



**DVM REVIEW/REFERENCE
MATERIALS**

CVT UTILIZATION PRESENTATION

CONTENTS:

- Listing of information presented in the three one-hour video presentations
- Use to determine where CVTs can improve patient care and hospital practice efficiency



Sponsored by the ISVMA, the CVT Utilization presentation assists managing veterinarians how to strategically utilize their best in-hospital talent for front line service and clinical assistance.

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CVT Utilization Presentation

What can a CVT do in different areas of your practice?

Use this list as you watch the CVT Utilization Presentation for reference and note taking.



Customer Care

- Lead puppy/kitten classes
- Prepare educational handouts/blogs
- Teach staff education seminars
- Make client callbacks (post-op, sick, etc.)
- Contact specialists re. referrals
- Fill/Explain prescriptions
- Serve as OSHA compliance officer

Exam Room

- Take initial history
- Triage/Basic physical exam
- Restrain patients (fear-free?)
- Obtain laboratory samples
 - Blood, skin scrapings, ear/vaginal cytology, etc.
- Discharge/Intake patients

Laboratory

- Perform equipment QC and maintenance
- Run in-house chemistries and CBCs (including blood smears)
- Check fecal floats and smears
- Perform a complete urinalysis
 - Including catheterization/cystocentesis
- Gram stain/streak plates
- Prepare cytology samples
- Prepare specimens for send-out labs
 - Including rabies decapitation

Radiology

- Take all radiographs, including contrast studies
 - Set machine, position patient

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Surgery and Dentistry

- Maintain equipment in proper condition
- Assist with surgical procedures
- Prep patient for surgery
- Operate autoclave/prepare sterile packs
- Perform skin closure
- Perform dental prophylaxis
- Obtain full mouth dental radiographs



Anesthesia

- Set up/maintain anesthetic equipment
- Induce/Intubate patients
- Monitor anesthesia/recovery

Hospital Ward

- Place IV and urinary catheters
 - Administer/Monitor fluid therapy
- Administer medications and calculate doses
- Care for non-ambulatory patients
 - Including bladder expression
- Perform physical therapy and rehabilitation
- Apply/Remove bandages/splints
- Perform CPR
- Maintain pharmacy inventory

Large Animal

- Perform venipuncture and injections
- Administer anesthetics and local blocks
- Assist with surgical procedures
- Apply bandages
- Sheath cleaning
- Set up chute
- Prepare supplies for farm calls
- Take radiographs
- Place ruminant gastric tubes
- Trim ruminant hooves

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The following are sections of the Illinois Administrative Code that relate to the Illinois Veterinary Medicine and Surgery Practice Act of 2004 (225 ILCS 115/1).



They are best read together to understand the tasks that CVTs and unlicensed personnel are allowed to do and under what level of supervision when working in a veterinary practice in the state:

Illinois Administrative Code Section 1505.60 Certified Veterinary Technicians Functions

<https://www.ilga.gov/commission/jcar/admincode/068/068015050000600R.html>

Illinois Administrative Code Section 1500.48 Employees of a Licensed Veterinarian Who are not Certified Veterinary Technicians

<https://www.ilga.gov/commission/jcar/admincode/068/068015000000480R.html>

CVT Utilization Presentation

How to Utilize a CVT in Your Practice

Use this brainstorming worksheet to help you determine the best team members for the suggested responsibilities:



- How are CVTs currently being utilized?
- Where could CVTs have additional impact?
 - Who currently performs these tasks?
- Current staffing
 - Better utilization of existing staff?
- Desired staffing
 - What incentives can your practice offer?
 - Where can you find CVTs?
- How can you improve onboarding?
- How can you improve CVT retention?
 - Professional development support?
 - Niches?
 - Advancement opportunities?
- Intrinsic and Extrinsic Motivators at Your Practice
 - Consider what your practice can offer to motivate CVTs to join and remain at your practice.
 - Intrinsic:

 - Extrinsic:

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New CVT Employee Training Checklist (Example)

Below are some suggestions for skills to check off during CVT employee onboarding:



- **General**
 - Review OSHA procedures/policies
 - Include general PPE training
 - Review employee handbook
 - Clock in/out

- **Basic Customer skills**
 - Answer phone appropriately
 - Set up appointments
 - Enter patient/client data into computer/files
 - Prepare estimate
 - Check in/out patient

- **Laboratory**
 - Operate automated equipment
 - Operate centrifuge
 - Operate microscope
 - Set up/read fecal
 - Set up/read urinalysis

- **Radiology**
 - Don appropriate PPE
 - Turn on machine/adjust settings
 - Adjust image quality
 - Explain use of positioning aids

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New CVT Employee Training Checklist (Example), cont.



- **Exam Room**
 - Sanitize correctly
 - Explain vaccination protocols
 - Restrain dog/cat
 - Administer injection
 - Know location of common equipment

- **Surgery/Anesthesia/Dentistry**
 - Correctly set up anesthetic machine
 - Intubate patient
 - Log controlled substances
 - Record charges
 - Wrap a surgical pack
 - Properly prep surgical site
 - Demonstrate basic dental equipment usage

- **Hospital Ward**
 - Clean/sanitize cage/run
 - Properly ID cage/pet
 - Place/remove pet from cage/run
 - Draw blood
 - Place IV catheter
 - Operate IV pump

- **Large Animal**
 - Operate head chute
 - Restrain horse/cow/hog
 - Administer injections
 - Draw blood

CVT Utilization Presentation

References

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Larkin, Malinda. JAVMA. Survey Finds Underuse Related to Retention for Veterinary Technicians. December 8, 2021.

Yagi, Kenichiro and Ashli Seike. Today's Veterinary Nurse. Be an Advocate for Better Pay. September 6, 2022.

Dale, Steve. NAVTA.net. Licensed Veterinary Technicians Respected - Yet Misunderstood. May 3, 2022.

www.bls.gov
Occupational Outlook Handbook

www.ilga.gov/legislation
225 ILCS 115/Illinois Veterinary Medicine and Survey Practice Act of 2004
Joint Committee on Administrative Rules
Title 68 Part 1505: Certified Veterinary Technicians

www.avma.org/education
Committee on Veterinary Technician Education and Activities (CVTEA)

www.aavsb.org
American Association of Veterinary State Boards



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