



**SAMPLE**

# GVMA

## guide to safety regulations and OSHA compliance in the veterinary practice



# Important Disclaimer

This critical guide for any veterinary practice was created as a reference and resource aid that includes answers to many of the most common questions and issues concerning compliance with the Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA) and the practice of veterinary medicine. The GVMA will make every effort to keep this document up-to-date, but because this is a thorough composite of many sources, and because laws and regulations change continuously, some of these references may not be current.

GVMA is a private, non-profit professional society for veterinarians in Georgia and is not a government agency. GVMA does not create laws or regulations and is not a licensing entity. The information in the booklet should not be viewed as legal advice. This is a helpful reference guide, but if you encounter a legal issue that could negatively impact your license or your veterinary practice you should consult an attorney.

As you can see by the brevity of this document, there are myriad laws, rules and agencies governing veterinary medicine. It is therefore critical that you and your practice are insured against any threat to your livelihood. Consult your insurance provider for coverage that is right for you and your practice.

# Acknowledgements

This guide is a compilation of many sources – almost too many to thank, so if we forget a few please forgive us.

GVMA would like to thank major contributors: the Oregon Veterinary Medical Association, Philip J. Seibert, Jr., CVT (SafetyVet), and the AVMA.

Thank you to the following state and federal regulatory agencies: Georgia Department of Agriculture, Georgia State Board of Veterinary Medicine, Georgia Department of Community Health, Georgia Drugs and Narcotics Agency, National Institute for Occupational Safety and Health (NIOSH) Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA), U.S. Drug Enforcement Agency, U.S. Environment Protection Agency, U.S. Food and Drug Administration, and the USDA Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service.

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**Order your  
OSHA  
Handbook  
NOW!**

# Important Resources for Veterinarians

*The following information was assembled for your convenience. This list contains contact information for many of the most common organizations important to veterinarians and veterinary medicine. It is not a comprehensive list of all veterinary related organizations, nor should listings be considered an endorsement by the GVMA.*

**Accreditation...**

**Adverse Event Reporting...**

**Drugs and devices...**

**Blood Bank Resources...**

## **Additional resources and links**

**Controlled drugs...**

**Disaster and emergency response...**

**Disease outbreaks/Emergency...**

**Georgia Resources...**

**Food Safety...**

**Cremation Services...**

**Impaired Veterinarians & Veterinary Technicians...**

**Poison Control...**

**Shipping...**

**ANIMALS**

**SPECIMENS**

**Small Business...**

**Workplace Safety...**

**This document is list of items and resources that GVMA Members get within our OSHA Handbook and is not shown in it's entirety.**

**Order your OSHA Handbook NOW!**

**Become a GVMA Member!**

*GVMA Individual member price \$49*

*\*Free to Hospital Members\**

## **Veterinarian's Oath**

Being admitted to the profession of veterinary medicine, I solemnly swear to use my scientific knowledge and skills for the benefit of society through the protection of animal health, the relief of animal suffering, the conservation of livestock resources, the promotion of public health, and the advancement of medical knowledge.

I will practice my profession conscientiously, with dignity, and in keeping with the principles of veterinary medical ethics.

I accept as a lifelong obligation the continual improvement of my professional knowledge and competence.

## **GVMA Vision Statement**

GVMA is the leading authority promoting veterinary medicine in Georgia.

## **GVMA Mission Statement**

The Georgia Veterinary Medical Association is committed to advancing the veterinary medical profession and supporting the veterinarian's role in improving animal and public health.

## **GVMA Core Values**

Professionalism

Commitment

Integrity

Service

Advocacy

Progressive Thinking

Compassion

Stewardship