

## Requirements for a VCPR with Beekeepers in Saskatchewan

After December 1, 2018, there are two situations in which a veterinarian may provide a prescription antibiotic for bees. For both, the need for antibiotics can be assessed without physically visiting the premises or personally examining the bees, hive or comb. Rather, the following will apply:

- 1) Oxy-tetracycline for the prevention of American Foul Brood (AFB)
  - In this scenario, the veterinarian must confirm that the beekeeper making the request is a registered beekeeper in Saskatchewan. This may be confirmed through:
    - The veterinarian's personal knowledge of the client and client's beekeeping status; or
    - Confirmation of registered status via the provincial apiculture specialist (verbally or via documentation provided by the provincial apiculture specialist) or verification of their Premise Identification (PID) number and registration as a beekeeper.
    - No other information would be required but it is recommended the veterinarian obtain a history of the disease control actions taken by the beekeeper for the past 12 months.
    - The veterinarian will be required to maintain medical records according to SVMA practice standards.
  
- 2) Oxy-tetracycline or Tylan® for the treatment of AFB
  - In this situation, a confirmation of AFB is required. This may be accomplished by:
    - A diagnosis of AFB made by the veterinarian on examination of an infected comb, should the veterinarian have sufficient knowledge to make the diagnoses; or
    - Confirmation of AFB diagnosis by either a laboratory pathologist, such as Prairie Diagnostic Services laboratory in Saskatoon, or by a provincial apiculture specialist. In either case, a laboratory report confirming the diagnosis must be provided to the veterinarian.
    - The veterinarian is required to maintain medical records according to SVMA practice standards.

### Provincial Apiculture Specialist

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