



Veterinary Surgeons' Board



FROM THE REGISTRAR

Firstly on behalf of the staff and Board I wish everybody all the very best for Christmas and the New Year.

The past year has continued to be very difficult for the profession with ongoing challenges of COVID-19. The consequent staff shortages and demands have resulted in high levels of stress for many.

The Board is very aware of the stresses veterinary staff are under and encourages anyone who would like some help to take advantage of the two counselling sessions the Board will fund or the other support services available (see below).

Lastly, a final reminder to make sure that you pay your renewal fee by 31 December 2021 if you wish to practise next year.

As always, feedback, suggestions and comments are very welcome.

Dr Sue Godkin
Registrar



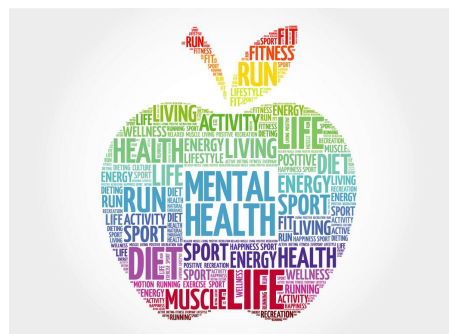
RENEWALS OF REGISTRATION, APPROVALS AND AUTHORISATIONS FOR 2022

Just a gentle reminder that the [Board website](#) facility for paying your renewals for registration as a veterinary surgeon, approval as a veterinary nurse or authorisation as a trainee veterinary nurse for 2022, is now active.

The absolute deadline for payment of renewal fees is midnight 31 December 2021.

If you do not pay by then, your name will be removed from the Register on 1 January 2022 and you will not be able to legally work as a veterinary surgeon, veterinary nurse or trainee veterinary nurse in Western Australia.

The Boards' office shuts down from 12.00pm on Friday 24 December 2021 to 8.30am Tuesday 4 January 2022. During this period you will not be able to contact Board staff for assistance with renewing so it is strongly recommended that you make sure you can access your online account before the shutdown.



MENTAL HEALTH

For veterinary staff facing difficulties in veterinary practice, or in life in general, the Board office can confidentially arrange contact with a clinical psychologist or equivalent. The Board offers to pay for the first two consultations with a clinical psychologist or equivalent, providing they are registered with the appropriate registering body. The Board office can be contacted on 9317 2353 or by email: admin@vsbwa.org.au

Other helpful information can be found at:
[Australian Veterinary Association](#) (members only)
[Beyond Blue](#)
[Think Mental Health WA](#)

FREE ONLINE EMERGENCY ANIMAL DISEASE TRAINING FOR CLINICIANS

Emergency Animal Diseases are diseases of national significance because of the impacts they may have on animal health, human health, the environment and/or the economy. Veterinarians play a critical role in detecting, investigating, reporting and managing cases where an emergency animal disease is suspected, but for many veterinarians in clinical practice, the investigation and reporting of emergency animal disease is unfamiliar territory. With new diseases continuing to emerge, it is vital that veterinarians are on the look out for, and know how to investigate and report unusual outbreaks of disease in animals they are treating.



[Emergency Animal Disease Surveillance Online Training](#) is a free online training package for veterinarians that aims to provide a refresher on the significance of Emergency Animal Diseases, their detection, investigation, reporting and management. The package includes 6 self-paced interactive case studies, each taking approximately 30 minutes to complete and featuring a variety of species including horses, backyard chooks and a dog.

This continuing education package was collaboratively developed with contributions from all of the Australian Veterinary Schools, IT partner Epi-Interactive and members of the veterinary profession. Funding from the Australian Government's Agricultural Competitiveness White Paper – the Government's plan for stronger farmer and a stronger economy – and the Australian Biosecurity Response Reform Program has ensured this valuable resource is freely available to the veterinary profession.

To brush up on emergency animal disease management, please visit: <https://eadonline.com.au/>



A MESSAGE TO EMPLOYERS OF 2021 VETERINARY GRADUATES

The Australasian Veterinary Boards Council (AVBC), Veterinary Schools of Australia and New Zealand (VSANZ), Australian Veterinary Association (AVA) and the New Zealand Veterinary Association (NZVA) have drafted a [letter to potential employers](#) of 2021 veterinary graduates providing information as to their skills and knowledge.

APVMA - INTELLIGENCE GATHERING

The Australian Pesticides and Veterinary Medicines Authority (APVMA) are keen for regulators, stakeholders, and the regulated community to be intelligence gatherers to support their role of monitoring compliance with the *Agricultural and Veterinary Chemicals Code Act 1994* and related legislation. The APVMA have provided a [letter](#) with more information and a [reporting proforma](#).

ARE AUSTRALIAN VETS PREPARED TO DIAGNOSE AND TREAT MONOCYTIC EHRLICHIOSIS

A fourth year veterinary student at Murdoch University, Harry Davis is requesting your assistance with a survey he is distributing on Ehrlichia canis. He is keen to get as many participants as possible to take their survey to validate their data.



Details are below. If you have any questions please [email Harry](#) directly.

Are you interested in assisting Australian veterinary professionals? We would like to invite you to partake in the Survey: "Are Australian Vets prepared to diagnose and treat Canine Monocytic Ehrlichiosis?".

Your contribution will not only give other veterinary and other associated professionals an insight into the current knowledge base on canine vector borne diseases (CVBD) in Australia but will also provide an opportunity to develop further continuing education campaigns regarding the diagnosis, treatment, and prevention of exotic CVBD in Australia. There are no perceived risks in participating in this survey. All responses are anonymous.

Your participation in this study is entirely voluntary and your answers are anonymous. You may withdraw at any time without discrimination or prejudice, simply by not completing the survey.

If you are willing to consent to participation in this study, click on the link provided below to complete the survey. It will take approximately 4 minutes to complete the survey. Please answer all questions honestly and individually.

Link here: https://murdochuni.syd1.qualtrics.com/jfe/form/SV_aguclazcV7oQMVU

Thank you for your assistance with this research project.

UPDATED BOARD GUIDELINES

The following guidelines have recently been reviewed and updated

- Responsibilities of the managing veterinary surgeon
- Guidelines for the design and equipping of veterinary hospitals and veterinary clinics

The updated guidelines can be viewed [here](#)

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