



QUESTIONNAIRE

Members of the public are invited to complete and submit this questionnaire before COB on Friday 1 January 2010.

Hand deliver questionnaire to:	Mail questionnaire to:
Project Manager, DoR Veterinarians Act Review 4 th Floor Centrepoint Building, Smith Street, Darwin	Project Manager, DoR Veterinarians Act Review GPO Box 3000, DARWIN NT 0801
Fax, Email or on-line responses	
<p>Fax responses to (08) 8999 5191</p> <p>E-mail responses can be delivered to executivesupport.drdpifr@nt.gov.au</p> <p>To complete questionnaire online visit: www.nt.gov.au/drdpifr/vetact</p>	

Your Contact Details (optional)	
The provision of your name and contact details is optional, but is necessary if we need to contact you to obtain further information.	
Name:	
Address:	
Phone No's:	
Email:	

REGULATORY REGIME

Question 1

What should be in the objectives for the regulation of veterinary practice in the Territory stated in the Act?

Question 2

Do you think the current veterinarians legislation (Act and Regulations, including the Code of Conduct) is adequate? If not, indicate possible changes to improve the operations of the legislation.

CONTEMPORARY VETERINARY PRACTICES

Question 3

What do you consider should be included as a veterinary service? (refer to Appendix 1).

Question 4

What range of veterinary activities should a qualified veterinary nurse be allowed to perform?

Question 5

What range of services should an equine dentist offer?

Question 6

Are there any equine dentistry services that should only be provided by a registered veterinarian?

Question 7

What range of veterinary activities should the owner of an animal be allowed to perform on that animal?

Question 8

Should the Board have authority to investigate all people who carry out activities that are defined as veterinary services?

Question 9

How do you suggest that the treatment of animals by people who are not registered veterinarians should be managed?

Question 10

How do you suggest that the issue of veterinary accountability of owners of veterinary practices and hospitals should be managed?

VETERINARY BOARD OF NT

Question 11

Do you support the Board continuing to perform all of the functions currently listed?
What would you add or remove?

Question 12

Should the Board structure remain much the same as now?
If no, what changes would you like to make?

Question 13

Should Board meetings be open to the public?

Question 14

Should the Board be required to report publicly? If so, how and where?

Question 15

What information should be reported?

Question 16

Should the Board make information about suspension or deregistration of a veterinarian public? If so, how should it be done?

VETERINARY REGISTRATION

Question 17

Should veterinarians be required to provide any evidence to the Board of ongoing education or professional development to achieve re-registration?

Question 18

Should it be a condition of re-registration in the Northern Territory?

Question 19

Does the Board need the power to require a veterinarian to have a medical or physical assessment at any time to maintain registration?

COMPLAINTS HANDLING

Question 20

Complaints can be made in five categories under the current Act. Are these adequate or is there a need for expanding the criteria?

Question 21

What activities would you include as being covered in the definition of “misconduct”?

Question 22

Nominate the types of conditions or standards that should be in the Code of Conduct?

Question 23

Are there any services that you would shift from or to veterinarian only?
Please refer to Appendix 1.

Question 24

How could the current complaint handling process be improved?

Question 25

Do you think a Tribunal system should be considered to hear serious complaints?

Question 26

Should the complainant (as well as the person being investigated) have the right to appeal a decision of the Board?

Question 27

Should the complainant be protected from liability when lodging a complaint?
(As in the *Health Practitioners Act*?)

COMPLIANCE

Question 28

Are the current penalties considered effective or are there additional powers that could be included in the Act to aid compliance? If so, are you able to nominate or suggest additional penalties?

Question 29

Are their offences that would be better dealt with using an infringement notice?

Question 30

Is there an alternative way to regulate veterinarians in the Northern Territory?
Please provide details.

Question 31

Are the disciplinary provisions sufficient to enable the Board to fulfil its obligations to the profession and the community in general?

Question 32

Do you have any other comments or suggestions for improvements to the regulation of veterinary practices?

Question 33

Is the current *Veterinarians Act* adequate? If not, what do you suggest could be changed?

Please note:

All responses to this questionnaire will be handled by the department in compliance with the Northern Territory *Information Act*. The information collected through this questionnaire will influence decisions regarding the review of the *Veterinarians Act*.

