



# Veterinary Surgeons Act 1966

## 1966 CHAPTER 36

### *Restriction of practice of veterinary surgery*

#### **19 Restriction on practice of veterinary surgery by unqualified persons**

- (1) Subject to the following provisions of this section, no individual shall practise, or hold himself out as practising or as being prepared to practise, veterinary surgery unless he is registered in the register of veterinary surgeons or the supplementary veterinary register, and an individual who acts in contravention of this subsection shall be liable—
  - (a) on summary conviction to a fine not exceeding £100 ;
  - (b) on conviction on indictment to a fine.
- (2) Notwithstanding anything in the Magistrates' Courts Act 1952, the Summary Jurisdiction (Scotland) Act 1954 or the Summary Jurisdiction Acts (Northern Ireland), summary proceedings for an offence under this section may be commenced at any time within the period of one year from the time when the offence was committed.
- (3) The Council may make regulations exempting from subsection (1) of this section the carrying out or performance of any veterinary treatment, test or operation prescribed by the regulations, subject to compliance with prescribed conditions, by students of veterinary surgery of any prescribed class.
- (4) Subsection (1) of this section shall not prohibit—
  - (a) the carrying out of any experiment duly authorised under the Cruelty to Animals Act 1876 ;
  - (b) the doing of anything specified in Part I of Schedule 3 to this Act and not excluded by Part II of that Schedule;
  - (c) the performance by a registered medical practitioner of an operation on an animal for the purpose of removing an organ or tissue for use in the treatment of human beings;
  - (d) the carrying out or performance of any treatment, test or operation by a registered medical practitioner or a registered dentist at the request of a person registered in the register of veterinary surgeons or the supplementary veterinary register;

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*Status: This is the original version (as it was originally enacted).*

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- (e) the carrying out or performance of any minor treatment, test or operation specified in an order made by the Ministers after consultation with the Council, so long as any conditions so specified are complied with.
- (5) The Ministers may, after consultation with the Council and with persons appearing to the Ministers to represent interests so appearing to be substantially affected, by order amend the provisions of Schedule 3 to this Act.
- (6) Any order under subsection (4) or (5) of this section may be varied or revoked by a subsequent order of the Ministers under that subsection made after the like consultation.