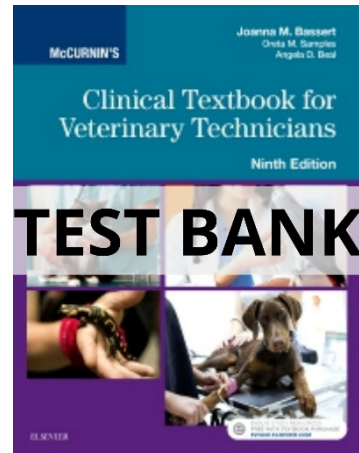


Chapter 01: Introduction to Veterinary Technology: Its Laws and Ethics
Bassert: McCurnin's Clinical Textbook for Veterinary Technicians, 9th Edition

MULTIPLE CHOICE



1. NAVTA stands for
 - a. National Association of Veterinarian Technical Academy
 - b. North American Veterinary Technology Association
 - c. National Association of Veterinary Technicians of America
 - d. North American Veterinary Technician Association

ANS: C

The National Association of Veterinary Technicians of America is NAVTA.

PTS: 1 REF: p. 4 TOP: VTNE Domain: Miscellaneous
MSC: CVTEA Skill and Task: Office And Hospital Procedures, Client Relations, and Communication: Management: Participate in facility management utilizing traditional and electronic media and appropriate veterinary medical terminology and abbreviations. | Recognize roles of appropriate regulatory agencies

2. Presently in the field of veterinary technology which is **not true**?
 - a. Salaries vary depending on the field of interest and the level of experience.
 - b. Widespread shortages of veterinary technicians have been reported.
 - c. In 2015, the average salary for veterinary technicians nationwide was \$33,280 per year or \$16.00 per hour.
 - d. Technicians working in metropolitan areas earn less, on average, than those working in rural areas.

ANS: D

Presently, widespread shortages of veterinary technicians have been reported, and graduates of veterinary technology programs are finding ample job opportunities. Although job opportunities are plenty, salaries vary depending on the field of interest and the level of experience. For example, in 2015, the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics reported that the average salary for veterinary technicians nationwide was \$33,280 per year or \$16.00 per hour. However, level of experience, location of work, and field of interest have an impact on income potential. Technicians working in metropolitan areas earn more, on average, than those working in rural areas.

PTS: 1 REF: p. 4 TOP: VTNE Domain: Miscellaneous
MSC: CVTEA Skill and Task: Miscellaneous

3. A *controlled substance* is a drug or chemical
 - a. not used in veterinary medicine.
 - b. whose manufacture, possession, or use is regulated by government.
 - c. that is categorized into specific classes or schedules based on their cost.
 - d. that can be prescribed by veterinary technicians.

ANS: B

A *controlled substance* is a drug or chemical whose manufacture, possession, or use is regulated by government. In veterinary medicine, controlled substances are used on a daily basis. Federal and state legislation, such as the federal and state controlled substance acts, establish limitations and guidelines for the possession, use, storage, exportation, and production of specific drugs. Controlled drugs are categorized into specific classes or schedules based on the drugs' capacity for addiction. In the United States, the Drug Enforcement Agency (DEA) has been empowered by Congress to enforce federal regulation of controlled substances. Controlled substance log books, used in many veterinary practices, are required by governmental regulatory agencies and legislation to document the distribution and use of controlled substances. State controlled substance acts frequently apply to all drugs and devices, not just those drugs that are on the state or Federal Controlled Substances lists. Veterinarians may only prescribe drugs for their animal patients, with whom they have a veterinarian-client-patient relationship. They may not prescribe (or dispense from their own pharmacy) drugs for themselves or others. No state permits veterinary technicians to prescribe drugs.

PTS: 1 REF: p. 34 TOP: VTNE Domain: Miscellaneous
MSC: CVTEA Skill and Task: Pharmacy and Pharmacology: Administration: Safely and effectively administer prescribed drugs to patients. | Demonstrate understanding of controlled substance regulations

4. The Animal Welfare Act (AWA)
- requires that minimum standards-of-care and treatment be provided for all warm-blooded animals.
 - excludes mice, rats, or birds, which represent approximately 90% of animals used in research and higher education.
 - excludes animals transported commercially, as well as those exhibited to the public.
 - is an International law.

