

How to Best Utilize an Equine **RVT**

Stacey Thompson, **RVT**



“Equine RVTs are valuable to ambulatory veterinarians as they are able to perform a wide range of skilled tasks. From restocking trucks and monitoring inventory levels to processing lab samples and monitoring injectable field anesthesia, their advanced knowledge allows the veterinarian to focus on the primary task while having the confidence that the associated tasks are being attended to with expertise.”

Cally Merritt, **RVT**



“RVTs play a role in several aspects of equine medicine. With the RVT serving as the main connection between the client and the clinic, the patient receives the best possible care while allowing the veterinarian to attend to more patients.”

In early 2019, ACER Consulting released the results of a study exploring the function, level of utilization, impact, and ultimately the value that Registered Veterinary Technicians (RVTs) bring to Ontario veterinary practices. It was found that each extra RVT per vet increased gross revenues per vet by over **\$78,000**.¹ The report also states that almost 25% of clinics surveyed said that their vets often or always perform RVT duties. Save yourself time and money, and consider using an RVT for things such as:

Obtaining high quality diagnostic images (i.e. radiographs, ultrasounds, MRIs, flourosopic exams and endoscopic exams).

Performing nursing duties such as:

- IV catheter placement
- Assisting with surgeries and dental floats
- Applying and changing bandages, casts and splints
- Delivering shockwave and cold laser therapy treatments
- Giving IV, SQ, oral and topical medications

Monitoring general anesthesia or standing sedation, whether in clinic or on farm.

Educating owners, while serving as the main connection between the client and the clinic.

Collecting and processing lab samples, then reporting results for the veterinarian. This could include blood, urine, fecal, sperm, abdominal fluid, joint fluid, or hay and feed samples.

Ready to hire an RVT?
Post a job ad for an RVT at
www.oavt.org.

References:

1. Exploring the value that Registered Veterinary Technicians bring to Ontario companion animal practices, ACER Consulting, 2019