

**BEFORE THE MINNESOTA
BOARD OF VETERINARY MEDICINE**



In the Matter of
Richard E. Hanson, D.V.M.
License No. 1992

**AGREEMENT FOR
CORRECTIVE ACTION**

This Agreement for Corrective Action (“Agreement”) is entered into by and between Richard E. Hanson, D.V.M (“Licensee”) and the Complaint Review Committee (“Committee”) of the Minnesota Board of Veterinary Medicine (“Board”) pursuant to the authority of Minn. Stats. § 156.127, subd. 2 and § 214.103, subd. 6(a). Licensee and the Committee hereby concur that this Agreement shall be based on the following:

FACTS

1. On May 12, 1992, Licensee became licensed as a veterinarian in Minnesota.
2. At all times relevant to these allegations, Licensee practiced veterinary medicine at Ely Veterinary (“Clinic”) located in Ely, Minnesota.
3. Beginning December 18, 2014 through August 30, 2015, Licensee was one of the Clinic veterinarians who provided medical care for Necla, a 14-year-old female Domestic Short Hair cat, owned by T.E.
4. On December 18, 2014, Licensee administered rabies and feline RCP vaccines to Necla. Licensee failed to document in Necla’s patient record that Licensee conducted a physical examination prior to administering the vaccination.
5. On July 25, 2015, Necla presented to the Clinic with vomiting and inappetence. During the visit, the following occurred:

a. Licensee's colleague performed a barium study on Necla's gastrointestinal tract to assess for an intestinal blockage. When Licensee saw the cat days later, he did not investigate pulmonary and musculoskeletal abnormalities on Necla's abdominal radiograph.

b. The Clinic was experiencing software problems with its x-ray equipment. Licensee incorrectly placed a manual timestamp on the radiograph. The radiograph did not include identification information.

c. Licensee's diagnosis of Necla included inflammatory bowel disease in the differential.

d. On August 30, 2015, Necla developed signs of pain, bilateral ataxia, and abnormal forelimb movement. Necla died that night.

6. For more than one patient, Licensee's medical records failed to meet the minimum standards of practice. Examples include: 1) Incomplete physical examination descriptions; 2) Insufficient assessments of abnormalities, and 3) Failure to provide a description of a mass removed during surgery or to recommend the mass be sent for diagnostic testing to determine its etiology.

7. On December 17, 2015, Licensee met with the Committee, composed of Barbara Fischley, D.V.M., Board member, and Mary Olson, D.V.M., Board member, to discuss allegations made in a Notice of Conference dated November 5, 2015. Robert Kuderer, Esq., represented Licensee. Jennifer Middleton, Assistant Attorney General, represented the Committee at the conference. Julia Wilson, D.V.M., Executive Director of the Board, also attended the conference.

8. Pursuant to Minnesota Statutes section 214.103 subd. 6(a) and 156.127 subd. 2, Licensee and the Committee have agreed to enter into this Agreement for Corrective Action.

CORRECTIVE ACTION

Based on the available information and discussion at the conference, Licensee and Committee agree that the conduct above violates Minn. Stat. section 156.081 subd. 2(11), (12), Minn. R. 9100.0700 subp. 1(A), and 9100.0800, subp. 1(A) and 4. Licensee and the Committee have agreed to enter into this Agreement for Corrective Action as follows:

9. Within one month from the date of this Agreement, Licensee must submit documentation of all of his veterinary continuing education from the most recent license renewal period, March 1, 2014 to February 29, 2016.

10. Within three months of the date of this Agreement, Licensee shall take the Veterinary Medical Records Online Course offered by Iowa State University. Within fourteen (14) days of completing the course, Licensee must submit to the Review Committee evidence of completion. The credit hours from this course may not be utilized towards the continuing education requirement for March 1, 2016 to February 28, 2018.

11. Within three months following completion of the medical records course requirement above, Licensee will submit the complete medical record for five (5) patients with medical issues managed by Licensee. The records must meet the approval of the Committee.

OTHER INFORMATION

12. Licensee has been advised by Review Committee representatives that Licensee may choose to be represented by legal counsel in this matter. Licensee is represented by Robert Kuderer, Esq.

13. Upon Licensee's satisfactory completion of the corrective actions referred to above, the Review Committee agrees to dismiss the complaint concerning the matters referred to in the facts above. Licensee agrees that the Review Committee shall be the sole judge of satisfactory completion. Licensee understands that if, after dismissal, the Review Committee receives additional complaints alleging conduct similar to that referred to in the facts above, the Review Committee may reopen the dismissed complaints.

14. If Licensee fails to complete the corrective action satisfactorily or if the Review Committee receives additional complaints alleging conduct similar to that referred to in the facts above, the Review Committee may, in its discretion, reopen the investigation and proceed according to Minn. Stat. chs. 14, 156, and 214. Licensee agrees that failure to complete corrective action satisfactorily constitutes failure to cooperate under Minn. Stat. § 156.123 and may subject Licensee to disciplinary action by the Board.

15. Licensee shall be responsible for all costs incurred as a result of compliance with this Agreement.

16. The effective date of this Agreement shall be the date it is executed by the Review Committee. The Agreement shall remain in effect until the Review Committee dismisses the complaint unless the Review Committee receives additional information that renders corrective action inappropriate. Upon receipt of such information, the Review Committee may, in its discretion, proceed according to Minn. Stat. chs. 14, 156, and 214.

17. Licensee understands this Agreement does not constitute disciplinary action. Licensee further understands and acknowledges this Agreement and the dismissal letter issued upon successful completion of the corrective action are classified as public data pursuant to Minn. Stat. § 13.41, subd. 5.

18. Licensee hereby acknowledges that he has read and understands this Agreement and has voluntarily entered into it. This Agreement contains the entire agreement between the Review Committee and Licensee, there being no other agreement of any kind, verbal or otherwise, which varies the terms of this Agreement.

Dated: 5/16/2014, 2016

Richard Hanson

RICHARD E. HANSON, D.V.M.
LICENSEE

Dated: 5/18/, 2016

Julia Wilson

JULIA WILSON, D.V.M.
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR
FOR THE COMPLAINT REVIEW
COMMITTEE