ANS: B

In the United States, the Animal Welfare Act (AWA) requires that minimum standards-of-care and treatment be provided for [most] some warm-blooded animals bred for commercial sale, used in research and higher education, transported commercially, and exhibited to the public. The AWA does not apply to mice, rats, or birds, which represent approximately 90% of animals used in research and higher education.

PTS: 1 REF: p. 35 TOP: VTNE Domain: Miscellaneous
MSC: CVTEA Skill and Task: Office And Hospital Procedures, Client Relations, and Communication: Management: Participate in facility management utilizing traditional and electronic media and appropriate veterinary medical terminology and abbreviations. | Recognize roles of appropriate regulatory agencies

5. Because the practice of veterinary technology is regulated by each state or province which of the following is **incorrect**?
- One state may issue a license, whereas another may issue a certificate.
 - Granting of a license by a state board implies that the board has reviewed and approved the qualifications of the individual to practice.
 - Granting of a certificate implies that an entity other than a state board has reviewed and approved the qualifications of the individual to practice, and has certified that the person is competent to practice.

- d. Once certified a technician does not need to check with the state's board before beginning practice to ensure that he or she has obtained the proper authorization to practice.

ANS: D

Because the practice of veterinary technology is regulated by each state or province, some variety is noted in the terminology used to designate an individual whom the board has authorized to practice. This variety can be confusing because one state may issue a license, whereas another may issue a certificate. Granting of a license by a state board implies that the board has reviewed and approved the qualifications of the individual to practice. Granting of a certificate implies that some other entity has reviewed and approved the qualifications of the individual to practice, and has certified that the person is competent to practice. Some states issue a license but call a technician certified (e.g., in Pennsylvania, technicians' qualifications are reviewed by the board, and the board issues a license bestowing the title *Certified Veterinary Technician*). Some jurisdictions "register" rather than license technicians. The term *registered* implies that neither the board nor an independent entity has reviewed and approved the qualifications of the technician to practice; however, to lawfully practice veterinary technology, the individual must register and provide information to the board. Some boards that refer to registration actually do review and approve the qualifications of technicians. A technician should check with the state's board before beginning practice to ensure that he or she has obtained the proper authorization to practice.

PTS: 1 REF: p. 26 TOP: VTNE Domain: Miscellaneous
MSC: CVTEA Skill and Task: Office And Hospital Procedures, Client Relations, and Communication: Management: Participate in facility management utilizing traditional and electronic media and appropriate veterinary medical terminology and abbreviations. | Recognize roles of appropriate regulatory agencies

6. If a veterinary technician violates the state's practice act or regulations of the profession's governing body, the penalty can include
- loss of licensure, monetary penalties (fines), or other discipline.
 - no punishment since veterinary technicians are not covered by practice acts.
 - those outlined in a standard practice act adopted by every state.
 - none of the above are correct.

ANS: A

If a veterinary technician violates the state's practice act or regulations of the profession's governing body, the penalty can include loss of licensure, monetary penalties (fines), or other discipline, such as additional continuing education courses. Because practice acts vary from one jurisdiction to another, every veterinary technician must be sure to understand the laws that govern the practice of veterinary technology in the state or province in which the technician plans to practice.

PTS: 1 REF: p. 24 TOP: VTNE Domain: Miscellaneous
MSC: CVTEA Skill and Task: Office And Hospital Procedures, Client Relations, and Communication: Management: Participate in facility management utilizing traditional and electronic media and appropriate veterinary medical terminology and abbreviations. | Recognize roles of appropriate regulatory agencies

7. NAVTA model rules and regulations for veterinary technicians include three levels of supervision. Of those levels, which of the following is correct?

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- a. Immediate supervision—A licensed veterinarian is within direct eyesight and hearing range.
- b. Direct supervision—A licensed veterinarian is on the premises and is readily available.
- c. Indirect supervision—A licensed veterinarian is not on the premises but is able to perform the duties of a licensed veterinarian by maintaining direct communication.
- d. All of the above are correct.

