

# Change Is Here, And So Are We



*Effective Dec. 1, 2018,  
Health Canada  
regulations will require  
a prescription for all  
medically important  
antimicrobials.*



Talk to your veterinarian to learn more about the VCPR, or visit:  
**[albertaanimalhealthsource.ca/VCPR](http://albertaanimalhealthsource.ca/VCPR)**

## How do I get a prescription?

Veterinarians can only write prescriptions when a valid **veterinarian-client-patient-relationship (VCPR)** exists.

Once your VCPR has been established, your veterinarian must determine the medical need for each prescription, document it in the medical record, and be available for follow-up.

## What is a VCPR, and how do I know if I have one?

A valid VCPR exists when the following criteria are met:

**RESPONSIBILITY:** The veterinarian has assumed responsibility for making clinical assessments and recommendations for the health of the animals, and the client has agreed to the veterinarian assuming this responsibility.

**KNOWLEDGE:** The veterinarian has sufficient knowledge of the animals on which to base the assessment, diagnosis, and treatment of the animals' medical condition.

**TRUST:** The client has agreed to follow the veterinarian's recommendations and prescriptions.

**COMMUNICATION:** The veterinarian is available or has arranged for follow-up evaluation, especially in the event of adverse reactions or failure of the treatment regimen.



## Benefits of a VCPR

- preventative medicine
- early detection of disease
- accurate diagnosis
- establish animal health protocols
- appropriate access to medications



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