

Veterinarian-Client-Patient Relationship (VCPR)

The California Veterinary Medical Board defines what must be satisfied in order for a valid VCPR to be established, and for treatment to be provided to an animal. Please see the California Code of Regulations Title 16, Section 2032.1 for full text definition upheld by the CVMB.

In California, a VCPR is established when the client has authorized the licensed veterinarian to assume responsibility for making medical judgements and the need for medical treatment of the patient (including the prescription of antimicrobials) AND the veterinarian has agreed to assuming that responsibility and has communicated with the client an appropriate course of treatment.

For a valid VCPR, the veterinarian must be personally acquainted with the care of the animal(s) by way of an examination of the animal or by medically appropriate and timely visits to the premises where the animals are kept AND have enough knowledge of the animal(s) to give at least a general or preliminary diagnosis of the medical condition.



Antimicrobial Use and Stewardship

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Check List

- Applies to participants in Youth Agriculture
- Acknowledgement of Management Limits (Not to extend to other animals)
- Acceptance of Veterinary Care (VCPR) through Manager

Relevant Documents

- Designated Livestock Agent Authorization Form (Parental Acknowledgement of VCPR through Manager)
- VCPR Document for Veterinarian (optional, not provided)
- Treatment Protocols (includes standing prescription for applicable drugs that will expire, includes Extra Label Drug Use restrictions if applicable)

**The California Veterinary Medical Board (CVMB) defines what must be satisfied in order for a valid VCPR to be established, and for treatment to be provided to an animal through a valid VCPR. Please see the California Code of Regulations Title 16, Section 2032.1 for full text definition upheld by the CVMB*

***This document is designed to assist with the decision making and management of a livestock animal or herd. It is not an official or legal document, but rather one of many ways in which to make a VCPR work with your veterinarian. Please consult with them directly to discuss how to make a VCPR work.*



CALIFORNIA DEPARTMENT OF
FOOD & AGRICULTURE

Veterinarian-Client-Patient Relationship

Youth Agriculture Model





Considerations for Youth Agriculture

A veterinarian working with 4-H clubs/ FFA groups in which there are many animals owned and reared by different owners (students in the program or project), but housed in group or affiliated offsite locations, in group pens or pens on same property, may establish VCPR with the herd manager, as a designated livestock agent by the parents (or guardians).

The FFA or 4-H advisor, who is responsible for ensuring feeding, watering, and general husbandry care is performed, as well as overall monitoring of animal health, oversees the livestock as a herd under one main manager (themselves). This manager also maintains control over any prescription medications given on farm and is responsible for following the veterinarian's written or verbal instructions.

It is not appropriate for veterinary product use to extend beyond the VCPR. A separate VCPR must be established beyond the youth agricultural group's bounds. For example, a student raising an animal at the school farm may not bring medicated feed home to treat additional non-project animals.

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Youth Agriculture Model Veterinarian-Client-Patient Relationship (VCPR)

