

Minnesota Board of Veterinary Medicine

BVM BITS



In This Issue...

Rabies Vaccination Information



Interactive vs. Non-interactive Continuing Education Credits



New Board Member



Board Appointment Opening



New Staff



License Renewals



The Board Office is Moving!

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[Veterinary Practice Act](#)



Rabies Vaccination Review

Rabies vaccination of domesticated animals by Minnesota’s licensed veterinarians is an important and effective practice to assist in providing public health and safety. Controversy has arisen regarding the practice of issuing two year expiration dates for small animals that have been vaccinated with a vaccine labeled for a 3-year duration of immunity.

In September 2011, the Minnesota Board of Veterinary Medicine conducted a study to gather information on the rabies vaccination practices of Minnesota licensed veterinarians in companion animals. With input from the Board of Animal Health and practicing veterinarians, the [Rabies Vaccination Guidance Document](#) was created.

The Minnesota Board of Animal Health recently published an article in their monthly newsletter, [Animal Bytes](#), regarding rabies vaccination certificates.

The article provided a review of the [Compendium of Animal Rabies Prevention and Control](#) and the information on approved rabies vaccines and their durations of immunity.



The BAH also noted that there are currently no approved two-year vaccines. Rabies certificates that have inaccurately listed a two-year duration of immunity can be corrected two different ways.

1. The veterinarian that administered or oversaw the administration of the vaccine and issued the certificate can correct the information on the certificate, and initial and date the change.
2. The veterinarian can issue the animal owner a letter indicating the error and what the actual vaccine duration of immunity is!

The Board of Veterinary Medicine and Board of Animal Health recently joined forces in writing a letter to the League of Minnesota Cities encouraging them to change the wording on local rabies ordinances to help fit the duration of immunity in rabies vaccines.

Please check the [BAH website](#) for updates on rabies information.

Rabies Vaccination Certificates – Who can sign them?

Rabies vaccination certificates should be signed by the veterinarian who administered or oversaw the administration of the rabies vaccine. However, if that veterinarian is unavailable, any veterinarian within the clinic may interpret a patient record to verify the receipt of the rabies vaccine and sign duplicate certificates as requested by a client.



Continuing Education

Interactive vs. Non-interactive

Veterinarians are required to have a minimum of 40 hours of approved continuing education in the preceding 2 years at the time of their license renewal.

Thirty of those hours need to be interactive, as defined in Minnesota Rules 9100.1000. Interactive courses typically have the following features:



- Occur in real-time
- There's the ability to write or call in questions
- Other veterinarians participate at the same time

In contrast, taking a non-interactive course on the internet allows a veterinarian to learn from either a pre-recorded presentation or webinar at a time that is convenient, and may include a quiz to obtain credit. These non-interactive courses should ideally be RACE approved and are considered self-study, so 3 hours of non-interactive CE would be needed for 1 credit hour of self-study. Please note that there is a limit of 10 hours that can be claimed for self-study.

If in doubt about whether a web-based course would be considered interactive before enrolling, please check with the Board of Veterinary Medicine.

The Board Welcomes New Member David Richter

The Board welcomed its newest public member, David Richter, in April 2013. David owns and operates a farrow-to-finish operation with 185 sows and markets 3,300 hogs per year, while raising corn, soybeans and wheat on 650 acres south of Montgomery, MN².

Board Seeking Applications for Open Appointment

The Board is seeking applications for a companion or mixed animal veterinarian to serve on the Minnesota Board of Veterinary Medicine. All Board members must reside in Minnesota. Board terms are four years with no official limit on number of terms that can be served.

Information about how to apply can be found on the [Board of Veterinary Medicine's website](#) or on the [Secretary of State's website](#).



Board Welcomes New Staff

The Board of Veterinary Medicine welcomed its new Executive Director, Dr. Julia Wilson, on March 18, 2013. Dr. Wilson is a board certified internal medicine specialist and was a faculty member and clinician at the University of Minnesota's College of Veterinary Medicine for many years. She succeeds Dr. John King, who is returning to veterinary practice as well as serving as a County Commissioner for Le Sueur County.

The Board also welcomed its new state program administrator, Mollie Brucher, on April 24, 2013. She is a 2010 graduate of the University of Minnesota with a degree in psychology. Prior to working for the Board, she served as a drafting and editing assistant for the Office of the Revisor. Ms. Brucher succeeds Donna Carolus, who retired after 23 years of service to the Board.



