

# CLIENT CONSIDERATIONS



- Veterinary surgeons are personally accountable for their practice and must always be prepared to justify their decisions and actions.
- They should use language appropriate for the client and explain any clinical or technical terminology that may not be understood.
- Some livestock owners may consider dehorning offensive. It is the duty of the veterinarian to inform the client of the main benefit achieved which is to create a safer workplace for herd mates, handlers and workers - a benefit that outweighs the short period of discomfort at dehorning time.
- When providing care, veterinarians take all reasonable care in using their professional skills:
  - To treat animals humanely.
  - Ensure that a range of reasonable treatment options are offered and explained, including prognoses and possible side effects
  - Make decisions on treatment regimes based first and foremost on animal health and welfare considerations, but also the needs and circumstances of the clients.

- Nursing care done by farmer should be thoroughly explained by the veterinarian, this includes:
  - spray larvicide and topical antibiotic spray daily
  - observing general behaviour for in appetite, isolation, changes in mentation
  - examine the surgical site daily to ensure no maggot infestation developed
  - observe for signs of infection and inflammation by looking out for signs of excessive pain, heat, swelling, redness and weakness/in activity
  - observe for signs of neurological disfunction such as lameness, or an inability to coordinate limbs
  - For any of these signs the farmer should be informed to the veterinarian's emergency number