

Ohio Veterinary Medical Licensing Board Newsletter

2017-2018

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Vice-President's Message

Sitting on the Ohio Veterinary Medical Licensing Board is a privilege, and work, but it is especially a real education. Not only do you learn a lot, you also find yourself changing the way you do things at your practice—sometimes on a monthly basis (i.e. after every board meeting)! Below is a short list of some of the common pitfalls that may cause licensees to get personal correspondence from the OVMLB which probably results in poor sleep as well.

Tips for Success AKA Not Getting to Know the OVMLB More Than You Desire

1. Medical Records (You can't be too thorough!). Some of these tips are by [Rule 4741-1-21 OAC](#) and some are by suggestion to improve care and communication.)

RECORD

- Your PE findings
- Drug dosages and routes of administration
- Advice/treatment options given to owner(s). This helps decipher the all too frequent "he said, she said" conundrum when the

Board is wading through medical records that have been submitted in response to a complaint.

- Client communications. Consider doing so in any detail necessary, but especially when there is disagreement/refusal/confusion regarding diagnostic/treatment options or care recommendations.
- Anesthetic monitoring.

2. Compliance Inspections

Review the Compliance inspection form on the website under [compliance inspections](#).

Consider doing your own inspection so there won't be any surprises.

- Expired drugs are a common finding in Cis. Have a system in place to inventory regularly and dispose of expired drugs according to [Ohio Board of Pharmacy guidelines](#).
- Personnel duties: Print off the list of [RVT/Animal Aide](#) duties and make sure all DVMs in the practice are familiar with it.

3. Review the Veterinary Medical Practice Act Law and Rules (Chapter 4741) found on the Board's web site. This

may sound onerous, but it is important not only in the event of a complaint being filed, but to ensure that your practice is in compliance. ORC Sections that are important are:

- [4741.04](#) Veterinary-Client -Patient Relationship. This will be especially important once the Board starts to tackle the Telemedicine issues.
- [4741.19](#) Deals with the practice without a License prohibited; students; technicians and specialists.
- [4741.30](#) Deals with the Disposition of Abandoned Animals.

OAC Sections (Rules):

- [4741-1-03](#) sets the minimum standards for stationary veterinary facilities.
- [4741-1-08](#) sets the mobile veterinary practice requirements.
- [4741-1-13](#) deals with the Livestock Animal Practices
- [4741-1-21](#) sets the Record keeping requirements.

We hope this is useful and helpful information and may improve your knowledge and quality of practice.

Amended Continuing Education Rule 4741-1-11 OAC

Rule 4741-1-11 OAC was amended to eliminate the requirement for online veterinary continuing education courses to be in real-time to count towards the scientific portion of the mandatory continuing education (CE) hours for renewal. However, the rule implemented limitations on the number of hours of internet courses that can be utilized toward the renewal mandates. In simple terms, no more than 6 hours of internet courses may be obtained towards the renewal CE requirement for a biennium. And of those 6 hours, no more than 2 hours may be non-scientific. i.e The licensee may have all 6 hours of online CE in scientific hours or 4 online CE hours scientific and 2 CE hours on non-scientific issues. Please review the rule carefully. The CE requirement will begin with the RVT renewal in 2019. <http://codes.ohio.gov/oac/4741-1-11v2>
The Board members are currently reviewing concerns submitted regarding the rule which may require further revisions to the rule. Please check the web site regularly for updates.

Reminder: In an emergency situation, a licensee may request a written "one-lifetime" waiver from CE during renewal. However, the hours must be made up and submitted at the next biennial renewal.

MEDICAL RECORD RULE 4741-1-21 OAC

The Medical Record rule was modified to clarify what needed to be documented in the medical record. Rule 4741-1-21 Ohio Administrative Code (OAC) can be found on the Board's web site under Law and Rules.

