

vet register



Progress towards National Registration of Veterinarians

In April 2010, registrants were informed that:

- State and Territory Ministers have agreed to a national registration system
- The initiative is entitled 'National Recognition of Veterinary Registration (NRVR)
- NRVR requires individual legislative amendment in all 8 jurisdictions
- Victoria has passed its NRVR legislation
- Progress to full NRVR will be staged over a number of years as each jurisdiction legislates

November 2010 update:

- Victoria pioneers NRVR, commencing 1 January 2011. If you currently hold registration in Victoria or are contemplating practice in Victoria, you must read the Victoria Board information release overleaf.
- NRVR will apply to Victoria alone in 2011. Nothing changes elsewhere. Veterinary surgeons must be registered in each jurisdiction where practising, with 'deemed' registration conferred when in Victoria.
- The Victoria NRVR system commencing 2011 will provide a model for the development of uniform legislation by the remaining jurisdictions.

Board Member Composition after Election

Appointments to member positions on the Queensland Board have been finalised. The appointments were as a result of a triennial election of two members and the nomination of a member representing the Minister for Primary Industries and Fisheries.

Seven candidates nominated for election and the Minister would wish to thank all candidates for their demonstrated commitment to the veterinary profession by nominating.

The voting response was 25% of registrants, down from 30% in 2007 and 35% in 2004. The diminishing voter response provides impetus for re-assessment of the manner in which members are appointed to the Board for future terms. The opportunity for this will arise in the whole of Veterinary Surgeons Act review proposed to be conducted in association with progressing the national registration initiative.

The members elected are Dr David Lovell BVSc MACVSc (equine practitioner) and Dr Philip Moses BVSc CertSAO FACVSc (specialist small animal surgeon).

Dr Edith Hampson BVSc PhD FACVSc (specialist in veterinary ophthalmology) has been appointed to the nominated member position.

The three members join Dr Laurie Dowling (Chair), Prof Jonathan Hill (Deputy-Chair) and Mrs Glenda Whitmore (consumer representative) on the Board.

Members choosing to stand down were Dr Vic Menrath and Dr Maurine Thomson who were incumbent members for eight terms and two terms respectively.

Board Administration

The Board administration is to be bolstered by the addition of a Deputy Registrar who will relieve the burden on the Registrar in progressing complaint enquiries, managing veterinary premises compliance and addressing other compliance matters. This will increase the staff contingent to three and will allow a greater capability for attention by the Registrar to communication and reporting, legislative review and corporate governance responsibilities.

Have you provided your mobile/email for disease alerts?

Biosecurity Queensland urges veterinarians to provide/ update email and mobile contacts on the Register of Veterinary Surgeons to allow prompt emergency animal disease response. (Go to attached Notification of Detail form)

New diseases do occur. You may be looking at the first case.

EXOTIC DISEASE WATCH HOTLINE
1800 675 888.

Re-vaccination intervals – cats and dogs

The following notice is published at the request of the Australian Pesticides and Veterinary Medicines Authority:

The APVMA has updated its Position Statement on Vaccination of Dogs and Cats published at www.apvma.gov.au/use_safely/vaccination.php. The Position Statement and associated links provides some guidance to veterinarians on the controversial matter of re-vaccination intervals.

Veterinary Practitioners Registration Board of Victoria

NOTICE OF IMPLEMENTATION OF NRVR IN VICTORIA

The Veterinary Practitioners Registration Board of Victoria (the Board) has great pleasure in advising that National Recognition of Veterinary Registration (NRVR) will be implemented in Victoria from 1 January 2011.

What does this mean for a veterinary surgeon or specialist not currently residing in Victoria? As of 1 January 2011, the registrant will be deemed to be registered to practice in Victoria if holding current unencumbered (non-conditional) general or specialist registration in another Australian jurisdiction (outside Victoria). This recognition will not apply to holders of any other registration category.

Where should registration be maintained? A veterinary surgeon or specialist must hold registration in the state/territory of the 'principal place of residence'. This is considered to be the address which is maintained on the electoral role.

If currently holding secondary registration in Victoria, is there a need to renew registration in Victoria in 2011? No – from 1 January 2011 secondary registration will cease to exist in Victoria and if you hold current unconditional registration and reside in another Australian jurisdiction, you will not be required to apply for or pay an additional fee for registration in Victoria for when practicing in Victoria.

Who is eligible for National Recognition of Registration in Victoria? Holders of general or specialist registration in another Australian jurisdiction are deemed to be registered to practice in Victoria and are no longer required to maintain a separate registration status in Victoria.

If I plan to make my principal place of residence in Victoria and I am registered in another jurisdiction, what should I do? From 1 January 2011, you will be required to register in Victoria only when your interstate registration expires; however you must ensure that you make application for registration in Victoria PRIOR to the expiration of your registration.

What do I need to do to practice in Victoria? The introduction of NRVR does not diminish the legal obligation of every registered veterinary practitioner practicing in Victoria to ensure they are familiar with and understand the relevant Victorian Acts of Parliament and associated regulations including:

- The Veterinary Practice Act 1997 (Victoria) as amended
- Agricultural and Veterinary Chemicals (Control of Use) Act 1992
- Domestic (Feral and Nuisance Animals) Act 1994
- Drugs, Poisons and Controlled Substances Act 1981
- Radiation Act 2005
- Evidence Act 2008
- Livestock Disease Control Act 1994
- Prevention of Cruelty to Animals Act 1986
- Stock (Seller Liability and Declarations) Act 1993
- Therapeutic Goods (Victoria) Act 2010

along with the Victoria Board's published Guidelines and quarterly '*Board Update*'. These are available on the Victoria Board website <http://www.vetboard.vic.gov.au>.

If I currently hold Secondary Registration in Victoria, will my name remain on the Victoria Register? No – your name will be removed from the Victoria Register on 31 December 2010 unless you maintain general registration in Victoria.

How do I receive future Board publications and newsletters? The Victoria Board's newsletter and publications are available freely on the website <http://www.vetboard.vic.gov.au>. Hardcopies of the Handbook, Vetlist and Guidelines are available for an additional fee. Please contact the Board's office to obtain hard copies.

If you require future information or clarification regarding the above, please contact the Victorian Board's office during business hours on (03) 9620 7444.