Dear Colleagues,

I guess that I am not alone in thinking that this year went past much quicker than I had thought and anticipated. Yes, we are at the tail end of 2014 and I am hoping that despite the many setbacks and curveballs that life has brought, you have cause to celebrate some or other achievements! I hope that we will all use the remainder of the year and reflect on the so called missed opportunities, which we could not bring to fruition and prepare ourselves for a better performance in 2015.

There is however one statistic that caught my attention and brought me some sadness; 1020 rhinos were killed as at November 2014. This is more than the 1004 killed last year. I think that we have reached the tipping point and are now looking at the real possibility of a post rhino era in our lifetime, lest something drastic happens! I have followed this story over the years and perhaps the relocation of some of these animals...
My take on the issue is that as a sector we urgently get processes in motion to review policies applicable in this area, clean-up our house and present progressive solutions that will be of benefit to society as well as the patients that we care for.

Indeed, those we serve at large know better! I also believe that there is a hidden opportunity in all this; the so-called silver lining. And it is that we take charge through our hard work, steadfast and from day to day, tell our own stories. We will prevail!

I wish to express SAVC’s gratitude to the members of the veterinary professions, stakeholders, and especially to the Minister of Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries, Minister Senzeni Zokwana for taking time to visit us and to open our new offices on the 21st October 2014. The Minister’s message has been placed on our website. My key takeaway message was his invitation to work together (all stakeholders) to improve livelihoods of South Africans through improving veterinary support to livestock farmers and aquatic industries for food security. He mentioned that we have at least 12 million individuals who are food insecure.

I am convinced that time is not on our side and we have to attend to this as a matter of urgency. All stakeholders should show leadership, drive necessary actions and that we make progress.

Minister Senzeni Zokwana addressing Council and guests on 21 October 2014

The rules that will emanate from these consultative processes will affect us all.

Dear Colleagues, I take the opportunity to be one of the first people to wish you and your loved ones a Blessed Christmas and the best that 2015 can possibly offer. I know that during this period when most people are taking a holiday, those of you running practices will be a lot busier! This of course will be at the expense of family time and much needed rest and holidays. It is a labour of love and something that brings a great deal of satisfaction, and I suppose peace of mind. Best of luck! Lastly, I want to thank the SAVC’s administration and fellow Councillors for the service to the veterinary professions. I leave you all with the following words by Helen Keller as we saunter towards a new year; “Your success and happiness lies in you. Resolve to keep happy, and your joy and you shall form an invincible host against difficulties.”

Boitshoko Nishabele

My take on the issue is that as a sector we urgently get processes in motion to review policies applicable in this area, clean-up our house and present progressive solutions that will be of benefit to society as well as the patients that we care for. I have already met with the Chief Veterinary Officer to express these views and I did the same at a meeting with the SAVA PVS group. In the coming period, I will take the same message to the Faculty, South African Animal Health Association (SAANA) and other stakeholders. I am convinced that time is not on our side and we have to attend to this as a matter of urgency. All stakeholders should show leadership, drive necessary actions and ensure that we make progress. I think my opinion we need to quantum leap what others facing similar problems before us have learned and use that as a basis for our proposals through DAFF to the DoH.

I want to thank each one of you who attended and participated in the workshops that Council hosted in August, September and October 2014. I know that you took time out of your busy schedules in order to be heard and to contribute to the seeking of solutions to the problems that are before us as veterinary professions. Please, continue to send your ideas and thoughts as we have requested. The rules that will emanate from these consultative processes will affect us all.

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UPDATE ON MATTERS AFFECTING THE VETERINARY PROFESSION

THREATENED AND PROTECTED SPECIES (TOPS PERMITS)

No progress was made since our previous report in September 2014. We will keep members informed of any developments.

WSRA

The matter will probably be heard in the High Court during June/July 2015.

COMPULSORY COMMUNITY SERVICES (CCS)

No progress was made since our previous report. There is still no consensus regarding the draft regulations drafted. We will keep members informed of any developments.

INCREASE IN FINES IN RESPECT OF UNPROFESSIONAL CONDUCT

The Minister of Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries has since our previous report approved the increase in the fines for unprofessional conduct from R 25 000 to R 50 000. The increased fine will be applicable to professional misconduct committed from the date of publication of the notice in the Government Gazette.

