

# VETERINARY SURGEONS BOARD OF SOUTH AUSTRALIA

## VETERINARY SERVICES PROVIDERS

### INFORMATION SHEET

The Veterinary Practice Act 2003 was proclaimed on 15 September 2005. It changes the nature of ownership of veterinary practices in South Australia, as it now allows non-veterinary surgeons to own veterinary practices. Non-veterinarians owning practices become Veterinary Services Providers (VSP), under S.50 of the Act.

#### DEFINITION OF VSPs

Veterinary Services Providers are defined as '*a person (not being a vet) who provides veterinary treatment through the instrumentality of a veterinary surgeon*'. Veterinary Services Providers may be a body corporate, company, trust, or other legal entity, or a person not registered as a veterinary surgeon.

#### REQUIREMENTS

The Veterinary Surgeons Board is required to keep a listing of all Veterinary Services Providers. The list must be available for inspection, and must include specific information for each Veterinary Services Provider.

All Veterinary Services Providers are required to complete Form 10 of the Veterinary Surgeons Board of SA. This Form includes information about each VSP which is required to be kept by the Board. It includes a list of people in authority in the VSP. Persons holding more than 10% of the issued share capital of a public company will be regarded as a person occupying a position of authority in that company.

Form 10 can be obtained from the Veterinary Surgeons Board office, or can be downloaded from the website ([www.vsbsa.org.au](http://www.vsbsa.org.au)).

All VSPs must advise the Board within 60 days of commencing as a VSP. At this time, Form 10 should be completed. If there are any changes to the Form (e.g. name of organisation, veterinary surgeons providing services, persons in authority), VSPs should advise the Veterinary Surgeons Board of these changes within 30 days.

VSPs are not able to direct or pressure a veterinary surgeon to act unlawfully or improperly when providing veterinary treatment.

#### FEES FOR VSPs

The completed Form 10 should be accompanied by the fee charged by the Veterinary Surgeons Board for listing as a VSP. This is:

*Initial Listing Fee*                      \$380 (includes annual listing fee)

*Annual Fee*                                \$285

Fees for annual listing of all VSPs are required by 1<sup>st</sup> July of each year.

Any enquiries regarding Veterinary Services Providers should be directed to the Registrar, Veterinary Surgeons Board of SA.

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