

Part 2 Examples:

This list is illustrative and not exhaustive. RCVS advice should always be sought in cases of doubt.

(a) Examples of 'Direct benefit'

- I. Taking blood samples from an animal, or animals within a herd, to assist in clinical management, eg diagnosis, metabolic profile.
- II. Taking a series of biopsies from an animal for diagnosis and monitoring the efficacy of veterinary treatment.
- III. Giving veterinary treatment to an experimental animal when treatment is for the animal's benefit.
- IV. Use of drugs in ways other than described in the product licence but for the direct benefit of the animal concerned

NB anaesthesia or analgesia for a scientific purpose is regulated.

(b) Examples of 'Immediate group'

- I. The herd or flock under the care of the veterinary surgeon.
- II. The pack of dogs or colony of cats under the care of the veterinary surgeon.
- III. The source animal in blood transfusion for use in clinical cases, but not on a larger commercial scale.

(c) Examples of 'recognised veterinary practice'

- I. Embryo transfer for expansion of colony, herd or flock for commercial reasons or to improve health status.
- II. Testing for halothane susceptibility in pigs.
- III. Restraint in commercial systems for husbandry purposes, eg stall-tied dairy cows.
- IV. Laparoscopy for artificial insemination.
- V. Laparoscopy for observation of the gonads for sexing birds for non-experimental reasons.
- VI. Removal of the gonads or hormone administration for control of reproduction in non-experimental situations.
- VII. Single housing of calves within the provisions of Welfare Codes.

(d) Examples of 'not recognised veterinary practice'

- I. Laparoscopy for observation of the ovaries for a scientific purpose.
- II. Feeding of diets at variance with normal practice, eg to induce the signs of dietary deficiency.
- III. Embryo transfer for scientific purposes.
- IV. Harvesting blood or blood products on a larger commercial scale (see supporting guidance Chapter 27 to the Code of Professional Conduct)

(e) Examples of 'no adverse effect'

Feeding of diets at variance with normal practice but which are not intended to result in deficiencies or excess of any dietary component that could cause harm or hunger.

(f) Examples of an 'adverse effect'

- I. Any penetration of the integument, eg use of a needle.
- II. Any procedure requiring sedation or anaesthesia.
- III. Maintenance in restraint which significantly restricts expression of normal behaviour, eg close head restraint.
- IV. Feeding of haematophagous insects.

(g) When veterinary surgeons have to 'think again / reconsider what they wish to do'

I. They should take into account the provisions of the Veterinary Surgeons Act, the Veterinary Surgeons (Practice by Students) Regulations, 1981, the Animal Health Act, 1981, the Medicines Act 1968 and the Wildlife and Countryside Act, 1981.

(h) Examples of a 'scientific purpose'

- I. Taking blood for blood products or laboratory use.
- II. Taking biopsies to study the pathogenesis of a condition rather than to diagnose disease or monitor treatment in an animal.
- III. Inoculation of material into an animal for diagnosis of disease in another animal.
- IV. Use of substances, drugs, etc other than as described in the product licence, for research/development and not covered by an Animal Test Certificate.