Vet-led teams deliver more joined-up care, better client relationships, and effective use of skills. Most importantly, vet-led teams offer improved animal health, animal welfare, and public health outcomes.

The ‘hub and spoke’ model is key for effective teamwork between vets and allied professionals.

Vets should act as the hub for treatment, directing clients to an allied professional after examining an animal, making a diagnosis, and determining the best course of action.

Allied professionals operate as spokes surrounding the hub, returning cases back to the vet whenever further direction is needed.

Without veterinary oversight there is a risk that untrained and unregulated individuals may provide advice or perform acts which are detrimental to animal health, animal welfare, or public health.

Providing consent

Never sign a consent form if your professional judgement is not satisfied.

By signing, you may be making yourself liable for poor treatment undertaken outside of the vet-led team.

As a vet, you must familiarise yourself with the work of allied professionals and make sure the individual is properly regulated before signing a consent form.