ANS: D

NAVTA model rules and regulations for veterinary technicians include three levels of supervision defined as follows: Immediate supervision—A licensed veterinarian is within direct eyesight and hearing range. Direct supervision—A licensed veterinarian is on the premises and is readily available. Indirect supervision—A licensed veterinarian is not on the premises but is able to perform the duties of a licensed veterinarian by maintaining direct communication.

PTS: 1 REF: p. 27 TOP: VTNE Domain: Miscellaneous
MSC: CVTEA Skill and Task: Office And Hospital Procedures, Client Relations, and Communication: Management: Participate in facility management utilizing traditional and electronic media and appropriate veterinary medical terminology and abbreviations. | Recognize roles of appropriate regulatory agencies

8. In some states veterinary technicians can extract teeth, whereas in other states this is considered surgery and cannot be performed by a veterinary technician. In order to determine if this is a task that you can perform in your state you should
 - a. ask your supervisor.
 - b. know that veterinary technicians can perform any task they were taught in school.
 - c. consult your state practice act.
 - d. never extract teeth during a dental cleaning.

ANS: C

One such area that has recently undergone intense scrutiny by licensing boards nationwide is the appropriate scope of practice for technicians performing dental procedures. States range from permitting technicians to perform only cleaning and polishing without subgingival scaling to permitting technicians to perform certain types of extractions. Massachusetts permits a veterinary technician to clean and polish teeth under direct veterinary supervision. Georgia permits a veterinary technician who is under the direct supervision of a veterinarian to remove calculus, soft deposits, polish stains, and smooth and file teeth, and to perform dental extractions that do not require sectioning of the tooth or resecting of bone.

PTS: 1 REF: p. 31 TOP: VTNE Domain: Dentistry
MSC: CVTEA Skill and Task: Office And Hospital Procedures, Client Relations, and Communication: Management: Participate in facility management utilizing traditional and electronic media and appropriate veterinary medical terminology and abbreviations. | Recognize roles of appropriate regulatory agencies

9. Which of the following is not yet a NAVTA-recognized area of specialty for veterinary technicians?
 - a. Veterinary Technician Anesthetists
 - b. Veterinary Emergency and Critical Care Technicians
 - c. Oncology Medicine for Veterinary Technicians
 - d. Internal Medicine for Veterinary Technicians

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ANS: C

NAVTA recognized areas of specialty for veterinary technicians are as follows:

- Veterinary Dental Technicians
- Veterinary Technician Anesthetists
- Internal Medicine for Veterinary Technicians
- Veterinary Emergency and Critical Care Technicians
- Veterinary Behavior Technicians
- Veterinary Zoological Medicine Technicians
- Equine Veterinary Nursing Technicians
- Veterinary Surgical Technicians
- Veterinary Technicians in Clinical Practice
- Veterinary Nutrition Technicians
- Veterinary Clinical Pathology Technicians
- Dermatology Veterinary Technicians

PTS: 1 REF: p. 14 TOP: VTNE Domain: Miscellaneous
MSC: CVTEA Skill and Task: Office And Hospital Procedures, Client Relations, and Communication: Management: Participate in facility management utilizing traditional and electronic media and appropriate veterinary medical terminology and abbreviations. | Recognize roles of appropriate regulatory agencies

10. College programs designed to train veterinary technicians are accredited by
- a. The USDA.
 - b. The FDA.
 - c. The AVMA and the CVMA.
 - d. The AALAS.

ANS: C

In the U.S. and Canada, college programs designed to train veterinary technicians are accredited by the American Veterinary Medical Association (AVMA) and by the Canadian Veterinary Medical Association (CVMA), respectfully.

PTS: 1 REF: p. 4 TOP: VTNE Domain: Miscellaneous
MSC: CVTEA Skill and Task: Miscellaneous

11. The current rate of attrition from the field of veterinary technology
- a. is very low.
 - b. is very high.
 - c. is not a problem because many people want to be trained.
 - d. cannot be explained.

ANS: B

The profession of veterinary technology has a high rate of attrition.

