



\* Veterinarian as defined in the Veterinarians Act 2005

‡ Emergency is defined as “*a sudden, unforeseen injury, illness or complication in an animal, demanding immediate or early veterinary treatment to save life or to provide timely relief from unreasonable or unnecessary pain or distress.*” Further to this definition an emergency is considered to exist when described as such by the person in charge of the affected animal(s) until there has been an opportunity for veterinary assessment. Assessment may take place over the phone but the veterinarian must be confident that if they decide that the situation is not an emergency they have sufficient information to make an accurate assessment.

∅ Necessary skills means would be considered competent as defined by the minimum VCNZ standards in order to attend the particular emergency.

§ Resources means the relevant equipment / facility and the necessary workforce that would be required to attend the emergency.

† Attend emergency means to directly assess the animal and as a minimum provide relief from unreasonable or unnecessary pain or suffering.

□ A different practice would reasonably be considered responsible for attending the emergency when either:

1. The emergency specifically relates to the veterinary services provided by a different practice to that of the veterinarian on duty
2. 1. above does not apply but another veterinary practice is reasonably believed to be the usual provider of veterinary services for the caller in relation to the animal(s) in question