AMR SUMMIT REPORT

The Department of Health organised a summit on Antimicrobial Resistance (AMR) the purpose of which was to bring together all stakeholders involved in work related to infectious diseases, to commit to the implementation of the Antimicrobial Resistance National Strategy Framework for South Africa.

OUREOWN VETERINARY HERITAGE

The SAVC commenced with the talks with the Black Veterinary Forum [BVF], the Department of Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries [DAFF], the Faculty of Veterinary Science, UP and the South African Veterinary Association with a view to establish a joint veterinary heritage committee for South Africa.

The meeting resolved to establish a permanent committee, consisting of four members, under the auspices of the Council, the other stakeholders being the SAVA, DAFF and the BVF. A Council member should chair the committee.

The Committee will work out its own terms of reference, funding and functioning and will be supported by the administration of the SAVC, including the development of a website.

Sponsorship of the Committee activities should be well considered by the Committee.

OIE representation of the Committee should be well versed in heritage matters.

Members are welcome to contact Dr Anne De Vos at 051 924 3028

Please click here for full details regarding this initiative.

UNESCO launched a worldwide Scientific and Cultural Organisation (UNESCO) the initiative came from the World Heritage committee for South Africa.

Representatives met on Monday, 20 October 2014 at the Council offices when Dr Anne De Vos explained that the initiative came from the World Heritage committee for South Africa.

Build client loyalty
Donate to the Pet Memorial Fund

Donate R40 per pet vaccinated and have a letter written by the Frienship to kill the owner of your support.
Debbie: (012) 346 1159

OFFICIAL NEWSLETTER OF THE SOUTH AFRICAN VETERINARY COUNCIL

Battle of the Bugs

Ectoparasites like ticks, fleas, lice, and mites live on the body surface of a host animal. They may take up residence on your pets – and pose a serious risk to their health. Some diseases, especially those transmitted by ticks, may be fatal.

Today, pet owners have an effective arsenal of ectoparasiticides to choose from in the fight against parasites. Dips, shampoos and powders were the first products to be commercially available. In the last 20 years, through scientific research and technological advancements, new products like sprays, collars, spot-ons and oral medications have become available. Products are more effective, longer-lasting and safer than ever before.

Development and Research

The research and development of new active ingredients for parasiticides cost companies hundreds of millions of dollars and take years to complete. The South African market for these products is relatively small and new innovations are generally developed internationally.

Read the full story in the January 2015 issue of Animaltalk magazine. Dr Peter Obereim of the South African Veterinary Council (SAVC) commented.

Acceptance of Veterinary Qualifications for Registration Purposes

The SAVC wishes to confirm that the BVSc degree [UP] is currently accepted by both the Australasian Veterinary Boards Council [AVBC] and the Royal College of Veterinary Surgeons [RCVS] for registration purposes without the holder of the BVSc degree [UP] having to pass a registration examination.

The RCVS has indicated that the RCVS is interested, as in the case of the AVBC, who already has an agreement with the SAVC regarding the accreditation of veterinary qualifications offered in the UK and South Africa. The SAVC and RCVS are currently looking into the terms of the agreement.

Veterinary qualifications are no longer automatically accepted for registration purposes as acceptance of qualifications is based on the regular assessment of the qualifications and validation of the standard of the tuition and training offered by veterinary faculties or schools.

The terms “reciprocity” and “automatic acceptance” are no longer part of any considerations in the agreements entered into when qualifications are assessed.

Acceptance of Veterinary Qualifications for Registration Purposes

The Code Company offers the unique combination of software programming, graphic design, multimedia, practice management, marketing and finance expertise tailored by a wealth of experience in the veterinary industry.

Let the Code Company be your preferred IT partner.

Website design • e-commerce • IT support • social media

0861 CODECO (26 33 26)
HWSETA Workshop

Will veterinary stakeholders gain from the decisions of the workshop facilitated by the Health and Welfare SETA (HWSETA) held on 17 September 2014 at the SAVC’s office?

