



THE IRISH BLUE CROSS

A N I M A L W E L F A R E C H A R I T Y

VETERINARY SURGEON JOB DESCRIPTION

JOB TITLE: Small Animal Veterinary Surgeon

BASED: 15A Goldenbridge Industrial Estate, Tyrconnell Road, Inchicore, Dublin, D08 EYZ92

RESPONSIBLE TO: Head of Veterinary Services (HOVS)

The vision of the Irish Blue Cross is that care is provided for every animal and all pets should enjoy a healthy life despite the financial circumstances of their owners.

SUMMARY OF ROLE

To provide contextualised veterinary care for those in need and eligible for The Irish Blue Cross, and to promote animal welfare and responsible pet ownership.

Delivered through consultations, advice, medical and surgical treatments, and in-patient care alongside a professional and empathetic client service.

DUTIES AND RESPONSIBILITIES

Provide an efficient, charity veterinary service to clients of The Irish Blue Cross and welfare education to the wider community. This can include consultations, soft-tissue and orthopaedic surgical procedures, dental procedures, cardiology, ophthalmology, and diagnostic imaging. Training and development in these areas will be supported.

Provide excellent customer care through professional client communication in a courteous and compassionate manner.

Adhere to Veterinary Council of Ireland (VCI)'s code of conduct and practice standards, and The Irish Blue Cross's policies, procedures, and protocols e.g., recording and safe custody of controlled drugs.

Complete VCI required yearly Continued Veterinary Education (CVE) with consideration to practice need and share learnings within team.

Actively partake in the development of clinical protocols.

Adhere to cleaning, disinfection, and scrub protocols to reduce hospital acquired infections and promote good infection control.

Maintain accurate patient records compliant with General Data Protection Regulations.

Adhere to health and safety policies to actively protect and care for own self and others.

Understand and comply with The Irish Blue Cross Employee handbook and other policies and procedures e.g., security protocols.

Comply with administrative HR procedures e.g., holiday booking.

Develop and assist all staff members in their roles when the need arises.

Demonstrate a flexible approach to hours and type of work, necessary for cover within the clinic to be maintained.

Promote the positive reputation of The Irish Blue Cross within the organisation and wider community.

Participate in fundraising, PR, media, or other community activities.

Support our role working alongside local organisations and government bodies as required to promote the Irish Blue Cross and its mission.

To undertake any other duties as directed from time to time, by the CEO or HOVS.

ESSENTIAL QUALITIES AND COMPETENCIES

A degree in veterinary medicine and registration with the Veterinary Council of Ireland (VCI).

Proficiency in conducting clinical examinations, performing basic surgeries, diagnosing and treating medical conditions and providing general veterinary care.

Desire to provide this care in a pragmatic way – aiming to provide the maximum benefit for the largest number of pets and their owners.

Ability to treat both animals and owners with kindness and compassion, while being sensitive to their needs and emotions.

Strong verbal and written communications skills, to effectively interact with pet owners, colleagues and support staff. This includes explaining diagnosis and treatment plans to clients in a clear and understandable manner, handing over cases to other members of the veterinary team and keeping concise and accurate records.

Ability to work effectively and pro-actively as part of a multidisciplinary team, collaborating with fellow veterinary surgeons, veterinary nurses and support staff.

Sound judgement and critical thinking skills to consider accurate diagnoses, develop pragmatic treatment plans and handle emergency situations

Ability to educate pet owners on preventative care, treatment options and overall pet wellbeing.

Commitment to maintaining the highest standards of ethics, professionalism, and confidentiality in all interactions.

Ability to handle a fast-paced environment, adapt to new technologies and ways of working, and manage stress effectively.

Understanding of the need to take due care to maintain own wellbeing and support others within the team to maintain theirs.

Willingness to stay updated with the latest advancements in veterinary medicine and share the potential applications of these in the charity setting.

Ability to follow direction and comply with the Charity's policies, procedures and protocols.

Desire to work as part of a team with occasional sole charge.

ADDITIONAL DESIRABLE CRITERIA

Post-graduate clinical qualifications.

Experience within a charity veterinary practice or practicing shelter medicine.

NOTE

This job description is intended to outline key duties and responsibilities for this position. It is not intended to be an exhaustive list of all duties, responsibilities and activities required.

About The Irish Blue Cross

The Irish Blue Cross is a registered animal care charity (Registered Charity No. 20203128), founded in Ireland in 1945, well known for the provision of pet care amongst the least well-off pet owners in the Dublin region. Our teams deliver in the region of 15,000 veterinary treatments and procedures annually at our ten mobile veterinary clinics and the main Inchicore Clinic. Our vets ensure pets are restored to best health and receive the preventative care they require to prevent disease.

The Irish Blue Cross horse ambulance service operates at all Irish race meetings and at main equestrian events such as the RDS Horse Show and Millstreet International Equine Events each year. Our operatives work closely with veterinary officers to assist horses that become injured or require assistance during racing or eventing.

The Irish Blue Cross operates its main office and Veterinary Clinic facilities at 15A Goldenbridge Industrial Estate, Tyrconnell Road, Inchicore, Dublin 8, D08 EY92.