

# VETFLASH!

Dear Member,

During Honourable President Ramaphosa's announcement and subsequent announcements by Honourable Minister Didiza, it was confirmed that veterinary service is an essential service. It is our position that essential veterinary service comprises of two primary categories – food safety and animal welfare.

Animal welfare implies that animals are primarily cared for in terms of their physical needs – essential medicine, shelter, food and water.

As such, it is the position of SAVA that retail outlets selling animal food are essential services, **to the extent that only food and ecto- and endo- parasite treatments are sold to the public.**

In terms of the lockdown of South Africa from 27 March to 16 April 2020, we advise that retail outlets selling animal food and other products be limited to the sale of food and ecto- and endo- parasite treatments. The number of people allowed in a shop should be limited to two people. Normal practices with regards to social distancing must be followed.

It is recommended that contact-free payments must be effected, e.g. Zapper or Snapscan.

Kind regards,  
Gert Steyn  
Managing Director