What is the purpose of the HWSETA workshop? The purpose of the workshop held between the SAVC, veterinary stakeholders and the HWSETA was to strengthen relations between the HWSETA and SAVC. In addition, the workshop provided a platform for the identification of a working group. The working group would develop and implement a concrete plan of action moving forward. But how will it benefit members?

The working group will study the discussions emanating from the workshop and identify areas of consensus and concerns. It should also compile a report based on the outcomes of the workshop and disseminate the report to other stakeholders for inputs. Thereafter, the working group should report back to its principals and convene a month after the workshop to provide feedback on progress.

The intended benefit for stakeholders will be:

- Identification of veterinary research priorities and skills development priority areas that need immediate attention.
- Funding may be provided for CPD courses and for training of veterinary and veterinary para-professionals in general.

Please attend the information workshops and click here to see when a workshop is held in your area.

WE HAVE MOVED TO ROUTE21 CORPORATE PARK

Reminder!

Kindly note that the numbers on Victoria Link Street do not run in sequence.

IT Transformation

We reported in previous Newsletters 74 to 78 that the SAVC will embark on an IT transformation process.

Council wishes to pursue the IT transformation process as it is crucial to the Council, the Administration and the image of the profession.

The South African Veterinary Council is planning to implement a cloud-based, web portal platform from which to run its operations. Our target date for proposals is 15 January 2015. We will keep you updated.

On behalf of the SAVC and the veterinary professions we wish you a Blessed Festive Season and a peaceful, prosperous Year, 2015.
All **SAVC members** are reminded to inform Council when their contact details change. Postal and e-mail addresses, and cellular phone numbers are especially important to be updated to enable us to contact you. Please note that due to postal strikes we need your email address even more so now.

**IMPORTANT CPD REMINDER**

1. In order to lawfully render veterinary services, you must be registered with Council, and you must be CPD compliant.

2. If you are removed from the register, please try and keep up to date with developments in your profession (CPD), as that status will impact on your re-registration:

   a. If you want to re-register within 3 years of being removed from the register, and you are CPD compliant at the time of coming back onto the register, there are no additional CPD requirements.

   b. If you want to re-register after being removed from the register for a period of 3 – 6 years, you must submit proof that you kept abreast with your profession (CPD), and may be required to sit and pass a Council exam.

   c. If you want to re-register after being removed from the register for 6 years or longer, you must submit proof that you kept abreast of your profession (CPD) and you must pass the Council’s oral/practical examination.

**VETERINARY SHOP OWNERS**

Please note that a “Vetshop” (registered with SAVA), or a Veterinary retail outlet must be registered with Council.

See Regulations 1 and 2 of the Regulations relating to the Registration of Veterinary Facilities, read with rule 4.1 published on 8 June 2012 in Government Gazette numbers 35415 and 36779 respectively. For ease of reference please visit the webpage latest legislation or click on the link: [http://www.savc.org.za/pdf_docs/Application%20form%20Registration%20vetshops.pdf](http://www.savc.org.za/pdf_docs/Application%20form%20Registration%20vetshops.pdf)
Members of the veterinary nursing-, veterinary technology-, laboratory animal technology- and animal health technology professions are alerted to the latest developments relating to the implementation of the CPD requirements of their respective professions.

The CPD requirements apply to any person who is registered or authorised by Council to render the services of a veterinary para-professional.

Council resolved to introduce CPD for veterinary para-professionals as from 1 April 2015. This decision was made having considered the lengthy period of development of the CPD process for veterinary para-professionals and the conclusion of a pilot project conducted [and extended] by the veterinary para-professions to ensure that CPD is feasible for the veterinary para-professions.

The decision taken by Council on 21 October 2014, after consultation, was to not implement the regulations as was initially planned over a period of six years resolved, but to create a special dispensation for the veterinary para-professions, in that:

• During the first cycle commencing on 1 April 2015 to 31 March 2018 ten (10) structured and ten (10) unstructured CPD points must be achieved. All veterinary para-professionals registered or authorised on 1 April 2015 will have to commence their first CPD cycle on this date;

• During the second cycle from 1 April 2018 to 31 March 2021 fifteen (15) structured and thirty (30) unstructured CPD points must be achieved; and

• Only from 1 April 2021 fifteen structured and thirty five (35) unstructured CPD points must be achieved for every consecutive three year CPD cycle thereafter.

