

Associate Veterinarian Job Description Template

POSITION OVERVIEW

Reports to: Practice Managers, Owners

The associate veterinarian assumes primary case responsibility for all patients in hospital and will direct the technical team throughout the shift. While on duty, the veterinarian will oversee the Certified Technicians, Veterinary Assistants and Client Care Coordinators in all duties of the hospital. The veterinarian will perform office visits and exams, take care of the everyday needs of pets in the hospital ward, perform surgeries and procedures as appropriate, and help maintain the hospital facility, keeping it neat and clean.

Must maintain a professional, cheerful, and helpful attitude and be willing to adapt to changing priorities. A strong sense of leadership and willingness to mentor others is required.

An employee in this position must have a sense of caring for animals, be able to lift approximately 50 pounds, walk dogs weighing up to 130 pounds, work on feet all day, and read and understand English.

This position requires the ability to adapt to changing priorities, a practical knowledge of hospital organization and services, the basic rules and regulations governing animal patient treatment, work processing, and a practical knowledge of the standard procedure, veterinary records and terminology used in the hospital. The responsibilities may vary with current needs of the hospital team, the season of the year, and the individual abilities demonstrated by the employee. This is an overview of the position and the duties listed do not encompass the entire position.

POSITION REQUIREMENTS

- Successful completion of a Doctorate of Veterinary Medicine from an accredited institution.
- Current License to practice Veterinary Medicine in the state of Wisconsin in good standing, or ability to obtain prior to start date.
- Minimum 1 year experience as an associate veterinarian, or successful completion of a veterinary internship.

PRIMARY JOB RESPONSIBILITIES

Patient Care

- Practice veterinary medicine in accordance with the state practice act and principles of veterinary medical ethics
- Utilize evidence-based medicine and accepted standard of care to deliver quality patient care

- Partner with clients as an advocate for the pet to plan appropriate treatment plans, provide home-care instructions, and education to ensure the lifelong health of their pets
- Provide excellent patient care by performing physical examinations, diagnosing and treating diseases, performing surgery or other procedures, and referring to specialty care when appropriate.
- Utilize a problem-based approach that includes developing a complete problem list, differential diagnoses, diagnostic plan, and appropriate treatments based on the confirmed or suspected diagnoses and current accepted standard of care.
- Ability to interpret various diagnostics and create a comprehensive treatment plan based on those results.
- Participate in rounds as incoming or exiting doctor at beginning and end of shifts
- Perform anesthesia and surgical procedures including but not limited to: foreign body removal, GDV repair and gastropexy, splenectomy, pyometra removal, and cesarean section. Mentorship will be provided to those vets who are not familiar/comfortable with all listed surgeries, but there must be a willingness to learn.
- Ability to assess changes in patient status and respond appropriately
- Perform follow up and laboratory calls based on clinic protocol.

Public Relations

- Must be compassionate and sympathetic, and be able to maintain a professional attitude and demeanor during emotional and stressful situations
- Assist in marketing programs
- Must have telephone and computer skills
- Must have excellent written and verbal communication skills
- Communicate effectively with referral hospitals in order to ensure continuity of patient care.
- Foster an effective veterinary support team by communicating medical standards, ethical practices, and your veterinary knowledge and experience
- Disseminate knowledge throughout staff in order to improve the level of care provided by all
- Must have a willingness to and interest in mentoring staff, new/recent graduates, and students.

Administrative

- Document all patient observations, findings of exams and diagnostics, treatments and medications, client interactions, and tentative and confirmed diagnoses in the medical record in a concise and detailed fashion, according to practice convention and Wisconsin State Regulations.
- Meetings
 - Participate in team meetings
 - Participate in coaching meetings

- Participate in the general cleaning and sanitization of public and employee areas, building/yard maintenance, and kennels to maintain clean, odor-free, and attractive environments as needed.
- Performs additional duties as assigned

PHYSICAL EFFORT

The physical demands described here are representative of those that must be met by an employee to successfully perform the primary functions of this job. While performing the duties of this job, the employee is frequently required to bend, stand, stoop, walk, sit, talk and listen; will use hand to manipulate, handle or feel; will reach with hands and arms. The employee must be able to occasionally lift and/or move up to 50 pounds.

WORK ENVIRONMENT

While performing the duties of this job, the employee is exposed to hazards associated with aggressive patients; infected animals; controlled substances; exposure to unpleasant odors and noises; exposure to bites, scratches and animal wastes; possible exposure to contagious diseases. This is not an exhaustive list.