



NEW MEXICO VETERINARY MEDICAL ASSOCIATION

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Dear Colleagues,

As we enter the "stay at home order" from Governor Lujan-Grishom, the NMVMA has been working to clarify the executive order as it relates to veterinarians in the state. Based on our current understanding, we are recommending that veterinarians use their professional judgment on what services to offer based on the needs of the patient. Services should be provided on a case-by-case basis to provide for injured or ill animals, emergencies, necessary medical dispensing and vaccination to support public health. Whether you are a veterinarian providing services for companion animals, exotics, wildlife, livestock or lab animals we should remember the section of our veterinarian's oath ... "I will strive to promote animal health and welfare, relieve animal suffering, protect the health of the public and environment and advance comparative medical knowledge." With guidance from those in regulatory medicine in our state of New Mexico, we as veterinarians must continue to provide for the wellbeing of the animals of New Mexico and the humans with whom they interact. Our NM community depends on our professional and thoughtful implementation of the shelter in place order.

Make sure that you protect the staff and clients that you work with each day by using proper precautions to mitigate viral spread. Proper distancing, curbside appointments, telemedicine when the state VCPR guidelines are met should allow you to continue your essential job during this unusual time.

NMVMA continues to work to clarify the veterinarian's role in this crisis. Look to the listserve and website for updates. Thanks to all that have shared information to help keep us all well informed.

Remember to practice self-care and stay well!

New Mexico Rocks!

Anne S Hale, DVM

NMVMA President