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WVMA Member:

As it pertains to Governor Evers' [Order #5](#) and veterinary clinics, the WVMA has sought legal counsel and confirmed the information with the Department of Agriculture, Trade and Consumer Protection (DATCP).

The information is as follows:

We have confirmed that this prohibition does not apply to employees in a place of employment. That means that your staff working in the clinic are not considered to be a prohibited mass gathering.

However, this prohibition DOES APPLY to your waiting rooms. You may not have ten (10) or more people in your waiting room at any time. If you have fewer than ten, then you must have them physically maintain a distance of 6 feet or more from each other, the waiting room should be disinfected frequently between clients.

DATCP's advice is that you try to keep patients from coming to the clinic unless it is absolutely necessary.

- Try to reschedule all non-essential appointments.
- You may extend prescriptions via phone, if medically appropriate.
- You may consult with existing patients over the phone or using other telehealth technology. You just must use professional judgement and act in a reasonable and medically appropriate way to treat your existing patients using telemedicine. As a reminder, *there is no statutory or administrative rule requirement that you have physically seen your patient in the last 12 months*. Once a VCPR is established, the determination of whether a physical exam is necessary is dependent on the medical concern and what is medically appropriate for an examination based on that medical concern.

Sincerely,

Kim Brown Pokorny, MS, MBA
Executive Director
Wisconsin Veterinary Medical Association

Integrity
Compassion
Community
Well-being