

# VETERINARY SURGEONS BOARD OF SOUTH AUSTRALIA

## STANDARDS FOR VETERINARY PREMISES

The following standards represent the *minimum* acceptable standards for veterinary premises. All veterinary premises, including consulting rooms, clinics and hospitals shall:

- be clean and hygienic at all times;
- have on prominent display the name, telephone number and days and hours of attendance of the registered veterinary surgeon or surgeons usually in attendance and arrangements for obtaining after hours service; have a separate area for use as a waiting room and client reception;
- maintain patient records including details of examinations, procedures, tests and treatment;
- provide in the consulting area an examination table with impervious surfaces and a basin with hot and cold running water and fixed drainage;
- have storage for veterinary instruments and facilities for their sterilisation;
- have secure storage for drugs as required by the Regulations of the Controlled Substances Act;
- have facilities for any excreta, putrescible waste, soiled bedding and carcasses to be stored in such a way and disposed of at intervals sufficient to avoid:
  - the generation of offensive odours
  - offensive appearance, and
  - those materials becoming a hazard to health;
- have adequate facilities for cooling, heating and ventilation of any area in which any kennel, cage or stall is situated - individual cage heating is acceptable.

Where a veterinary practice is conducted on the same premises as a commercial enterprise (such as boarding kennels and/or grooming parlour), then:

- the practice rooms and facilities shall be separate from those of the enterprise;
- animals coming to the surgery will be kept separate from animals coming to the premises for other reasons.

It is recommended that as part of good veterinary practice where possible practices employ veterinary nurses with appropriate veterinary nurse qualifications and training, or, encourage them to attain qualifications. Nurses should be encouraged to take up continuing education opportunities and be part of regular staff meetings.

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