Rule 4741-1-21 OAC

A. A veterinarian performing a physical examination, diagnosis, treatment or surgery on an animal or group of animals shall prepare a written record or computer record concerning the animals containing, at a minimum, the following information:

1. Name, address, and telephone number of owner;
2. Identity of the animal, herd, or flock
3. Except for herds or flocks, the age, sex, color, and breed;
4. Dates of examination, treatment and surgery;
5. Brief history of the condition of each animal, litter, herd, or flock;
6. Examination findings;
7. Laboratory and radiographic tests performed and reports;
8. Differential diagnosis;
9. Procedures performed/treatment given and results;
10. Drugs (and their dosages) administered, dispensed, or prescribed;
11. Surgical procedures shall include a description of the procedure, the name of the surgeon, the type of sedative/anesthetic agent used, the route of administration and the dosage; and
12. Anesthesia monitoring performed during surgical procedures.

B. Individual records must be maintained on each patient, except that records on livestock or litters of animals may be maintained on a per-client basis.

C. Medical records and radiographs are the physical property of the hospital or the proprietor of the practice that prepared them. Records, including radiographs, must be maintained for a minimum of three years after the last visit.

D. Medical records shall be released, upon request, from a treating veterinarian to another treating veterinarian, and shall be returned to the originating practice within a reasonable time, if requested. Copies of records must be made available upon request from the owner of an animal at a reasonable cost to the owner.

E. All regulated substances shall be recorded as required by federal and/or state regulations.

Effective September 1, 2017

Name Changes in the New System

After April, 2018, name changes may be initiated through the Online Service Request or can still be submitted in paper format with the form found on the Board's web site.

With the completed online or written form, one of the following forms of documentation must be uploaded or submitted with the paper form:

1. Copy of Valid Driver's License or State Identification Card with the new name (Note: the copy of the driver's license must clearly show the picture and

name of the licensee);

2. Copy of marriage certificate;
3. Divorce or dissolution decree indicating the current name of the licensee/applicant;
4. Probate or other court order approving a legal name change;
5. U.S. Immigration and Citizenship Services issued Green Card (Note: the copy of the Green Card must clearly show the picture and name of the licensee).

Licenses unable to provide one of the above forms of documentation cannot effect a name change.

Veterinary Student Loan Program

The student loan program was developed to provide large animal veterinary services or protect public health in veterinary resource shortage areas. \$10.00 of each veterinary license renewal fee is deposited in the loan repayment fund. In May, 2017, the Board awarded \$10,000 each to Dr. Austin Clark of Ashland and Dr. Charles Robison of Dresden for a service commitment of one year. The Board awarded \$6,000 to Dr. Alissa Wilhelm of Milton Center for a second year commitment. Applications for 2017 can be found on the Board's web site and are due by May 1st to the Board office.

Renewals– Emails a requirement for renewals

Veterinary licenses expire on March 1, 2018. Which means that any licensee, according to the Veterinary Practice Act, who is practicing on an expired license is in violation of the law. Late fees are assessed one month after the expiration date and a stiffer penalty is applied after two months of expiration. Renewal information will be mailed in January 2018.

Please provide any changes of address in writing to the Board office by email, fax or via mail ASAP to make sure that you receive your renewal information in a timely manner. Renewal information with username and password will be mailed out the first week of January, 2018. **Please note: An Email address is required to be submitted to the Board when renewing.** A new licensing system is being implemented in April 2018 in which all renewal information and notifications will be provided by email only. Instructions will be included on the Board's web site prior to implementation.

For this renewal cycle only, all renewals will be online except in limited circumstances. The licensee must request a paper application if they have disciplinary or criminal action. As a reminder, the name of the licensee must be on the check submitted if renewing by mail. This reminder is especially important for those veterinary entities that submit a "group" check for their employees. Unfortunately, the current Continuing Education reporting section remains difficult until the new E-licensing system. You may submit your CE via email or fax, but you will need to make a notation when renewing that you are sending the CE separately. Your license will not be renewed until the renewal application is complete.