PTS: 1 REF: p. 5 TOP: VTNE Domain: Miscellaneous
MSC: CVTEA Skill and Task: Miscellaneous

12. Upon graduation from a Veterinary Technology program, students must take and pass the VTNE. Which of the following statements regarding the VTNE is the most accurate?
- a. The VTNE is the Veterinary Technician National Examination.
 - b. Students are not required to take the VTNE to become certified or licensed in most states and Canada.

- c. Once the VTNE has been passed, technicians can perform any task a veterinarian can do.
- d. All of the above are true.

ANS: A

After completing the requirements to graduate from a program of veterinary technology, students prepare to take the Veterinary Technician National Examination (VTNE), which is required in most states and provinces.

PTS: 1 REF: p. 6 TOP: VTNE Domain: Miscellaneous
MSC: CVTEA Skill and Task: Miscellaneous

13. Veterinary technicians are often charged with obtaining objective patient information such as all of the following **except** (which is not objective patient information)
- a. Heart rate and pulse rate
 - b. Blood work including serum chemistries and CBC
 - c. Body temperature
 - d. Observations about the patient's mentation

ANS: D

Objective data include measureable patient information such as vital signs (heart rate, respiratory rate, blood pressure, and body temperature) and laboratory results (complete blood count (CBC) and serum chemistry analysis).

PTS: 1 REF: pp. 7-8 TOP: VTNE Domain: Animal Care and Nursing
MSC: CVTEA Skill and Task: Nursing: Patient assessment: Demonstrate and perform patient assessment techniques in a variety of animal species. | Demonstrate the ability to obtain objective patient data

14. Patient evaluations can be thought of in three categories
- a. Actual physical and psychological problems of the patient
 - b. The risk of or potential for problems
 - c. The risks related to the owner
 - d. All of the above are correct

ANS: D

Patient evaluations therefore fall into one of three categories: 1. Evaluations that relate to actual physical and psychological problems of the patient, such as "hypovolemia," "abnormal eating behavior," and "fear." 2. Evaluations that relate to the risk of or potential for problems in the future, such as "risk for infection" and "risk of aspiration." 3. Evaluations that relate to the owner (also called the client), such as "client knowledge deficit" and "noncompliant owner."

PTS: 1 REF: p. 8 TOP: VTNE Domain: Animal Care and Nursing
MSC: CVTEA Skill and Task: Nursing: Patient assessment: Demonstrate and perform patient assessment techniques in a variety of animal species. | Obtain a thorough patient history

15. Foundation issues are the most critical problems that must be addressed first in any medical situation because they determine whether the animal will live or die. Which is the most critical foundation issue and should always be addressed first?
- a. Oxygenation
 - b. Bleeding
 - c. Pain

d. Head injury

ANS: A

The most critical problems are considered foundation issues because if they are not addressed first, the animal may not live. The *most important* issues at the bottom relate to oxygenation.

PTS: 1 REF: pp. 8-9 TOP: VTNE Domain: Animal Care and Nursing
MSC: CVTEA Skill and Task: Nursing: Patient assessment: Demonstrate and perform patient assessment techniques in a variety of animal species. | Demonstrate the ability to obtain objective patient data

16. It is widely accepted and has been proposed by both the American Veterinary Medical Association (AVMA) and the American Association of Veterinary State Boards (AAVSB) that *only* veterinarians may do the following: prescribe, diagnose, or perform surgery. In addition, which other task is recommended for veterinarians only?
- Client education
 - Prognosis
 - IV catheter placement
 - Bandaging

ANS: B

It is widely accepted and has been proposed by both the American Veterinary Medical Association (AVMA) and the American Association of Veterinary State Boards (AAVSB) that *only* veterinarians may do the following: prescribe, diagnose, prognose, or perform surgery.

