

To VOI or not to VOI?

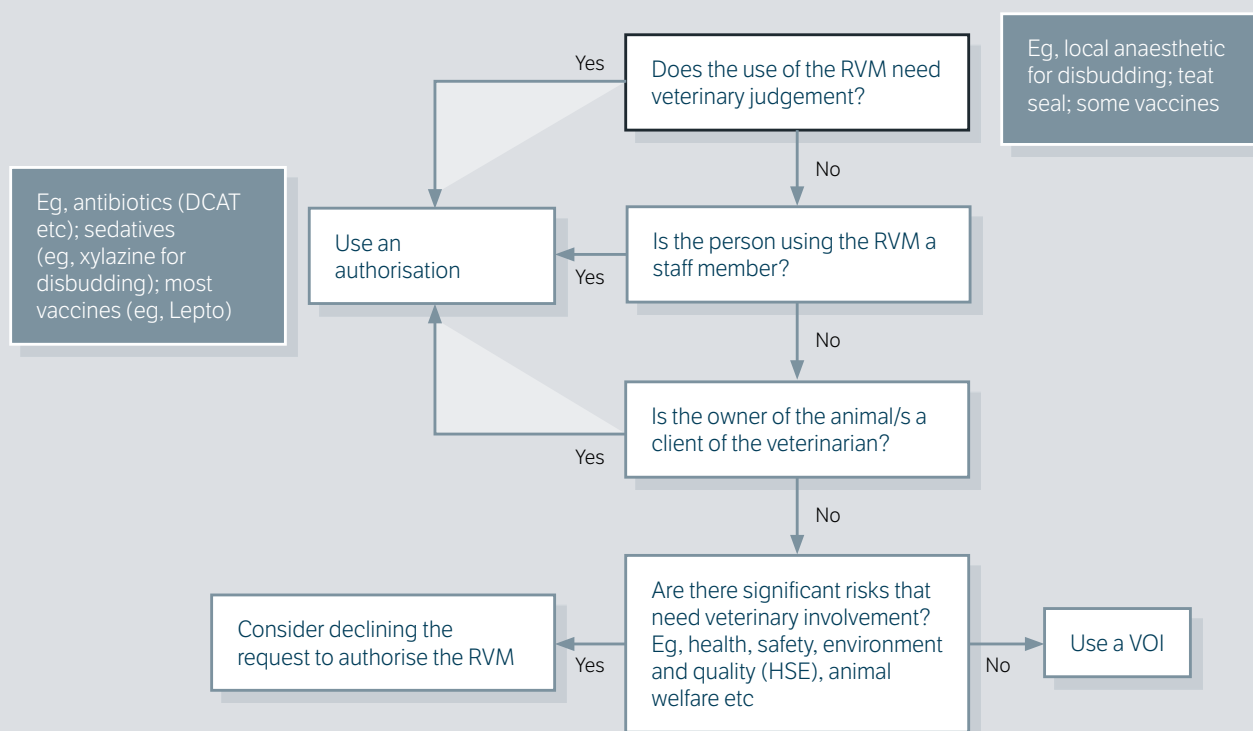
VCNZ’s Seton Butler clarifies the rules on restricted veterinary medicines.



Recently I have seen a significant rise in the number of requests for guidance on when it is appropriate for a veterinarian to authorise restricted veterinary medicines (RVMs) using veterinary operating instructions (VOIs). These enquiries seem to have two main types: veterinarians receiving requests from non-staff people to access RVMs (eg, local anaesthetic and xylazine) to help with on-farm procedures; and some confusion on whether staff should use VOIs to authorise RVMs in certain circumstances.

Below is a basic chart of how I see the decision-making process for authorising RVMs as it relates to VOIs.

▶ AUTHORISING RVMs FOR USE BY NON-STAFF – DO I USE A VOI OR AN AUTHORISATION?



▶ If you have any further questions on this, please contact VCNZ at vet@vetcouncil.org.nz.

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