Some of the advantages of CPD are-

• The public and animals receive services within the latest scientific knowledge.

• Members can plan and expand their career opportunities based on improved knowledge and skills.

• Many employers value learning agility which adds value to the practice, services or place of employment and contributes to staff development.

• CPD achievements may be used in appraisals and will create a better focus on personal development and on the developments within the practice, organisation or veterinary services.

• Members will be compliant with the rules for their respective professions; in that services are rendered in terms of the latest scientific knowledge; and /or in terms of the highest standard of care.

• Members are exposed to valuable networks.

• Members have increased forums in which to share challenges and achievements.

• Members are supported by their various associations and the Council.

• CPD will bring the veterinary profession and the veterinary para-professions into closer contact, which will contribute to an improved overall understanding of the services available to each other and to all communities.

• Members will not only be lifelong learners but will have opportunities to share in the teaching.

• Employers may claim CPD costs back under the Skills Development Act.

Members will have to comply with the regulations. Compliance with CPD will become a requirement for maintenance of registration as is required for the veterinary profession in South Africa.

The veterinary profession already offers various activities which can be utilised by the veterinary para-professions. Furthermore, an innovative short message system already exists for those members who cannot attend congresses and formal lectures on which the veterinary para-professions can build their own models.

Members of the veterinary para-professions are in addition hereby introduced to the SAVC’s CPD Accreditation Committee namely, Dr Joseph van Heerden [chairperson] and Prof Rob Kirberger. Members and CPD providers are welcome to submit their CPD activities to the Committee for accreditation of CPD activities. Expertise in specific fields will be considered, if required. The administration will receive these applications and will ensure that the Committee deals with it expeditiously. Please contact Ms Lenora Erasmus at: exams@savc.org.za or Tel: [012] 345 6360 for details regarding the applications for CPD accreditation.

Council will direct this communiqué to all known employers of veterinary para-professions to ensure that they are aware thereof that veterinary para-professionals have to comply with CPD requirements as from 1 April 2015.
Enquiries were received in terms of allowing holders of the Certificate in Veterinary Nursing from Applied Vocational Training (AVT), Australia to enroll for the SAVC examination.

In order to obtain this Australian certificate in veterinary nursing, students are expected to complete a knowledge component, consisting of a number of modules and practical training, consisting of a minimum of three hundred [300] hours attendance at a veterinary practice.

Unfortunately, after assessment Council resolved that the Australian certificate holders will not be permitted to enter for the veterinary nursing examination and register as veterinary nurses in South Africa. The reason being that the Certificate in Veterinary Nursing does not expose the certificate holder to the entire spectrum of veterinary nursing activities as per the Day One skills and minimum standards for training of veterinary nursing in South Africa.

For detailed information please contact Ms Leonie Westcott at education@savc.org.za
SAVC full registration examination 2014

DATES OF EXAMINATIONS

Thirteen (13) veterinary candidates, three (3) veterinary nursing candidates and one (1) animal health technician enrolled to sit the SAVC Registration Examination in 2014. A Computer Based Examination (CBE) was held at the Faculty of Veterinary Science, Onderstepoort on 1 - 2 September and an Oral/Practical Examination was held on 8 September (veterinarians) and on 10 September 2014 (para-veterinarians).

One (1) veterinary candidate, one (1) veterinary nursing candidate and the animal health technician successfully completed the examination by fully complying with the 2014 examination rule for sub-minimum requirements as below:

There are two CBE sessions with a sub-minimum of 50% in each of the sessions and a sub-minimum of 40% per section within a session. The two CBE sessions will contribute equally to a mark for the CBE.

There is a sub-minimum of 45% per practical panel, and a sub-minimum of 50% for the whole practical and oral/practical examination. No more than one (1) panel may be failed.

A final combined mark of 50% is required to pass the examination and allow registration. The final combined mark will be computed as follows:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Component</th>
<th>Requirement</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>CBE component</td>
<td>50%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Practical and Oral/Practical component</td>
<td>50%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

SAVC Oath Taking Ceremony

Mr Johan Oosthuizen, Councillor of the SAVC (2013 – 2016) attended the oath taking ceremony on 5 December 2014 at the SAVC office to welcome the new members to the various professions. Mr William Kutu, Chairperson of the South African Animal Health Technicians Association (SAAAH) attended on behalf of his association.