When renewing online, remember to only hit the submit button once and DO NOT hit the "back" button. Every time that you hit the back button, your credit card is charged. If you accidentally get charged more than once, the Board tries to catch it and credit your account within 24-48 hours. However, if a double billing appears on your statement, let the Board staff know promptly. **Please note:** The Board staff do not provide receipts for renewal fees paid. Your cancelled check or credit card invoice is your receipt. An email should be received upon online payment via credit card. Keep a copy for your records.

Active Military personnel cannot renew online at this time, but will be able to renew once the new system is in place (after April 23, 2018). Since the renewal fee is waived, active military personnel can renew by submitting a renewal form and CE via email, fax, or US postal mail. Email joseph.mcclain@ovmlb.state.oh.us for a renewal form if you are on active duty in the US Armed Forces, the Ohio National Guard or Military Reserve. The renewal form will also be available on the Board web site under "Forms" until April 2018.

Please note that paper applications will not be accepted by the Board after April 2, 2018. The old and new systems will be down for extended periods of time during the month of April. Prior to the conversion, you will receive eLicense log in information (including a security code) from the Board. Once you log in to eLicense for the first time, you will be asked to enter the following information: Email Address (the one on file with the Board), Security code, Social Security Number, and Date of Birth. There will also be detailed instructions on the Board's web site.

Transaction Fee

When passing the state's budget bill on June 30, 2017, the Ohio Legislature authorized by a law a \$3.50 transaction charge for all users of the state's Ohio eLicense system. Therefore, when the Board transitions to the new system (anticipated date April 23, 2018) there will be an additional \$3.50 charge to cover the costs associated with the state being able to maintain a secure Ohio eLicense system for license information. The transaction fee will be charged for ALL new and renewal of licenses after April 10, 2018. **If a paper application is submitted to the Board during April or after, it must include the \$3.50 fee.**

Rule changes as a result of the New Licensing System

As a result of transitioning to the new Department of Administrative Services Licensing System, the small license registrations that the current system prints out will no longer be available. Therefore, the Board has proposed to amend certain rules which eliminate the requirement to post the certificates for the public to view and also allows the Board to email the renewal applications to licensees. The new system has an enhanced license verification site that will be more informative and efficient for an employer to check the status of a license or the public to view the status of a license.

The Rules that are being modified to implement the new licensing system are:

Rule(s) 4741-1-02, 4741-1-03, 4741-1-08, 4741-1-11, 4741-1-20 of the Ohio Administrative Code (OAC)

One rule is being modified to mirror the Ohio Department of Agriculture's prohibition of allowing unlicensed individuals to perform tail docking of a dairy cow. Rule 4741-1-13 OAC would prohibit a livestock owner's agent from tail docking of dairy cows. Only a veterinarian can perform that service.

Notice:

Licensees will no longer receive a small certificate upon initial licensure or upon renewal of licensure. You will receive an email validating your license/renewal which you should maintain for your records. But it is not necessary to display. Veterinarians will still receive a wall certificate upon initial licensure. RVTs will receive an email with the smaller wall certificate enclosed and available for printing out.

Employers can validate a license through the Licensure Verification port on the Board's web site. The Licensure Verification will now have the initial licensure date as well as disciplinary action.

Please submit the email address that you wish to receive correspondence from the Board to info@ovmlb.state.oh.us.

A few pointers for the new ELicensing system:

- The new system does not work well in Explorer. Google Chrome, Safari or Firefox are recommended.
- You will need to have all of your documents available (i.e transcripts, court documents, military active duty forms) to upload onto your computer so that they can be submitted into the system.
- If you begin to enter data, and need to leave the system, you can save the data and return to complete.
- Your application will not be submitted to the Board office until payment is made via VISA or MasterCard only. If you do not have a charge card, you can obtain a pre-paid payment card but make sure you have added the \$3.50 transaction fee to the pre-paid Visa card.
- You will have three options to submit continuing education: write it out, upload a document, or email to the Board.
- You can change your address in the system at any time.
- Computers are necessary to transact with the licensing system and complete the renewal of your Board license. Computers are available at local libraries, Senior Citizen Centers, and Community Centers. For initial licenses, you must be able to upload documents. The only document that will not be uploaded is the Criminal Background Check results which come directly to the Board from BCII.
- You can request another wall certificate through the Options link of the new system.
- You can request a Letter of Good Standing through the Options link of the new system.
- If you have forgotten your password, you can obtain through the system.
- Please note that the system will lock you out for 30 minutes if you attempt to log in after three unsuccessful attempts.

