

|                          | Title    | Qualification / Education | Regulation  | CPD requirement  | Scope of practice*  | Specialisation                          | Challenges   |
|--------------------------|----------|---------------------------|---|--|---|---|--|
| Ireland                  | VN       | Certificate or degree     | Legally regulated at a national level   | 12 hours / year  | Exclusions:<br>Diagnosing<br>Prescribing<br>Performing surgery involving entry into a body cavity<br><br>Some duties require the direction or supervision of a veterinary practitioner                                    | None available                          | Low wages<br>Under utilisation<br>High rates of attrition  |
| New Zealand              | VN or VT | Diploma or degree         | Not currently regulated   | 20 hours / year  | Exclusions:<br>Diagnosing<br>Prescribing<br>Performing surgery  | None available                          | Lack of regulation – efforts are being made to address this  |
| United Kingdom           | VN       | Diploma or degree         | Legally regulated at a national level   | 15 hours / year (or 35 over 3 years)   | Defined under ‘schedule 3’ of the Veterinary Surgeons Act. Can perform minor surgery not involving entry into a body cavity.  | Diplomas in advanced veterinary nursing | Lack of protection of title<br>Shortage of VNs and training practices  |
| United States of America | VT       | Degree                    | Legally regulated at state level but varies significantly from state to state | 8 hours / year (average)<br>Between 0 and 20 over 2 years (average, varies by state) | Exclusions:<br>Diagnosing<br>Prescribing<br>Performing surgery<br><br>Some duties are restricted dependant on state registration<br><br>Duties can be carried out with varying degrees of supervision from a veterinarian | 15 areas of certified specialisation    | Plans are in progress for a change of title from VT to VN and then unite under that single title. Attempts are also being made to standardise credentialing requirements and scope of practice.<br><br>Lack of VTs possibly due to:<br>Burn out<br>Low wages<br>Lack of respect / perceived lack of respect. |

\* In the context of this table ‘scope of practice’ is illustrated by activities that are excluded from a VNs / VTs role. National VN / VT organisations are reluctant to establish lists of prescribed or permitted tasks since there are so many activities performed by VNs / VTs that could not be captured by such a list.