Registration of new BVSc graduandi and DVN and diplomandi

On 28 November 2014, the Faculty of Veterinary Science, UP had their annual Declaration Ceremony of Honesty and Good Intent for Veterinary and Veterinary Para-professional graduates and diplomates at the Groenkloof Campus.

Four SAVC Administration members set up registration points at Groenkloof Campus to register University of Pretoria BVSc qualified veterinarians and DVN veterinary nurses with Council.

Of the 170 candidates who passed their final examinations, 152 registered with Council. The eighteen professionals who did not register on 28 November 2014, have three years in which to register, but must register before they start working as veterinarians or veterinary nurses in SA.

Council wishes these professionals all the best in their future careers!

LEFT TO RIGHT: Ms Charmain Block, Mr Sipho Mkhatswa, and Ms Talita Coetzee registered Veterinary and Veterinary Para-professional graduates on 28 November 2014 at the Campus of UP.
**Transgressions rescinded**

**AGREEMENT ENTERED INTO BETWEEN THE SAVC AND THE COMPETITION COMMISSION BODES WELL FOR MEMBERS**

In the agreement entered into between the South African Veterinary Council and the Competition Commission the Council agreed to reverse all sanctions imposed on its members in terms of Rule 7 of the SAVC relating to canvassing and touting for charging a discounted fee for a service or advertising from 2004 to 2013.

It is therefore formally announced that Council resolved at a meeting held on 21 October 2014 to rescind the following decisions en masse, pursuant to the Consent Order dated 10 September 2014, that the rescissions be published in the Government Gazette, the Newsletter and the SAVC website, that the members be informed accordingly and that the fines paid be repaid to the veterinarian concerned by no later than 31 March 2015.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Date of Conviction</th>
<th>Sanction</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Dr H Beer</td>
<td>23 June 2005</td>
<td>Cautioned</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dr JM Lamb</td>
<td>1 March 2007</td>
<td>Reprimanded</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dr BP Lourens</td>
<td>23 June 2005</td>
<td>Cautioned</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dr GP Retief</td>
<td>2 December 2006</td>
<td>Reprimanded</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dr PH Mapham</td>
<td>9 October 2008</td>
<td>Reprimanded</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dr AG Niven</td>
<td>15 May 2008</td>
<td>Reprimanded</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dr MNP Sehlodimela</td>
<td>28 January 2008</td>
<td>Fine of R 1000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dr HG Azorin</td>
<td>29 January 2009</td>
<td>Reprimanded</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dr H Davies</td>
<td>25 March 2010</td>
<td>Reprimanded</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dr JC Botha</td>
<td>5 October 2011</td>
<td>Reprimanded</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dr KA Morris</td>
<td>29 May 2013</td>
<td>Fine of R 2 500, suspended for 3 years</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dr CJ Clowes</td>
<td>25 February 2009</td>
<td>Charge 1 only, relating to touting rescinded</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dr TA Dickerson</td>
<td>25 February 2009</td>
<td>Warning</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dr SL Kok</td>
<td>6 March 2013</td>
<td>Fine of R 5000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mr P Grimbeek</td>
<td>10 April 2014</td>
<td>Fine of R 5000, suspended for 2 years</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Dr Ian Rodney Heyns [D994348] was found guilty of improper conduct on 27 & 28 October 2014 in that on 18 October 2011 he signed a Lloyd’s Veterinary Float Certificate for Mortality Insurance and failed to complete:-

1. the address of the premises where the animal was kept as is required in terms of Rule 5(4)(b);
2. the colour and age of the animal as is required in terms of Rule 5(4)(c); and
3. he failed to ensure that no blank spaces were left on the certificate as is required in terms of Rule 6(d).

Dr Heyns furthermore appended his signature thereby certified that the WBC (white blood count) was between 5.0 and 12.6 before receiving any blood results for the animal. Dr Heyns was reprimanded on each of the counts of which he was found guilty. Dr Heyns furthermore had to consult a colleague regarding the correct manner in which to draw up certification documents.

