

# IMPROVING ERGONOMIC REACH + VISIBILITY IN THE VETERINARY ENVIRONMENT



Veterinary work can be dangerous and demanding.

**2ND**

Most dangerous job in the US<sup>1</sup>  
(behind human nursing, yet ahead of police and fire)

**Top 3**

Injuries in Veterinary Practice<sup>2</sup>

1. Animal-induced
2. Strains and sprains
3. Slips and falls

**27%**

Workers comp claims attributed to strains and sprains<sup>2</sup>

**23%**

Turnover rate of veterinary technicians<sup>3</sup>

**8 Days**

Median number of days away from work<sup>4</sup>

Although most veterinary technicians today are female, the cabinetry and storage they use was not designed for them.



Of veterinary technicians in the US are female.<sup>5</sup>

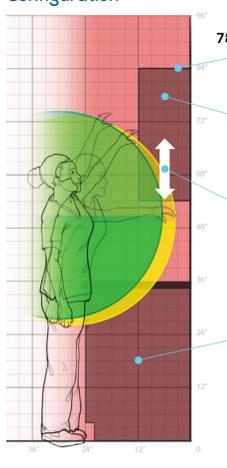
**5'4"**

Is the average female height in the US.<sup>6</sup>

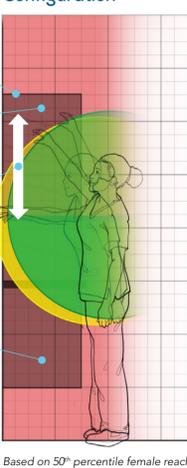
## The Ergonomics of Reach + Access

The standard cabinetry used in most veterinary care environments limits access to storage, forcing staff to lean and strain to reach supplies. Wall-hung cabinets feature a lower mounting height and thinner depth that enhance access to storage—requiring less reach and lean.

### Standard Cabinet Configuration



### Tall Wall-Hanging Cabinet Configuration



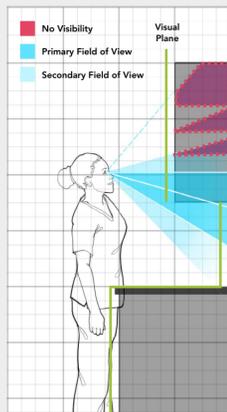
Beyond Reach  
Standing Straight  
Leaning Forward

Based on 50<sup>th</sup> percentile female reach.

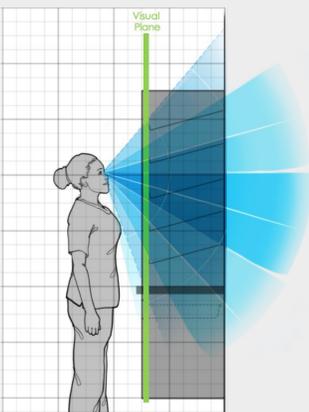
## Improve Visibility

Supplies stored toward the rear of traditional shelving can be obstructed by adjacent shelves. The use of gravity-fed, angled flow-shelving improves visibility and access to supplies, even for items stored toward the back of the cabinet.

### Standard Cabinet Configuration



### Tall Wall-Hanging Cabinet Configuration



Based on 50<sup>th</sup> percentile female reach.

## Simplify Cleaning + Disinfecting

Standard base cabinets often have edges that trap pet hair and dust. Wall-hung cabinets afford better wall-to-wall access for cleaning and disinfecting. This makes it easier for staff to maintain an aseptic care environment for patients and clients.



Let's design an environment that supports your staff and helps them deliver more efficient care.

Midmark Synthesis® Wall-Hung Cabinetry improves ergonomic reach and visibility, reducing the risk of staff injuries and providing storage efficiencies for staff to quickly locate needed supplies.

Instead of finding yourselves in a space that forces your team to adapt, let's work together to design a space that suits your needs so you can focus on what matters most—your patients.

If you're navigating an extensive remodel, we can help streamline project efficiencies. You may not realize that wall-hung cabinetry allows greater flexibility for installation since it isn't dependent on the completion of the flooring solution you choose. Our design insights can help keep your project timeline on track.



To learn more, visit: [midmark.com/AHcabinetry](https://midmark.com/AHcabinetry)

Sources:

- 1 American Veterinary Medical Association, "Hurt at work," October 2018.
- 2 dvm360, Bites, Scratches and Beyond: Getting Hurt Is Not In Your Job Description, May 2020.
- 3 American Animal Hospital Association, "Does your practice have a turnover problem?," April 2021.
- 4 Bureau of Labor Statistics, Employer-Reported Workplace Injuries and Illnesses, November 2021.
- 5 Data USA, "Veterinary Technician & Veterinary Assistant," 2019.
- 6 National Center for Health Statistics, "Anthropometric reference data for children and adults: United States, 2015–2018," January 2021.



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