The Board continues to be committed and invested in ways that provide the best public protection and customer service possible. Thank you for your anticipated patience and cooperation as we transition to the new comprehensive professional regulatory license system. Please continue to visit the Board web site for updates.



News you will find on the Ohio Board of Pharmacy web site:

- In June, 2017, the BOP updated their Guidelines for the [Terminal Distributor Licensing of Prescriber Practices](#).
- Effective in 2017, terminal distributor of dangerous drugs prohibits dispensing or selling more than a 90-day supply of an opioid analgesic. The 90-day supply provision applies to veterinarians who may also personally furnish more than a 72-hour supply of opioid analgesics from their offices. The law also applies to cough syrups containing codeine or hydrocodone.
- From the July E-News Update, Terminal Distributor licenses must renew by March 31st. Terminal and wholesale distributors that have discontinued business operations must file a written notice of discontinuing business form with the Board of Pharmacy pursuant to rule [4729-9-07](#) of the Ohio Administrative Code. The form can be accessed on the [terminal distributor](#) licensing section of the Board's website.
- Rule 4729-5-30 OAC, entitled Manner of issuance of a prescription, was amended to permit a pharmacist to modify a prescription after consultation with the prescriber.
- Just a reminder that Pharmacy Technicians can only perform duties under the direction of a Pharmacist. (See [4729.91 ORC](#))
- The State of Ohio Board of Pharmacy recently released guidance regarding the new acute pain opioid prescribing rules. NOTE: Veterinarians are exempted from the rules. The limits and diagnosis codes do not apply to veterinarians. (Please view www.pharmacy.ohio.gov/AcuteLimits)

FDA Warns of Illnesses and Deaths in Pets Exposed to Fluorouracil (*excerpt from the August edition of the State of Ohio Board of Pharmacy Newsletter*)

Food and Drug Administration (FDA) is alerting pharmacists that patients' pets are at risk of illness and death when exposed to the topical cancer medication fluorouracil cream USP 5% (5-FU) that is intended for use in people. Fluorouracil may also be marketed under the brand names Carac®, Efudex®, and Fluoroplex®. Very small amounts could be dangerous to household pets; thus, owners should use care when applying and storing the medication. FDA has received reports of five dogs that became ill and died after accidentally ingesting the topical cream, notes a Center for Veterinary Medicine Update available at www.fda.gov/AnimalVeterinary/NewsEvents/DVMUpdates/ucm537434.htm.

Although FDA has not received any reports involving cats to date, cats are also expected to be extremely sensitive to fluorouracil cream. For instance, if an owner applies fluorouracil cream to an afflicted area and touches his or her cat, the cat may accidentally ingest the medication when grooming itself and suffer adverse events.

FDA advises that pharmacists who fill these prescriptions should advise patients with pets to prevent exposing their pet to the medication. Adverse events may be reported to FDA using the Form FDA 1932a, which may be obtained at www.fda.gov/AnimalVeterinary/SafetyHealth/ReportaProblem/ucm055305.htm.

OARRS and the Veterinarian

The Ohio Automated Rx Reporting System (OARRS) is a tool to track the dispensing and personal furnishing of controlled prescription drugs to patients. OARRS is designed to monitor this information for suspected abuse or diversion (i.e., channeling drugs into illegal use), and can give a prescriber or pharmacist critical information regarding a patient's (or owner's) controlled substance prescription history. This information can help prescribers and pharmacists identify high-risk patient owners who would benefit from early interventions. Participation in OARRS is voluntary for veterinarians, but highly recommended. More information can be found at: <https://www.ohiopmp.gov/Portal/>