The framework of student supervision in the teaching hospital

Birgit Puschner
Helene Pazak

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Framework

- AVMA definitions
- AVMA COE Standard
- AAVMC Policy on internship training
- Vet Techs:
  - Role in veterinary student training
  - MSU CT-Union Responsibilities
- Veterinary Practice Act and MI Veterinary Practice Act
- What do we need to do in the CVM and how do we set-it up successfully?
AVMA-COE Education of DVM Students

COE Standard 8: Faculty

Faculty numbers and qualifications in a functional area must be sufficient to deliver the educational program and fulfill the mission of the College.

- Pre-clinical education may be delivered by non-veterinarians with the expertise in a functional area.
- For the clinical training of veterinary students, AVMA-COE requires that veterinarians must be licensed and technicians should be certified, licensed or registered as appropriate to that jurisdiction.
- Specialty Board qualification is not required for the education of veterinary students. The veterinarian must have the appropriate level of expertise in the functional area.
AVMA-COE Post-DVM Programs
COE Standard 8: Faculty

• Colleges should establish post-DVM programs such as internships, residencies and advanced degrees that must complement and strengthen the professional program and not adversely affect the veterinary student experience.
  • Residencies and internships are not required by AVMA-COE.
  • Based on Standard 10: Research, it would be very difficult to provide evidence for a strong research program without advanced degree opportunities.
AVMA-COE Standard 8: Faculty

- Evidence must exist that full-time, permanent faculty provide adequate supervision of part-time faculty, residents and interns.
- Part-time faculty, residents and graduate students may supplement the teaching efforts of the full-time permanent faculty if appropriately integrated into the instructional program.
- If residents and graduate students are used in the instruction of professional students, evidence must exist that they are appropriately mentored in effective teaching in didactic and clinical courses (rotations).

Note the exclusion of interns
Internship (AVMA)

• AVMA definition
  • One-year clinical training program that emphasizes mentorship, direct supervision, and didactic experiences including rounds, seminars, and formal presentations.

• AVMA Framework
  • Provides practical experience in applying knowledge gained during the professional curriculum and an opportunity to obtain additional training in the clinical sciences.
  • Prepares a veterinarian for high-quality service in practice or for advanced specialty training.
  • Primarily an educational program for the intern rather than a service benefit to the hospital.
AAVMC Policy for Internship Training

- Developed by the AAVMC Academic Affairs Cmte
- Approved on February 28, 2018
- While on clinical service, interns should be under the direct supervision of a qualified clinician instructor:
  - Direct supervision means the supervising veterinarian is in the hospital where the intern is working.
  - Interns should be given graduated responsibility depending on their level of training. As interns develop an acceptable level of competency and proficiency, the level of supervision can decrease...
Veterinary Technicians

• AVMA definition:
  • Individual that has been educated in the care and handling of animals, the basic principles of normal and abnormal life processes, and in many laboratory and clinical procedures.

• AVMA Framework
  • Must pass a credentialing examination to be licensed or registered or certified (the term used varies by state).
  • Work under the supervision of a licensed veterinarian. While a veterinary technician can assist in performing a wide variety of tasks, they cannot diagnose, prescribe, perform surgery, or engage in any activity prohibited by a state’s veterinary practice act.
  • In a clinical practice setting, they are permitted to obtain and record patient case histories; collect specimens and perform laboratory procedures; provide specialized nursing care; prepare animals, instruments, and equipment for surgery; assist in diagnostic, medical, and surgical procedures; expose and develop radiographs (x-rays); advise and educate animal owners; supervise and train practice personnel; and perform dental prophylaxes.
Supervision of DVM Students by Veterinary Technicians

- In the day to day operation of a clinical setting, AVMA-COE recognizes the critical function of the veterinary technicians in the healthcare management of the patient and through this responsibility, the interaction and oversight of the veterinary students in patient care.

- For the clinical training of veterinary students, AVMA-COE requires that veterinarians must be licensed and technicians should be certified, licensed or registered as appropriate to that jurisdiction.

- All veterinary technicians work under the supervision of a licensed veterinarian.
AVMA Model Veterinary Practice Act (2012)

Supervision is defined as:

- "Direct supervision" means a licensed veterinarian is readily available on the premises where the patient is being treated and has assumed responsibility for the veterinary care given to the patient by a person working under his or her direction.

- "Indirect supervision" means a licensed veterinarian need not be on the premises; has given either written or oral instructions for treatment of the patient; is readily available by telephone or other forms of immediate communication; and has assumed responsibility for the care given to the patient by a person working under his or her direction.
State of Michigan Practice Act (October 2015):

• Supervision is that degree of close physical proximity necessary for the supervising veterinarian
  • to directly observe and monitor the performance of the student and
  • to ensure that the activities are within the scope of the orders, assignments, or prescriptions of the veterinarian.

• Supervision is that degree of close physical proximity necessary for the supervising veterinarian
  • to observe and monitor the performance of a veterinary technician.

→ The State of Michigan Practice Act is much more restrictive! 
Residency (AVMA)

- AVMA definition
  - advanced training in a specialty in veterinary medicine that is intended to lead to specialty certification in an AVMA-recognized veterinary specialty organization

- AVMA Framework:
  - Veterinary specialty organizations establish guidelines that will be approved as appropriate training for candidates for specialty certification.
  - Conducted under the supervision of a board-certified specialist.
  - Usually narrowly confined to a specific discipline. A residency may in some instances be related to an advanced degree program.
Supervision in the VMC – how do we structure it to meet all requirements?

- Veterinary students must be under the **direct supervision** of an attending staff veterinarian (in the building)
- Interns are not allowed to supervise vet students
- If residents teach they must be formally mentored in teaching (didactic and clinical) and we must have a formal “teach-the-teacher” program in place
- **Who qualifies to supervise?**
  - Veterinarians with the rank of assistant, associate or full professor, visiting faculty
  - Resident that has received training in teaching veterinary students in the clinical setting within the first month of the residency program and has received favorably teaching evaluations at 3 and 6 months into the program