Dr Martinus Jacobus D Steyn [D963885] was found guilty of improper conduct on 22 October 2014 in that he supplied unregistered medicines namely EnrofloX and NorfloX, as appears from the prescriptions dated 3 March 2011 and 19 May 2011 respectively, to flocks of birds and not individual diseased animals where there are registered medicines available which is not in accordance with the Council’s “Guidelines For The Compounding Of Veterinary Medical Preparations” published in the Council newsletter 53 dated June 2008, newsletter 57 dated June 2009, newsletter 60 dated March 2010, newsletter 61 dated June 2010, newsletter 63 dated November 2010, newsletter 65 dated June 2011 and newsletter 70 dated June 2012.

Dr Steyn’s registration as a veterinarian was suspended for six (6) months. This sentence is suspended for two (2) years on condition that Dr Steyn is not found guilty (convicted) of a similar offence during the said two (2) year period.

Dr Victoria Rachel Geddes [D067105] was found guilty of unprofessional and improper conduct on 20 November 2014 as on or about 28 and/or 30 September 2010 she acted in contravention of Rule 4(5) of the Rules relating to the practicing of the veterinary profession and of Regulation 2(1) of the Regulations relating to the registration of veterinary facilities, in that she rendered veterinary services to a canine retriever, by diagnosing and/or treating the animal and/or supplying three [3] boxes of Clomicalm, a veterinary medicine, to the owner to be administered to the animal whilst she was not rendering these services at or from a veterinary facility registered with the Council; Alternately on or about 28 and/or 30 September 2010 Dr Geddes rendered veterinary services to a canine retriever, by diagnosing and/or treating the animal and/or supplying three [3] boxes of Clomicalm, a veterinary medicine to the owner to be administered to the animal during a house call, whilst she was neither the principal of a registered veterinary facility nor was she employed full or part time at a registered veterinary facility that could serve as a base facility for her house call.

Dr Geddes’ registration is suspended for a period of two years.

Mr Olivier Matthee [T880077] was found guilty of unprofessional and improper conduct in that -

1. On or about 5 and 6 November 2013 at Plot 174 Bulfontein, Pretoria, on the back of a bakkie, he rendered veterinary services to a dog, of an owner without any veterinary supervision or direction and consequently, acted in contravention of rule 2.2 of the Rules relating to the practising of the Para-veterinary Profession of a Veterinary Technologist. In terms rule 2.2 he was required to render services on behalf of a person registered to render a veterinary profession or on behalf of a person employing a registered person; and/or in the alternative
2. He acted in contravention of section 35 of the Veterinary and Para-veterinary Professions Act in that he recovered remuneration in the amount of R400-00 in cash from the owner for rendering services which in terms of the Veterinary Professions’ Rules pertains specifically to the services of a veterinarian; and or in the alternative

3. For the period unknown to Council, and including from 4 to 6 November 2013, he acted in contravention of rule 2 of the Rules Relating to the Practising of Veterinary Professions in that he:

3.1 Performed a surgical operation or procedure on an animal(s); and/or
3.2 Administered medicines to an animal(s) whilst not being registered as a veterinarian

Mr Matthee has to pay a fine in the amount of R15 000. In addition, his registration as a Veterinary Technologist is suspended for a period of 12 months, which suspension is wholly suspended for three (3) years on condition that he is not found guilty of similar offence.
LIMITED SERVICES PRACTICE

The veterinary profession is a caring profession, we need the public to know this

DR TARYN BRIGHT

In short how did she go about it

I basically just identified a small building located on the premises of a well-known animal shelter located in a good area. I altered the building to meet the minimum requirements, bought the required equipment and put out the word that I do only sterilisations and at a competitive rate. Clearly the only sterilisations part of that message was totally ignored as I was soon treating kennel cough, snuffles, Parvo, biliary, skin issues, GIT problems etc as well as offering the run of the mill advice on training, feeding, flea control, deworming etc. Just because I had opened as a clinic that only did spays and neuters did not mean that the animals I saw to sterilise as well. Just as my other pets in the household did not suffer from the common maladies that affect our pets.

What went wrong/why didn’t it work

I think it didn’t work because the pet owning public expect that if you can sterilise their pet then you should be able to fix the GIT issue Fluffy has or remove the little lump...

