

Dear Colleagues

As you are aware we are currently bringing the profession of Veterinary Physiotherapists on board. We wish to clarify the 3 options available to you as a Veterinary Nurse who is involved in Veterinary Physiotherapy beyond the scope of that of a Veterinary Nurse, as we have been made aware that previous communication has not been clear.

If you have applied for registration and wish to change your category, or you have not applied for registration and wish to do so now that this information is available, please do so urgently. (Closing date: Friday 26 October 2018)

for **new applicants**: please contact Lenora Erasmus [exams@savc.org.za](mailto:exams@savc.org.za) for full details of required information

for **existing applicants** that wish to change their application: please contact Lenora Erasmus [exams@savc.org.za](mailto:exams@savc.org.za) to see if any information is outstanding

1. **Change of registration:** If you wish to change the status of your registration from being registered as a Veterinary Nurse to being registered as a Veterinary Physiotherapist.
  - a. **Who should do this?** those of you who wish to practice as a Vet Physio only
  - b. **What does it mean practically?** you pay maintenance fees for a Vet Physio only, you do CPD as a Vet Physio only, you may work for your own account as a Vet Physio. You may not work as a Vet Nurse.
  - c. **What if I change my mind?** You may re-register as a Vet nurse
    - i. Less than 3 years lapsed:
      1. Apply for re-registration – fee: [approximately three times the maintenance fees]
      2. CPD cycle starts from the first 1 April after you re-registered
    - ii. More than 3 years lapsed:
      1. Apply for re-registration: fee: [approximately three times the maintenance fees]
      2. Submit proof of maintaining CPD or apply to write the SAVC Vet Nurse registration exam.
2. **Extension of registration:** If you wish to retain your status as a registered Veterinary Nurse and perform limited Veterinary Physiotherapist work (but beyond that in the scope of a Vet Nurse). This dispensation needs to be motivated with support from an employer.
  - a. **Who should do this?** Those of you who are employed as Vet nurse, and in the course of your employment do more extensive Vet Physio work than would be considered part of a nurse's scope (acute phase rehabilitation of in-hospital patients).
  - b. **What does it mean practically?** You are still a Vet Nurse, you pay maintenance fees for a Vet Nurse, you do CPD as a Vet nurse, as well in the Vet Physio field in which you have applied for extension of registration. You may not work for your own account as a Vet Physio, nor may you call yourself a Vet physio.
  - c. **What if I only decide to do this later?** The option for application for extension of registration will be available going forward if you do any work outside of your scope of practice which may include Vet Physio work. BE AWARE that if you are doing Vet Physio work now and do not apply for extension of registration you will be working outside of your scope of practice and will be answerable to Council in the case of an inquiry.
- d. **Dual registration:** If you wish to retain your status as a registered Veterinary Nurse and register as a Veterinary Physiotherapist.
  - a. **Who should do this?** Those of you who wish to be able to work as a Vet nurse and a Vet Physio.
  - b. **What does it mean practically?** You are registered as a Vet Nurse and a Vet Physio. You pay maintenance fees for a Vet Nurse and a Vet Physio, you do CPD as a Vet nurse and a Vet Physio. You may work for your own account as a Vet Physio and/or you may work as a Vet Nurse, and may call yourself a Vet Nurse and a Vet Physio.
  - c. **What if I only decide to do this later?** Dual registration can be done at any stage, but after the Bringing on Board stage (now) the criteria to register as a Vet Physio (as with any other para veterinary profession) may include applying to write the SAVC registration exam. You may not qualify to write the exam if you do not have a full Vet Physio qualification.