

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

**LCB File No. R088-07**

Effective April 17, 2008

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

AUTHORITY: §§1, 2 and 4, NRS 638.070 and 638.124; §§3 and 5, NRS 638.070 and 638.119;  
§§6 and 7, NRS 638.070.

A REGULATION relating to veterinary medicine; authorizing veterinary technicians and euthanasia technicians to perform certain tasks under certain circumstances; requiring certain examinations to be conducted before vaccinating an animal at a veterinary facility; and providing other matters properly relating thereto.

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

**Sec. 2. 1.** *Except as otherwise provided in this section, a licensed veterinary technician who is an employee of an animal control agency or a society for the prevention of cruelty to animals that is in compliance with the provisions of chapter 574 of NRS may, before an animal is examined by a licensed veterinarian and in accordance with written protocols for first aid treatments which must be approved by each veterinarian employed by or contracted with the agency or society:*

*(a) Obtain initial vital signs of the animal when the animal enters the custody of the agency or society;*

*(b) Apply bandages to the animal;*

*(c) Administer topical and oral medications, other than controlled substances and intravenous fluids, to the animal;*

*(d) Collect clinical specimens from the animal;*

*(e) Administer vaccinations, other than vaccinations for zoonotic diseases, by injection or nasal installation to the animal; and*

*(f) Implant subcutaneous identification microchips into the animal.*

*2. A licensed veterinary technician described in subsection 1 may not perform the tasks described in subsection 1 unless the employing agency or society has:*

*(a) Applied to the Board for authorization for licensed veterinary technicians employed by the society or agency to perform the tasks described in subsection 1; and*

*(b) Received such authorization from the Board.*

*3. The Board may revoke any authorization granted pursuant to subsection 2 after inspecting any agency or society that has received such authorization.*

**Sec. 3.** *A euthanasia technician may implant a subcutaneous identification microchip into an animal if the euthanasia technician has successfully completed training in implanting subcutaneous identification microchips that has been approved by the Board.*

**Sec. 4.** 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 may perform the following tasks under the immediate supervision of a supervising veterinarian:

- (a) Application of casts for the immobilization of fractures.
- (b) ~~Dental extractions.~~ *Removal of:*
  - (1) Teeth that have extreme mobility and stage 4 periodontal disease; and*
  - (2) Retained deciduous teeth other than retained deciduous canine teeth.*
- (c) Induction of anesthesia.
- (d) Assisting a licensed veterinarian in surgery.
- (e) Euthanasia.
- (f) Fluid aspiration from a body cavity.

3. A licensed veterinary technician may perform the following tasks under the immediate or direct supervision of a supervising veterinarian:

- (a) Endotracheal intubation.
- (b) Blood administration.
- (c) Monitoring of vital signs.
- (d) Application of casts and splints.
- (e) Tasks listed in subsection 4, if the animal is anesthetized.
- (f) External noninvasive ultrasonography.
- (g) Cystocentesis to obtain a urine specimen.
- (h) Dental prophylaxis.
- (i) Physical therapy.

4. A licensed veterinary technician may perform the following tasks under the immediate, direct or indirect supervision of a supervising veterinarian:

- (a) Administration of enemas.
- (b) Administration of an electrocardiogram.
- (c) Application of bandages.
- (d) Catheterization of an unobstructed bladder.
- (e) Introduction of a stomach tube.
- (f) Ear flushing with pressure or suction.
- (g) Positioning of animals for X rays.
- (h) Operation of X-ray machines.
- (i) Administration of oral and rectal radio-opaque materials.
- (j) Administration of oral and topical medications, including controlled substances.
- (k) Starting and restarting of intravenous fluids.
- (l) Collection of a laboratory specimen for analysis, including, but not limited to, blood, urine, skin, parasites and microorganisms.
- (m) Collection of tissue during or after a postmortem examination by a licensed veterinarian.
- (n) Administration of intramuscular, subcutaneous or intravenous injections.
- (o) Placement of an intravenous catheter.