I think someone came along with restricting their surgical spectrum to sterilisations to also do vaccinations and that’s it. I think that maybe its seen as a way to easily earn a living as all you need is a spay set or two, an anaesthetic machine and to order in a few boxes of vaccines and some syringes and needles and you are all set to go....

I have heard some worrying cases of colleagues who offer limited services doing spays and neuters during normal working hours and being unavailable after hours for follow ups or advice...

Deductions/conclusions/advice; what would she like to see in the rule

I discovered that people are happy to find a Vet that does cheaper sterilisations but they also want that Vet to do general run of the mill GP work. Maybe it’s all about educating people about what services you do offer but I feel that if a sick animal presents to you and it’s not specialist work, you should do the work, mostly for the welfare of the animal. Turning people away I worry creates a perception that we as Vets don’t care about their animal and in turn, I worry that those who are turn why they should?

I would like to see all limited services clinics still having a full complement of equipment and drugs...

My advice is maybe just accept that you are going to have to do some GP Vet work...

... but people turn to Vets when they have a sick animal and I feel now, that by turning them away, that we may send out the wrong impression. We already struggle with poor owner compliance for even basic preventative care and by turning someone away, who has taken the trouble to bring a sick animal in, we may be sending out the wrong message and the health and welfare of that animal may be compromised.

What is your opinion? Please write to the SAVC at: legaldirector@savc.org.za

Click on this link to view the full article.
WHERE CAN YOU OBTAIN CPD POINTS?

1. Eastern Free State - Clocolan
   30 January – 31 January 2015

2. SA Equine Veterinary Association (SAEVA) - Stellenbosch
   16 – 19 February 2015

3. Orange Vaal – Parys
   28 February – 1 March 2015

4. Wildebeest Group - Pretoria
   20 – 22 March 2015

5. Eastern Cape Branch Congress - Clocolan
   8-9 May 2015

6. Animal Behaviour & Interaction Group Congress - Pretoria (UJ)
   10-17 May

7. Southern Cape - Hyatt
   23 – 24 May 2015

8. KuvASA - Goudini Spa Western Cape
   8-10 June 2015

9. SAVA Annual Congress - Champagne Sports Resort, Drakensberg
   Visit the SAVC stand

10. Mpumalanga - Kruger National Park
    29 – 30 August 2015

11. World Veterinary Poultry Congress, Cape Town
    7 – 11 September 2015

12. Free State - Bloemfontein
    18 – 19 September 2015

13. Western Cape Equine Congress – Veter & Horse Owners, Cape Town
    19 – 20 September 2015

14. Equine Road Show
    21 September – 3 October 2015

15. Western Cape - Cape Town
    17 – 18 October 2015

16. Northern Natal Branch Congress
    7 – 8 November 2015

17. RuVaSa - Goudini Spa, Western Cape
    8-10 June 2015

18. SaVa annual Congress: Champagne Sports Resort, drakensberg
    Visit the SaVC stand

19. Mpumalanga – Kruger National Park
    29 – 30 August 2015

20. World Veterinary Poultry Congress, Cape Town
    7 – 11 September 2015

21. Free State - Bloemfontein
    18 – 19 September 2015

22. Western Cape Equine Congress – Veter & Horse Owners, Cape Town
    19 – 20 September 2015

23. Equine Road Show
    21 September – 3 October 2015

24. Western Cape - Cape Town
    17 – 18 October 2015

25. Northern Natal Branch Congress
    Venue to be confirmed
    7 – 8 November 2015

IN MEMORIAM
Dr Gert Pieter Moolich
Dr Phindile Qwala
Dr Rensia de Wet
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VISION
Advancing public and animal health through quality veterinary services for all

MISSION
The South African Veterinary Council seeks, through the statutes of the Veterinary and Para-Veterinary Professions Act, 1982 to
■ serve the interests of the people of South Africa by promoting competent, efficient, accessible and needs-driven service delivery in the animal health care sector;
■ protect the health and well-being of animals and animal populations;
■ protect and represent the interests of the veterinary and para-veterinary professions;
■ regulate the professional conduct of the veterinary and para-veterinary professions; and
■ set and monitor standards of both education and practice for the veterinary and para-veterinary professions

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