

**SPORTSMEDVET**EQUINE PERFORMANCE &
REHAB SPECIALISTS

Equine Veterinary Assistant / Nurse

About Sports Med Vet

Sports Med Vet is a recently established, expanding specialist equine sports medicine and rehabilitation practice based in Canterbury, founded and led by Dr Georgina Johnston (DACVSMR) - the only board-certified specialist in equine veterinary sports medicine and rehabilitation in the South Island of New Zealand.

We are a purely equine practice, focused on maintaining and maximising performance in our equine athletes. We treat race, sports and pleasure horses, combining advanced diagnostics with sports and rehabilitation medicine to get the best outcomes for our patients. We work mobile across Canterbury, run monthly specialist clinics in Otago and Southland, and our dedicated clinic and rehabilitation centre opens in September 2026 at 3893 Old West Coast Road.

We are independently owned and operated - our only obligation is to the horse. This is a rare chance to help build a specialist equine practice during an exciting period of growth.

About the role

This is a hands-on role combining confident horse handling with veterinary nursing and clinical support. You will work alongside Dr Georgina Johnston in the field across Canterbury, on our monthly Otago and Southland clinics, and increasingly in our new clinic and rehabilitation centre from September 2026.

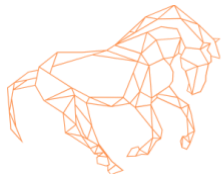
This is a full-time role (part-time will be considered for the right candidate).

What you will do

- Safely handle and restrain horses for examination, lameness work-ups, imaging, nerve and joint blocks and treatment
- Assist Dr Johnston in the field and in the clinic - preparing equipment, setting up for procedures, keeping things clean and stocked
- Support diagnostic imaging (digital X-ray, ultrasound), exercising ECG and exercise testing
- Assist with regenerative therapy procedures and sample handling
- Monitor sedation and recovery
- Deliver adjunctive therapies such as shockwave
- Help deliver tailored rehabilitation programmes in the clinic
- Help establish nursing and handling systems in the new clinic and rehabilitation centre
- Assist with taking calls, booking clients and follow-ups

What success looks like in your first year

- Horses are handled safely, calmly and confidently
- Vets can rely on you to anticipate what is needed during a work-up or procedure
- Clients trust you and feel their horse is in good hands
- You are growing your clinical skills and taking on more responsibility as the practice expands



SPORTSMEDVET

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About you

- Confident, safe and genuinely calm around horses, including ones that are not feeling their best
- Practical equine experience - handling, lunging, stable management, trot-ups
- A veterinary nurse, veterinary assistant, equine technician, or an excellent horse person keen to train into the clinical side
- Physically fit, reliable and a true team player
- Excellent communication skills and willingness to learn
- A full New Zealand driver licence (field work involves travel across Canterbury and the south)

Preferred (not essential)

- A veterinary nursing qualification (Diploma or Bachelor)
- Experience in an equine or mixed practice, or with performance horses
- Familiarity with imaging or rehabilitation
- Willingness to travel away from home (usually 4-5 days per month, paid)
- A flair for social media marketing

What we offer

- Above average remuneration depending on experience and qualifications
- Hands-on involvement in genuinely interesting equine sports medicine and rehab work
- Mentoring from a board-certified specialist, and support for relevant training and CPD
- PPE and equipment provided
- A clear path for career advancement as the clinic and rehabilitation centre grows

How to apply

Send your CV and a short letter about your horse and veterinary experience to office@sportsmedvet.co.nz. Applicants must have the right to work in New Zealand. We will review applications as they arrive, so please do not wait to apply.