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

**Sec. 5.** NAC 638.450 is hereby amended to read as follows:

638.450 As used in NAC 638.450 to 638.565, inclusive ~~1-3~~, *and section 3 of this regulation:*

1. “Agency” means:

- (a) A law enforcement agency;
- (b) An animal control agency; or

(c) A society for the prevention of cruelty to animals which is in compliance with chapter 574 of NRS,

↳ that employs a euthanasia technician to euthanize injured, sick, homeless or unwanted domestic pets and other animals.

2. “Euthanasia technician” has the meaning ascribed to it in NRS 638.005.

3. “Handler” means a person who is trained in techniques of animal handling and human safety and is not licensed as a euthanasia technician.

**Sec. 6.** NAC 638.610 is hereby amended to read as follows:

638.610 1. An examination conducted to determine whether an animal may be vaccinated at a vaccination clinic *or a veterinary facility* must include, without limitation, an examination of the temperature, pulse and respiration of the animal to determine:

(a) The presence of any respiratory, intestinal or other organ disease that may affect the efficacy of the vaccine; and

(b) Whether the hydration of the animal is normal.

2. A medical record of the examination must be kept pursuant to NAC 638.0475.

**Sec. 7.** NAC 638.620 is hereby amended to read as follows:

638.620 1. A veterinarian who administers vaccines at a vaccination clinic *or a veterinary facility* shall, before he administers a vaccination to an animal, conduct a physical examination of that animal pursuant to NAC 638.610.

2. If, after conducting an examination of the animal, the veterinarian determines that a condition exists that would cause harm to the animal if the vaccine were administered, he shall:

(a) Not administer the vaccine; and

(b) Direct the owner of the animal to contact a veterinarian for treatment of the animal.

**NOTICE OF ADOPTION OF PROPOSED REGULATION  
LCB File No. R088-07**

The Nevada State Board of Veterinary Medical Examiners adopted regulations assigned LCB File No. R088-07 which pertain to chapter 644 of the Nevada Administrative Code.

**INFORMATIONAL STATEMENT**

**1. PUBLIC COMMENT SOLICITED:**

As per NRS 233B.0607 a copy of the regulation and the Notice of Hearing was posted at all Nevada County Public Libraries. As indicated in the Notice of Hearing, a copy of any of these proceedings could be obtained at the State Board of Veterinary Medical Examiners office at 4600 Kietzke Lane, Bldg. O-265, Reno, Nevada 89502.

**2. ATTENDANCE:**

**Workshop on September 5, 2007:**

Attendance: 1 Licensed veterinary technician; 3 individuals from animal control; 1 licensed veterinary technician from UNR.

Questions were primarily focused on Section 3 in regard to exemptions for LVT's at animal control agencies and the process for registering and submitting the information to the Board staff.

**Hearing on October 19, 2007:**

Attendance: 1 Licensed veterinary technician

**3. REASONS FOR ADOPTING REGULATION WITHOUT CHANGE:**

The permanent regulation was adopted at the State Board of Veterinary Medical Examiners meeting on October 19, 2007 with unsubstantial changes of verbiage on page 2, Section 3 (1) and page 4(2)(b) as stated in the enclosed regulations.

**4. ECONOMIC EFFECT OF THE REGULATION ON THE BUSINESS.**

There would be no economic effect of these new regulations on the business of veterinary medicine.

**5. ESTIMATED COST TO THE AGENCY FOR ENFORCEMENT:**

There is no cost to this agency for enforcement of these regulations.

**6. OVERLAP OR DUPLICATION OF PROPOSED REGULATION:**

To our knowledge, there is no other state or government agency which the proposed regulation duplicates.

**7. REGULATION PROVIDES A NEW FEE OR INCREASES EXISTING FEE:**

These regulations do not provide a new fee or increase existing fees.