

VETERINARY TELEMEDICINE CHECKLIST

Veterinary telemedicine is legal in Ohio as of Sept. 30, 2025. This new law allows for the establishment of a VCPR through virtual means in most cases. This means that licensed Ohio vets and non-Ohio vets that are licensed in Ohio can care for and prescribe medications using telemedicine, without first having to see the patient in-person. There are some limitations, however. Follow this checklist to ensure you remain compliant with the law.

In order to legally use telemedicine in your practice, you must:

- ☐ **Be licensed to practice veterinary medicine in Ohio**
- ☐ **Obtain informed consent from client**
 - Include an acknowledgment that the standards of care apply to in-person and telehealth visits equally.
 - Maintain this documentation for a minimum of three years.
- ☐ **Provide your name and contact information**
 - You should also secure an alternate method of contacting the client in the event the telehealth visit is interrupted.
- ☐ **Provide an electronic or written record of the visit.**
 - This summary must include your license number.
- ☐ **Prior to the visit, advise the client of all of the following:**
 - You may ultimately recommend an in-person visit with yourself or another licensed practitioner.
 - You are prohibited under federal law from prescribing certain drugs or medications* based only on a telehealth visit.
 - The appointment for a telehealth visit may be terminated at any time.
- ☐ **After the virtual VCPR is established, you may:**
 - Issue an initial prescription* for up to 14 days.
 - Issue one refill** for up to 14 days after a second telehealth visit.
- ☐ **If prescribing medications, advise the client:**
 - That certain prescriptions may be available at a pharmacy
 - You can submit a prescription to a pharmacy of their choosing, upon request

**Both state and federal law prohibit you from prescribing controlled substances via telemedicine.*

***For additional refills, an in-person visit is required.*

TELEMEDICINE & LIVESTOCK

- A VCPR cannot be established virtually for clients who raise livestock¹ for human food products².
- However, you may conduct tele-advice³ services for these clients without a VCPR.

Definitions

1. **“Livestock”** means porcine animals, bovine animals, caprine animals, ovine animals, and poultry.
2. **“Human food product”** means livestock raised for human consumption or livestock whose products are used for human consumption.
3. **“Tele-advice”** means the provision of any health information, opinion, or guidance by a veterinary professional that is not intended to diagnose, treat, issue certificates of veterinary inspection, or issue prognoses of the physical or behavioral illness or injury of an animal or issue.

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