PTS: 1 REF: p. 8 TOP: VTNE Domain: Miscellaneous
MSC: CVTEA Skill and Task: Office And Hospital Procedures, Client Relations, and Communication: Management: Participate in facility management utilizing traditional and electronic media and appropriate veterinary medical terminology and abbreviations. | Recognize roles of appropriate regulatory agencies

17. It is important that the veterinary technician, when completing veterinary medical records, enter the notation, _____ for each treatment, drug, medication, or appliance ordered by the veterinarian.
- “per Os”
 - “as per order”
 - “b.i.d.”
 - Veterinary technicians do not write in medical records

ANS: B

It is important that the veterinary technician, when completing veterinary medical records, enter the notation, “as per order,” for each treatment, drug, medication, or appliance ordered by the veterinarian.

PTS: 1 REF: p. 10 TOP: VTNE Domain: Pharmacy and Pharmacology
MSC: CVTEA Skill and Task: Pharmacy and Pharmacology: Administration: Safely and effectively administer prescribed drugs to patients. | Demonstrate the ability to accurately record medical information

18. The veterinary technician’s role in the area of pharmacy may include all of the following except
- interpreting the prescription language.

- b. dispensing the medication to the pet owner.
- c. ensuring that the pharmacy is well stocked.
- d. prescribing medication.

ANS: D

The veterinary technician interprets the prescription language, then fills and dispenses the medication to the pet owner, along with instructions for its use. In addition, veterinary technicians are often responsible for ensuring that the pharmacy is well stocked, that expired drugs are discarded, and that controlled substances are handled appropriately.

PTS: 1 REF: p. 10 TOP: VTNE Domain: Pharmacy and Pharmacology
MSC: CVTEA Skill and Task: Pharmacy and Pharmacology: Administration: Safely and effectively administer prescribed drugs to patients. | Read and follow veterinarian's pharmacy orders

19. In the operating room, the veterinary technician may assume all of the following duties except
- a. acting as the circulating nurse.
 - b. assisting during a particularly challenging operation.
 - c. performing surgery.
 - d. ensuring that all surgical equipment is clean, sterile, and ready to use.

ANS: C

The operating room (OR) technician, or the circulating nurse, positions the patient on the operating table and completes the final surgical scrub. Instruments, equipment, and materials needed by the surgeon are made available. The technician retrieves any additional materials requested during the procedure, adjusts surgery lights, tilts the surgery table, and, in general, does whatever is necessary to support the needs and comfort of the surgeon. In some practices, the technician acts simultaneously as anesthetist and circulating nurse. Occasionally, technicians are asked to assist during a particularly challenging operation and must be skilled in proper sterile techniques, including gloving and gowning. After the procedure has been performed, the technician washes and dries the surgical instruments and reorganizes them into surgical packs for sterilization. The technician may also perform the duties of the postoperative care nurse for the recovering patient.

PTS: 1 REF: p. 12 TOP: VTNE Domain: Surgical Nursing
MSC: CVTEA Skill and Task: Surgical Nursing: Procedural management: Understand and provide the appropriate instruments, supplies and environment to maintain asepsis during surgical procedures. | Prepare surgical instruments and supplies

20. Throughout the animals' clinic or hospital stay, the veterinary technician frequently assesses and reassesses patients' status. They should alert the veterinarian to any changes in
- a. pain level of the animal.
 - b. surgical complications such as bleeding.
 - c. changes in mentation.
 - d. all of the above.

ANS: D

Throughout the patient's hospitalization, the veterinary technician assesses and reassesses patient status, develops new evaluations, and adjusts the technician nursing plan. During these periodic patient assessments, the veterinary technician is keenly aware of pain levels experienced by the patient and ensures that appropriate pain management is provided as per order from the veterinarian.

PTS: 1 REF: p. 13 TOP: VTNE Domain: Animal Care and Nursing

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MSC: CVTEA Skill and Task: Nursing: Patient assessment: Demonstrate and perform patient assessment techniques in a variety of animal species. | Demonstrate the ability to obtain objective patient data

21. In addition to salary, many employers of veterinary technicians provide benefits to their employees. Which of the following is true with regard to these benefits?
- Smaller companies are often better positioned to provide benefits than larger ones.
 - Retirement plans should not be considered a primary benefit offered to technicians.
 - Health care coverage is too expensive to provide in a clinical setting, so it is never offered.
 - Continuing education may include support towards earning a university degree.

