

Patrick,

I hope this email finds you well. I wanted to reach out about the VTS rule-making process. Dr. Lindy O'Neal with ARVMA reached out to me on my thoughts about the current proposed rules for the VTS certification. I was unaware of the entire document and so was the AVTA, so she shared it with me. We both agreed that it seemed a bit lacking in specific areas. One important detail, I did not see was the additional (8) hours of continuing education required within the VTSs specialty for renewal on an annual basis. I would assume that pertinent detail would need to be included in this document. Also, a standardized collaborative practice agreement should be issued/promulgated by the committee to keep all VTS/DVM collaborative agreements consistent in the future as our state potentially gets more VTS applicants. I pulled a sample collaborative practice agreement from another state that's making proposals currently for VTSs and changed the language to match Arkansas in case anyone ever inquired about one. I believe that all collaborative practice agreements should follow a standardized format to ensure comprehensive coverage and appropriate checks and balances as well as be officially issued by the state.

I know this is likely out of your control but In the future, it would be good if we had a CVT representative on the committee to keep technicians involved in conversations that include them. I spoke with our AVTA president about that yesterday; she is going to see what she has to do to get better communication from the committee in the future on decisions that involve a CVT/VTS, since it does affect our licensing. I really hope the veterinary community can prioritize collaboration over competition in the future. It's what's best for everyone involved. If I can assist you in any other way, please let me know. I would be happy to help.

Kind regards,

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