

## **ALERT TO VETERINARIANS PRACTISING FROM AN UNREGISTERED FACILITY AND/OR FROM NO “STRUCTURED” FACILITY AND OTHER IMPORTANT THINGS!!!**

A person practising the veterinary profession must personally be registered at the Council in terms of Sections 23, 24 and 25 of the Veterinary and Para-Veterinary Act, Act 19 of 1982 (the Act). In addition, the practise (irrespective of kind of service being rendered, i.e. mobile or otherwise) from which a veterinarian renders a service must be registered as a veterinary facility with the Council in terms of Regulations 1 and 2 of the Regulations relating to the registration of veterinary facilities published in Government Gazette no 29792 on 20 April 2007, as amended on 8 June 2012, in Government Gazette no 35413 (the Regulations). Without this practise number no medicines may be supplied to a veterinarian in terms of the Medicines and Related Substances Control Act, Act 101 of 1965 (Medicines Act). A valid prescription must contain a practise number in terms of Regulation 11 and 28 of the General Regulations promulgated under the Medicines Act. Prescriptions may not be filled if the practise number is absent. It is both unprofessional conduct (very serious) and a criminal offence to practise from an unregistered facility. The registration number of a company or Close Corporation is not to be confused with the registration number issued by Council. The company or Close Corporation registration number is issued by the Companies and Intellectual Property Commission and does not suffice for the purposes of the Act or the Medicines Act.

Regulation 2.1 of the Regulations relating to the registration of veterinary facilities further provides that the minimum standards for a veterinary facility must be maintained. The Rules pertaining to the practising of the veterinary professions provide that it must be a permanent structure, albeit a prefabricated building or something similar, amongst others (Rules 19 to 35). The physical facility is further necessitated by the provisions of the Medicines Act that prescription books (Regulation 11) and registers for Schedule 5 and 6 medicines (Regulation 30) must be kept for a period of five years. The physical register for scheduled medicine must be capable of being produced summarily should a Medicines Control Council inspector visit you, otherwise all medicines found on the premises will be confiscated. If the physical facility does not fully comply with all the minimum standards as prescribed by the Rules exemption may be applied for under rule 44. You also have to keep scheduled medicines securely locked up in a dispensary and limit access to those. A locked vehicle does not suffice and would be no excuse if scheduled medicines are stolen from such a locked vehicle (mobile facility).

Section 34 further provides that a veterinarian may not keep an open shop. That means that medicines may only be supplied to a client and an animal with which you have a client-patient relationship. You may not even fill a prescription for another veterinarian, unless in an emergency, and then only dispense medicine for three days!



Don't get caught unravelling

and suffer the inevitable consequences! Be wise and register

your facility now!

### **LINKS TO REGISTER YOUR FACILITY**

[Minimum standards](#)

Compliance checklists (listed in the table)

<a href="#">Rule 18-24 (Clinical Veterinary Facilities)</a>	<a href="#">Rule 25 (Mobile Animal Services)</a>	<a href="#">Rule 26 ( CCS and Regulatory Service Facilities)</a>
<a href="#">Rule 27 (Small Animal Hospital / Clinic)</a>	<a href="#">Rule 28 (Equine Hospital / Clinic)</a>	<a href="#">Rule 29 (Production Animal Hospital / Clinic )</a>
<a href="#">Rule 30 (Veterinary Behavioural Consultancy)</a>	<a href="#">Rule 31 (Veterinary Laboratory Facilities)</a>	<a href="#">Rule 32 (Animal Research Facilities)</a>
<a href="#">Rule 33 (Herd Health Practice [A] Production Animals)</a>	<a href="#">Rule 33 (Herd Health Practice [B] Wildlife)</a>	<a href="#">Rule 34 (Consultants in Industry and other consultancies)</a>
<a href="#">Rule 35 (Non-practising Facilities)</a>		

Application: [New facility or moving to new premises](#) / [Application: Transfer of facility](#) / [Application form: Registration Vetshops](#)