SAVC GUIDELINES FOR ENGAGEMENT OF AUTHORISED PERSONNEL IN MULTILATERAL INSTITUTIONAL
AND/OR INTER-ORGANISATIONAL ACTIVITIES FOR RESEARCHERS AND ANIMAL WELFARE
ORGANISATIONS

The Veterinary and Para-Veterinary Professions Act, Act 19 of 1982, provides for the authorisation of unregistered persons to render the procedures, functions or services pertaining to the profession of a veterinarian or para-veterinary professional, subject to such conditions as the South African Veterinary Council [SAVC] may determine from time to time and in each individual case.

Authorisation, in terms of section 23[1][c] of Act 19 of 1982, may be granted on application where a need for such authorisation is appropriately motivated and in addition that authorisation granted to a person under a specific employer and supervising veterinarian.

In cases where a person, who is not registered with the SAVC, is authorised by the SAVC to perform veterinary or para-veterinary procedures/functions/services at one institution or organisation (i.e. institution/organisation A), additionally wishes to perform veterinary or para veterinary procedures/functions/services at another institution(s) or organisation(s) (i.e. institution/organisation B, C, etc.), the following principles would apply:

a) The Animal Welfare Organisation and/or Research Animal Facilities involved should be registered with the SAVC as veterinary facilities, where veterinary or para-veterinary procedures are performed, and in compliance with the Regulations made under the Veterinary and Para-Veterinary Professions Act (19 of 1982);

b) AEC approval is required from all institutions/organisation involved, as per the SANS 10386 and NHREC requirements [applicable to researchers];

c) When performing veterinary or para-veterinary procedures at multiple institutions and/or multiple organisations, the SAVC-authorised persons must have an SAVC registered supervisor at each institution and/or organisation where those procedures are carried out, as the delegation of responsibility is not accommodated under the SAVC supervision agreement for authorised persons. An SAVC supervision agreement will be required, for each authorised person, at each institution and/or organisation;

d) Where registered veterinary or para-veterinary professionals are requested to supervise authorised person from another institution/organisation, in procedures performed at their institution/organisation, the registered professionals may confirm competence or accept the confirmation of competence from the existing SAVC registered supervisor, at their professional discretion and they must sign a new supervision agreement for that institution/organisation. Should that SAVC registered professional not agree to accept supervisory responsibility, then the authorised person may not perform veterinary or para-veterinary procedures at that institution/organisation;

e) The control of medicines and scheduled substances (medicines) is especially important for highly scheduled medicines (i.e. Schedules 5, 6 and above). The responsible veterinarian at each institution/organisation should take responsibility for scheduled medicines (including access, storage and scheduled substance registers) at their respective facility/premises where the authorised persons carry-out procedures. Access to medicines should be restricted to appropriate
persons. Control of scheduled substances would be significantly simpler to manage, and it is encouraged that medicines are not transported between institutions/organisations; and

f) The principal veterinarian in whose name the veterinary facility (i.e. Research Animal Facility/Animal Welfare Organisation) is registered with the SAVC, remains responsible for the maintenance of minimum standards as per the Regulations.