

Practitioner Update on Changing Laws in 2019

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SB 1480 CLIENT DRUG CONSULTATION REQUIREMENT FOR VETERINARIANS

Effective January 1, 2019, each time a veterinarian initially prescribes, dispenses, or furnishes (gives a client) a prescription medication in an outpatient setting, he or she must offer to provide consultation to the client or the client's agent for each medication provided or prescribed.

The veterinarian is only required to offer consultation the first time he or she dispenses or prescribes medication to a client or client's agent in an outpatient setting.

It only applies to written prescriptions or to prescription drugs dispensed from practice stock for clients to take home. Medication refills or drugs being dispensed on a repeat basis do not require subsequent consultations.

The consultation does not apply to drugs administered to admitted patients or to patients during appointments.

Non-prescription products do not require consultation.

The consultation may be conducted either in person or through electronic means.

A veterinarian may delegate to a registered veterinary technician or veterinary assistant the task of providing the required consultation and if applicable, drug documentation.

The new law also requires that it be noted in the patient medical record whether the consultation is provided or declined by the client or client agent.

The consultation must include:

The name and description of the prescription (also referred to as "dangerous") drug.

Route of administration, dosage form, dosage, duration of drug therapy, the

duration of the effects of the drug, and the common severe adverse effects associated with the use of a short-acting or long-acting drug.

Any special directions for proper use and storage.

Actions to be taken in the event of a missed dose.

If available, precautions and relevant warnings provided by the drug's manufacturer, including common severe adverse effects of the drug.

If the client requests written documentation about the drug, the veterinarian must provide it, if available.

Sources may include:

Plumbs Online (plumbsveterinarydrugs.com)

Drugs.com (drugs.com/vet)

Bayer online Veterinary Drug Compendium (bayerall.cvpSERVICE.com)

Individual drug web pages (available through product manufacturer)

1800 Pet Meds.com

SB 1343 SEXUAL HARASSMENT TRAINING FOR CALIFORNIA BUSINESSES

Effective January 1, 2019, California businesses with five or more employees to provide sexual harassment training to both supervisors and employees by January 1, 2020 and then once every two years thereafter.

Employers must provide sexual harassment prevention training in a classroom setting, through interactive E-learning, or through a live webinar. E-learning training must provide instructions on how to contact a trainer who can answer questions within two business days.

2 hours for supervisors

1 hour for all other employees

A good source for training:

The California Chamber of Commerce HR California website- online e-interactive training.

AB 3252 BLOOD BANK EXEMPTION FOR CALIFORNIA VETERINARY PRACTICES

Veterinary practices are exempt from CDFA blood bank licensing and regulatory oversight if:

The veterinarian only uses blood or blood products to treat his or her own patients, and, Does not sell the blood or blood products to a third party.

Blood donor animals do not need to reside in the veterinary practice.

SB 1480 VCPR EXEMPTION IN DECLARED DISASTERS

A California-licensed veterinarian within a 25-mile radius of any locally or state proclaimed state of emergency may, in good faith, do both of the following:

1. Render necessary and prompt care and treatment to an animal patient **without establishing a veterinarian-client-patient relationship** if conditions are such that one cannot be established in a timely manner.
2. Dispense or prescribe drugs in reasonable quantities where failure to provide services or medications, including controlled substances, may result in loss of life or intense suffering of the animal patient. Prior to refilling a prescription pursuant to this paragraph, the veterinarian shall make a reasonable effort to contact the originally prescribing veterinarian.

A veterinarian acting under this section shall make an appropriate record that includes the basis for proceeding under this section.

A veterinarian who performs services pursuant to this section shall have immunity from liability pursuant to subdivision (b) of Section 8659 of the Government Code.

AB 1753 CONTROLLED SUBSTANCE PRESCRIPTION PADS

In addition to the current specifications required by law, controlled substance prescription pads must now:

Contain unique serialized numbers on each prescription.

15 digit (4 alpha, 11 numeric)

Pads must be obtained only from the California Department of Justice approved printing companies.