Veterinary Surgeons (Veterinary Surgery) Regulations, 1998

IT is hereby notified that the Minister of Lands and Agriculture has approved the following regulations made by the Council of Veterinary Surgeons of Zimbabwe in terms of section 48 of the Veterinary Surgeons Act [Chapter 27:15]:—

Title

1. These regulations may be cited as the Veterinary Surgeons (Veterinary Surgery) Regulations, 1998.

Interpretation

2. In these regulations—
   “approved” means approved by the Council;
   “certificate of approval” means a certificate issued in terms of section 5;*
   “veterinary surgery” means premises used by a veterinary surgeon as a veterinary surgery.

Designation of a veterinary surgery

3. (1) No person conducting a veterinary surgery shall—
   (a) designate it as such otherwise than by the use of the title “Veterinary Surgery”;
   (b) designate it as such by the use of a title referred to in paragraph (a), unless he holds a valid certificate of approval for the veterinary surgery.

(2) Subsection (1) shall not apply in respect of a veterinary surgery which was being conducted as such immediately before the date of commencement of these regulations—
   (a) until the expiry of the period of three months following such date of commencement; or
   (b) where, within the period referred to in paragraph (a), an application has been made for a certificate of approval of the laboratory and the application has not been
determined, until the date on which the application is
determined;
whichever is the later.

Application for approval of veterinary surgery

4. (1) A person conducting or proposing to conduct a veteri-
nary surgery and wishing to secure a certificate of approval thereof
shall make a written application thereof to the Registrar.

(2) In making an application in terms of subsection (1), an
applicant shall—

(a) give full particulars of how section 6 will be complied
with at the veterinary surgery to which the application
relates; and

(b) if the application relates to a new veterinary sur-
gery which it is proposed to construct, submit
therewith detailed plans of the proposed veterinary
surgery.

(3) On receipt of an application made in terms of subsection
(1), the Registry shall refer it to the Council.

Granting of approval of veterinary surgery

5. (1) If, the Council, on consideration of an application
referred to it by the Registrar in terms of subsection (3) of section 4,
it is satisfied that section 6 will be complied with at the veterinary
surgery concerned, the Council shall direct the Registrar to issue a
certificate of approval to the applicant.

(2) Where the Council has directed the Registrar to issue a
certificate in terms of subsection (1), he shall forthwith, on payment
by the applicant of five hundred dollars, issue to him a certificate of
approval of the veterinary surgery concerned.

Standards to be met at approved veterinary surgery

6. At every veterinary surgery in respect of which a valid
certificate of approval is held the requirements specified in the
Schedule shall be satisfied to an approved standard.
Notice of alteration, etc, to be given to Council

7. Where it is proposed to alter or extend the premises of a veterinary surgery in respect of which a valid certificate of approval is held, the person conducting the veterinary surgery shall submit to the Council detailed plans of the proposed alteration or extension.

Inspection of approved veterinary surgery

8. (1) The Council may at any time and shall, within twelve months after the issue of the certificate of approval and thereafter at regular intervals of not more than twelve months, inspect or cause to be inspected by an inspection team approved by the Council and headed by a veterinary surgeon, every veterinary surgery in respect of which a valid certificate of approval is held.

(2) No person shall hinder or obstruct the Council or a member thereof from carrying out an inspection in terms of this section.

(3) The person conducting a veterinary surgery to be inspected in terms of this section shall furnish to the Council or a member thereof, as the case may be, the means necessary for the proper carrying out of the inspection.

Cancellation of certificate of approval

9. (1) Subject to this section, if it appears to the Council that section 6 has not been complied with at a veterinary surgery in respect of which a valid certificate of approval is held, the Council may—

(a) serve notice in writing on the person conducting the veterinary surgery specifying the respects in which there has been a failure to comply with those provisions and requiring that the defects be remedied by a date to be specified therein; or

(b) withdraw its approval of the veterinary surgery and instruct the Registrar to cancel the certificate of approval thereof.

(2) Before exercising the powers conferred on it by subsection (1), the Council shall—
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(a) satisfy itself that the person conducting the veterinary surgery concerned has been informed of the respect in which it is alleged there has been a failure to comply with section 6 and has been afforded a reasonable opportunity to reply to those allegations; and

(b) take into account any reply referred to in paragraph (a).

(3) If by the date specified in a notice served in terms of paragraph (a) of subsection (1), the defects concerned have not been remedied to the satisfaction of the Council, the Council may withdraw its approval of veterinary surgery concerned and instruct the Registrar to cancel the certificate of approval thereof.

(4) If instructed in terms of paragraph (b) of subsection (1) or subsection (3) to cancel a certificate of approval the Registrar shall forthwith by notice in writing served on the person conducting the veterinary surgery concerned cancel the certificate of approval thereof.

(5) The person conducting a veterinary surgery in respect of which the certificate of approval has been cancelled in terms of this section shall surrender the certificate of approval to the Registrar.

SCHEDULE (Section 6)

REQUIREMENTS TO BE SATISFIED IN AN APPROVED VETERINARY SURGERY

ADMINISTRATION

The veterinary surgery must—

1. Maintain adequate records with details of every patient, diagnoses and the treatment rendered.
2. Have a receptionist.
3. Have its own stationery, i.e., personal or practice prescription cards.
4. Have registered veterinary surgeon available at all times to provide prompt emergency service or who must be contactable on telephone (answering machines, paging machines and shared duties are acceptable).
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Facilities

The veterinary surgery must have a suitable permanent premises with—

1. Adequate provision of hot and cold water.
2. A reception/waiting room.
3. A separate consulting room.
4. A separate operating theatre, if operations are going to be carried out.
5. Have a safe, adequate and appropriate system for the disposal of—
   (i) waste matter; and
   (ii) carcasses; and
   (iii) dung and bedding; and
   (iv) used dressing.
6. Have appropriate safety measures available for the protection of owners, handlers and patients.
7. Have structurally sound buildings.
8. Have suitable toilet facilities.
9. Have sufficient and suitable kennel facilities.
10. The building and surrounding environs must be clean and presentable.

Equipment

The veterinary surgery must have—

1. A refrigerator.
2. A microscope and slides, stains etc.
3. Set of basic surgical instruments and ancillary equipment appropriate to the practice.
4. Sufficient syringes and needles.
5. Sufficient supply for the provision of boiling water or an autoclave steriliser for sterilising instruments, syringes and needles.
6. Adequate laboratory sampling equipment, e.g., swabs, blood bottles, formalin; etc.
7. A motor car, pick-up or motor-cycle.
DRUGS

The veterinary surgery must have—

1. Adequate security for drugs kept at the premises and must comply with the requirements of the Medicine Control Authority of Zimbabwe.
2. General anaesthetic.
3. Local anaesthetic.
4. Emergency drugs, e.g., adrenaline, dopram etc.
5. Injectable antibiotics—range of at least three different drugs.
6. Intravenous fluids.
7. Corticosteroids.
8. Adequate range of remedies or reasonable proximity to a pharmacy or drug wholesaler.

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