



Veterinary technician

Description

Veterinary technicians help the veterinarian in the examination of animals, making diagnosis, and treatment. They are in charge of simpler physical examinations and laboratory analyses, as well as taking samples for biochemical, microbiological and haematological examinations. Moreover, they provide first aid to animals and perform the sterilisation of instruments, take care of the cleanliness of work premises, provides necessary therapy to animals, and dispense prescribed animal drugs and foods. Veterinary technicians actively assist the veterinarian when they make therapeutical and surgical interventions and when animals give birth; they carry out inoculation with the aim to prevent the infectious diseases and help in sanitary-veterinary inspection of meat. An important part of their job implies the keeping of required veterinary documentation, such as the records of site visits, drugs and devices that were spent, as well as keeping of electronic database. In addition, they make appointments by telephone, make orders of materials and drugs, keep hospital patient lists, and carry out other administrative tasks. Veterinary technicians provide animal owners the advice and information about the use of specific drugs and equipment. For the most part, they do their work indoors, namely in health centres. A smaller part of their work they do out in the open, when they do field work or site visits.

To do the job of a veterinary technician, besides possessing the required expertise, you need to be in good physical form, have good hearing and sight, and good manual dexterity. Because of the danger of infective diseases transmission, it is very important to be precise and respect OHS measures when you conduct laboratory analyses.

Desirable traits/requirements

- Manual dexterity
- Good hearing, good sight, and preciseness
- Patience and love for animals
- Responsibility and conscientiousness
- Good communication skills and willingness to help
- Teamwork skills
- Perseverance and good concentration

Positive aspects:

- Veterinary technologists help animals on daily basis and that is their source of satisfaction and fulfilment. They do an interesting, compassionate, and diverse job.

Negative aspects:

- The job of a veterinary technician often requires that you work overtime and during holidays. Working hours may be prolonged and exhausting, daily communication with animal owners can be quite demanding too.

Career path/field of work

To be able to do the job of the veterinary technician, you need to finish a four-year secondary vocational school.

Veterinary technicians work in veterinary ambulances, offices, or clinics, veterinary laboratories, veterinary pharmacies, in meat processing companies or in trade, in the segment of the sales of pet food and equipment.