License Renewals

Even-numbered licenses will expire on February 28, 2014. Renewal notices will be sent by email on December 4th and on postcards December 27. Renew online by visiting our Web site in November. Paper renewal forms can also be found on our Web site in November. Please remember that you need 40 hours of continuing education credits from March 1, 2012 through February 28, 2014. If you will not have 40 hours prior to the renewal period, please contact the Board.

If you or a veterinary colleague do not have a valid e-mail on file for the Board, please update your file using our [website](#). You will need your license number and last 4 digits of your social security number to log in.

Welcome

[Sign Off](#)

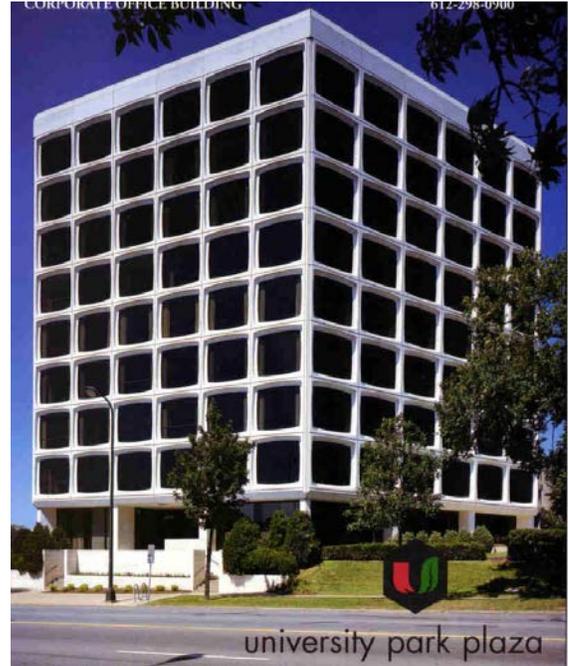
You may update your contact information at any time and you may renew your license during the renewal period.

If you have any questions or comments, or if you do not wish to renew your license, please call or email the [Board Office](#).

NOTE: If you begin but do not complete the renewal, the system will lock you out for up to 48 hours for security reasons.

[Change Contact Information](#)
[Change Business Address](#)

License: Email: Status: Expires:
Business Address



Contact Information for Related Boards

Minnesota Board of Animal Health:
625 Robert Street North, St. Paul, MN 55155
<http://mn.gov/bah/>
Phone: (651) 296-2942 Fax: (651) 296-7417

Drug Enforcement Agency:
100 Washington Avenue South, Suite 800
Minneapolis, MN 55401
www.deadiversion.usdoj.gov/index.html
DEA Regional Field Office at (612) 344-4136
National office toll free 1-800-882-9539

Minnesota Board of Pharmacy:
2829 University Avenue SE, Suite 530
Minneapolis, MN 55414
<http://www.phecybrd.state.mn.us/>
Phone: (651) 201-2825 Fax: (651) 210-2837

New Board Office

The Board Office will be relocating in early October to a newly remodeled office in the same building to both increase synergy between health licensing boards and accommodate shifting space needs for all boards. Only the suite number will change. The new address will be:

**2829 University Avenue SE #401
Minneapolis, MN 55414**



Board Member Contact Information

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HPSP Overview

Health professionals, like anyone else, are susceptible to substance, psychiatric and medical disorders.

Created in 1994 as an alternative to board discipline, the State of Minnesota's Health Professionals Services Program (HPSP) offers a proactive way to fulfill reporting requirements and get confidential help for illnesses. By law, health practitioners and employers can report a potential impairment to a licensing board OR to HPSP. "Most choose HPSP," according to Monica Feider, program manager, "because HPSP is supportive and non-disciplinary."

HPSP monitors health professionals who have an illness that may impair their ability to do their job. Illnesses may include chemical dependence, physical problems or mental health issues.

Many people are unclear about their reporting obligations and feel uneasy about reporting themselves, a colleague, or an employee to HPSP. Getting involved in the personal issues of another professional is a difficult decision. Yet, there is the ethical duty to protect patients from potential harm. All referrals made to HPSP are regarded as privileged data and kept confidential.

The program monitors treatment progress, work quality, and medications, along with attendance at support groups and random urine screens, if alcohol or drug use is part of the illness. HPSP might also require counseling, work limitations or other individualized conditions that address a person's needs and public safety. Typically, agreements are for thirty-six months.

All eligible health care professionals licensed in Minnesota can receive HPSP monitoring services- as long as they comply with program expectations. Participants are responsible of the cost of their own evaluation, treatment, and toxicology screens if warranted.

<http://www.hpssp.state.mn.us>

