

NBVME introduces a new name, a new look

The National Board of Veterinary Medical Examiners (NBVME), the organization that develops and administers the NAVLE, is changing its name to International Council for Veterinary Assessment (ICVA). The new name is part of a complete rebranding of the organization. The reason for the rebrand is that research showed that most of us in veterinary-related fields have a low awareness of what NBVME does and the role that it plays in our profession.

“Most people in the veterinary field don’t know it, but NBVME is far more than the NAVLE,” said Dr. Karen Lehe, ICVA Chair. “For example, we also provide the Veterinary Educational Assessment to schools to evaluate students’ basic science knowledge and Species Specific Examinations for use by state and provincial boards.” They also conduct ongoing outreach with schools, educators, and licensing boards, maintaining an open dialogue about our needs.

The rebranding will have no effect on how the NAVLE is developed and administered. As always, ICVA conducts a practice analysis every five years, surveying veterinarians across veterinary medicine in North America to determine and update the basic knowledge, skills, and competencies needed for entry-level clinical practice. But the analysis isn’t related to the rebranding. They do it because we all have a vested interest in keeping veterinary medicine strong.

The change in the name from national to international is actually just correcting a misnomer. Because their board includes members from Canada, they were already an international organization.

It also won’t affect how they work with groups like ours. The name change to ICVA is actually a more accurate reflection of what the organization already does, rather than an indication of changes coming. “As with all organizations, we continually evolve to keep pace with challenges and advancements in our profession,” adds Lehe. “But what will never change is our commitment to helping prepare qualified veterinarians to protect human and animal health and welfare.”

The new look will start rolling out in late November, including a new logo. You will see it first in emails, newsletters, and presentations. A website refresh will be introduced in 2017.

