

Veterinary Surgeons' Board of WA

From: Veterinary Surgeons' Board <admin@vsbwa.org.au>
Sent: Tuesday, 31 March 2020 4:31 PM
To: Veterinary Surgeons' Board of WA
Subject: COVID-19 - Travel and Risk Management Update



Veterinary Surgeons' Board



FROM THE REGISTRAR

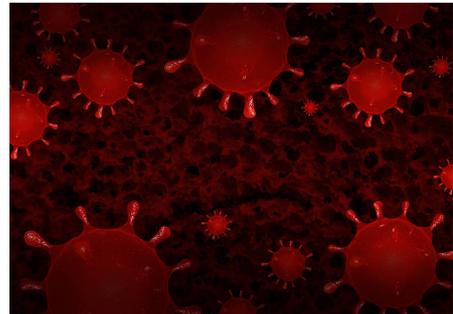
During the COVID-19 pandemic the Board is providing information and guidance as well as passing on relevant, reliable information from State and Australian Government departments, the Australasian Veterinary Boards Council (AVBC) and the Australian Veterinary Association (AVA).

Have a look at the information below which addresses some of the questions that the Board has been receiving from veterinary surgeons and veterinary nurses.

The Board encourages your feedback and questions but requests that during this busy complicated time that you email rather than phone the office. Snail mail will only be collected infrequently so again email is preferred.

Take care everyone.

Dr Sue Godkin
Registrar



INTERSTATE TRAVEL RESTRICTIONS AND ESSENTIAL TRAVELLERS - DO VETERINARY SURGEONS QUALIFY?

This information only applies to the WA border. Also be aware that the Prime Minister's statement does not override State requirements.

This [link](#) is to a page which gives an overview of travel restrictions to WA, border controls and exemptions.

Everyone wanting to cross the WA border must fill in this [form](#). Unless you are classed as an essential traveller you must go into self isolation for 14 days. The form gives a more detailed description of what an essential traveller is defined as.

If you are still not sure if you are an essential traveller you can call the National coronavirus help line for information on coronavirus (COVID-19). The line operates 24 hours a day, seven days a

week. [1800 020 080](tel:1800020080)

If you do not fall under the definition of an essential traveller you can fill in a [special exemption form](#) and if successful you may not have to self isolate for 14 days.

WHAT ABOUT INTRASTATE TRAVEL?

The WA Government will introduce further restrictions on travel within Western Australia from Tuesday night 31 March 2020 (12.00am AWST Wednesday morning 1 April 2020), to assist in reducing the spread of COVID-19.

Western Australian intrastate travel is defined as movement through the boundaries of the regions of Western Australia.

These regions are:

- Perth and Peel (due to their close proximity, the Perth and Peel regions will combine into one region)
- South West
- Great Southern
- Goldfields-Esperance
- Mid-West
- Wheatbelt
- Gascoyne
- Pilbara
- Kimberley.

Western Australians will not be permitted to leave their regional boundary. Police have the power to enforce these restrictions and fines of up to \$50,000 can be issued.

Exemptions will apply for:

- employment purposes
- medical reasons
- health and emergency services
- people living in 'border communities', who may not have access to groceries or supplies within their region
- freight
- compassionate grounds.

Further details on how the restrictions will operate and application process for exemptions will be provided before the restrictions come into force.

More information can be found at this [website](#).

RISK MANAGEMENT FOR VETERINARY PRACTICES

The Board has received a number of questions from veterinary surgeons and veterinary nurses about risk management to protect their staff and animal owners during the COVID - 19 pandemic.

The Australian Veterinary Association (AVA) has information on reducing the risk in [veterinary practices](#).

A helpful [algorithm](#) has been published by the Ontario Veterinary College University of Guelph for screening clients.

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