

## Attention Florida Veterinarians

Important new Florida licensing requirements for veterinary practices will become effective January 1, 2009. Florida HB 7049 specifies a new Health Care Clinic Establishment (HCCE) Permit for veterinary practices and other healthcare providers. All entities requiring this new permit are directed to complete the application and submit the biennial fee by January 1st, 2009. Please fax a copy of the completed application to the MWI credit department at 208-955-8913. Please remember to include your MWI account number with the faxed documents.

The Florida Department of Health published the HCCE application and supplemental materials on their website on Monday, December 8th. The DOH announcement and downloadable files under the heading "Health Care Clinic Establishment Permit" can be found here: <http://www.doh.state.fl.us/pharmacy/drugs/index.html>

The HCCE Permit is required for the purchase of a prescription drug by a place of business at one general location owned and operated by a professional corporation or a professional limited liability company described in chapter 621, F.S., or a corporation that employs a veterinarian as a qualifying practitioner, and wishes to purchase and own prescription drugs in the business entity's name. Even though an individual practitioner is incorporated, that does not prevent that practitioner from purchasing drugs under his/her own name.

Note that the HCCE permit materials include a change of designated practitioner form that must be completed within 10 days of any changes. Notification to your distributor of a change in designated qualifying practitioner is imperative to ensure the proper veterinary license is displayed on all distribution documents.