ANS: D

Financial support that helps employees earn a bachelor's or master's degree may be provided by an employer, especially one that is involved with pharmaceutical or corporate business. This is considered a form of continuing education, or CE, and is a valuable benefit.

PTS: 1 REF: p. 5 TOP: VTNE Domain: Miscellaneous
MSC: CVTEA Skill and Task: Miscellaneous

22. According to the AVMA, which of the following is a true statement?
- The best run clinics use veterinarians to complete most of their animal-centered tasks.
 - Technicians are best utilized as receptionists in the clinical setting.
 - Technicians should be involved in as many animal-related tasks as possible.
 - Technicians are an expense to a clinic and their presence is hard to justify economically.

ANS: C

Statistics gathered by the AVMA indicate that the most financially sound practices are those that make full use of their staff. Veterinarians in these well-run practices complete only those tasks that by law they alone are permitted to do. All other animal care tasks are completed by veterinary technicians and veterinary assistants.

PTS: 1 REF: p. 5 TOP: VTNE Domain: Miscellaneous
MSC: CVTEA Skill and Task: Office And Hospital Procedures, Client Relations, and Communication: Laws and Ethics: Follow and uphold applicable laws and the veterinary technology profession's ethical codes to provide high quality care to patients. | Understand and observe legal boundaries of veterinary health care team members

23. Which is the committee that accredits veterinary technician programs in the United States?
- CVMA
 - CVTEA
 - USDA
 - VTPAC

ANS: B

The CVTEA (Committee on Veterinary Technician Education and Activities) is a component of the American Veterinary Medical Association (AVMA) which is responsible for the accreditation of American veterinary technician programs based on the fulfillment of 11 essential criteria. The Canadian Veterinary Medical Association is the Canadian counterpart to the AVMA, and performs the same accreditation function via the Animal Health Technology/Veterinary Technician Program Accreditation Committee (AHT/VTPAC).

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PTS: 1 REF: p. 5 TOP: VTNE Domain: Miscellaneous
MSC: CVTEA Skill and Task: Office And Hospital Procedures, Client Relations, and Communication: Management: Participate in facility management utilizing traditional and electronic media and appropriate veterinary medical terminology and abbreviations. | Recognize roles of appropriate regulatory agencies

24. Which of the following is not a domain that is covered on the VTNE?
- Dentistry
 - Diagnostic Imaging
 - Pain Management
 - Surgical Techniques

ANS: D

While there is a Surgical Nursing Domain on the VTNE, the practice of surgery is delegated to licensed veterinarians. It is important for technicians to have a firm understanding of surgical procedures and have a strong working relationship with veterinary surgeons; however, the actual practice of surgery by veterinary technicians is not allowed.

PTS: 1 REF: p. 7 TOP: VTNE Domain: Miscellaneous
MSC: CVTEA Skill and Task: Miscellaneous

25. What is the purpose of the 20 new questions that are added annually to the VTNE?
- To determine how well the candidates answer them and whether they qualify as repeatable questions that can be used on future exams
 - To give extra credit to applicants who answer them correctly
 - To increase the number of scored questions each year
 - To ensure everyone who takes the VTNE passes

ANS: A

These 20 questions are not identified to the test takers, and therefore are analyzed for appropriateness in use for subsequent tests. Since they are not scored they are not intended to punish test takers who do not answer them correctly. If they are answered correctly by a predetermined number of test takers they may then be used as repeatable questions on future examinations.

PTS: 1 REF: p. 7 TOP: VTNE Domain: Miscellaneous
MSC: CVTEA Skill and Task: Miscellaneous

26. There are five cyclically performed steps involved in a patient's hospitalization. These are collectively called the veterinary technician _____.
- diagnostic approach
 - practice model
 - therapeutic formulation
 - data evaluation

ANS: B

The veterinary technician practice model includes the following: gathering patient data, identification and prioritization of patient evaluations, development and implementation of plan for patient care, evaluation of the patient's response to the plan, and then the gathering of additional data. These steps allow for the systematic evaluation and treatment of an animal under the technician's care.