e) Catheterization of an unobstructed bladder.
- (f) Introduction of ~~[food into the stomach through]~~ a *stomach* tube.
- (g) Ear flushing ~~[]~~ *with pressure or suction.*
- (h) Positioning of animals for X rays.
- (i) Operation of X-ray machines.
- (j) Administration of oral and rectal radio-opaque materials.
- (k) Administration of oral and topical medications ~~[]~~ *, including controlled substances.*
- (l) Starting and restarting of intravenous fluids.

(m) Collection of a laboratory specimen for analysis, including, but not limited to, blood, urine, skin, parasites and microorganisms.

(n) Collection of tissue during or after a postmortem examination by a licensed veterinarian.

(o) Administration of intramuscular, subcutaneous or intravenous injections.

(p) Placement of an intravenous catheter.

FLUSH No examination within the previous 12 hours is required for the collection of laboratory specimens.

**NOTICE OF ADOPTION OF PROPOSED REGULATION
LCB File No. R041-02**

The Nevada State Board of Veterinary Medical Examiners adopted regulations assigned LCB File No. R071-02 which pertain to chapter 638 of the Nevada Administrative Code on June 26, 2003.

Notice date: Unknown

Hearing date: 9/20/2002, 12/13/2002, 3/28/2003 & 6/26/2003

Date of adoption by agency: 6/26/2003

Filing date: 8/7/2003

INFORMATIONAL STATEMENT

1. A description of how public comment was solicited, a summary of public response, and explanation how other interested persons may obtain a copy of the summary.

The proposed regulations were noticed with all Nevada County Public Libraries and at the office of the State Board of Veterinary Medical Examiners. Minutes of the hearing and written comments can be obtained by calling the Nevada Board of Veterinary Medical Examiners at (775) 688-1788, or writing to the Board at 4600 Kietzke Lane, Bldg. O, #265, Reno, Nevada, 89502.

2. The number of persons who:

Hearing & Workshop dates:	September 30, 2002
	December 13, 2002
	March 28, 2003
	June 26, 2003

(a) **Attended the hearings:** **16**

(b) **Testified at the hearings:** **10**

(c) **Submitted to the agency written comments:** **5**

3. A description of how comment was solicited from affected businesses, a summary of their response and an explanation how other interested persons may obtain a copy of the summary.

Comments were solicited from affected businesses by the notices as outlined in #1, and by direct mail to interested persons that are on the Board's mailing list.

4. If the regulation was adopted with or without changing any part of the proposed regulation, a summary of reasons for adopting the regulation without change.

The regulation was adopted at the public hearing on June 26, 2003 with minor non-substantive changes.

5. The estimated economic effect of the adopted regulation on the business which it is to regulate on the public:

There is no additional cost to the businesses regulated.

6. A description of any regulation of other state or government agencies which the proposed regulation overlaps or duplicates.

The Board is not aware of any state or government agency regulations which the proposed amendments duplicate.

7. Does the regulation include provisions which are more stringent than a federal regulation which regulates the same activity?

The Board is not aware of any regulations that are more stringent than any federal regulation which regulates the same activity.

8. Does the regulation provide a new fee or increase an existing fee?

There is no new fee or increase in existing fees.