

Role of the VN in Animal Well-Being, Welfare, Palliative Care and Euthanasia

Search strategy

Database: CAB Abstracts <2000 to 2019 Week 15>

Search Strategy:

1 (((vet or veterinary) and (nurse* or nursing or technician* or personnel* or staff or paraprofessional*)) or (VN or VNs or RVN or RVNs)).mp.

2 (((euthanas* or palliativ* or hospice* or 'end of life' or 'death) and dying') or pawspice* or grief or griev* or (assist* adj5 (dying or death* or suicide))).mp.

3 (ethic* or law* or legal* or legislat* or regulat* or 'code of practice' or code-of-practice or 'code of conduct' or code-of-conduct).mp.

4 (welfare or 'well being').mp.

5 2 or 3 or 4

6 1 and 5

[mp=abstract, title, original title, broad terms, heading words, identifiers, cabicodes]

References of relevance from CAB Abstracts database

<1>

Accession Number

20193132509

Author

Williams, T.; Carroll, A.; Montrose, V. T.

Title

Environmental methods used by veterinary centres to reduce stress of cats and dogs during practice visits.

Source

The Veterinary Nurse; 2019. 10(1):47-52. 28 ref.

Publisher

MA Healthcare Limited

Location of Publisher

London

Country of Publication

UK

Abstract

Background: The veterinary practice can be a stressful environment for pets. The stress animals experience when visiting the practice can impact on health, welfare and the likelihood of owners regularly visiting the practice. A number of different approaches have been suggested to be beneficial in reducing stress at the veterinary practice however the methods that practices use to try and reduce stress in animals during veterinary visits, and the reasons for the use of these approaches, has not been determined. **Aim:** The aim of this study was to determine what methods veterinary practices in the UK use to try to reduce stress in animals during veterinary visits, and gather the views of veterinary staff on the efficacy of these practices. **Method:** Veterinary practices in the UK (n=45) completed an online mixed methods questionnaire providing information on the practice's use of separate waiting rooms, treat feeding, rehearsal visits, correct handling of animals, appeasing pheromones and sensory enrichment. The reasons why these approaches were or were not used, and the participants' views on whether these practices reduced stress during veterinary visits were also determined. **Results:** The majority of practices surveyed fed treats to animals during veterinary visits, offered rehearsal visits to animals and their owners, used appeasing pheromones in the practice and stated that they used correct handling techniques for different species during consultations. In addition, the majority of practices surveyed did not have more than one waiting room or use a television or auditory device to try and reduce stress in animals during veterinary visits. The majority of participants believed that separate waiting rooms, rehearsal visits, treat feeding, appeasing pheromones, sensory enrichment and correct handling can reduce stress in animals during veterinary visits. **Conclusion:** A range of methods are used by veterinary practices within the UK to attempt to reduce stress in animals during veterinary visits. Greater consideration of methods to facilitate separation of species where distinct waiting rooms are not feasible, for example via implementing appointments for cats and dogs on different days and times, would be beneficial. In addition, veterinary staff should consider utilising classical or specially designed species-specific music in the veterinary practice as this may help mitigate the stress of cats and dogs visiting the practice.

Publication Type

Journal article.

<2>

Accession Number

20193132504

Author

Henley, E.

Title

Breeders' role and responsibilities in the long-term behavioural health of canines.

Source

The Veterinary Nurse; 2019. 10(1):12-18. 37 ref.

Publisher

MA Healthcare Limited

Location of Publisher

London

Country of Publication

UK

Abstract

The UK Government and other animal welfare agencies have recognised that many future behavioural problems in companion dogs are caused by poor breeding practices and environments, which do not prepare the dogs for a future life as pets in a home. The registered veterinary nurse (RVN) is ideally placed within veterinary practices to offer advice to breeders to ensure better breeding practices that will help each puppy cope with a future life as a pet. While breeders have exploited physical phenotypes to influence the appearance of dogs, it is less well known that puppies may inherit both desirable and undesirable behavioural traits. Breeders may also influence environmental factors, before and after the puppies are born, which have a greater impact on the dogs' future behaviour than genetic influences. From birth, puppies undergo key stages in behavioural development, which may be positively influenced by the breeder to ensure a robust behavioural development. Special consideration should be given to those puppies that are hand reared, orphaned, rejected by their dam, or born by Caesarean section, as these puppies are more likely to develop behavioural issues associated with anxiety and stress. This paper highlights simple strategies that the author, who is an experienced breeder and a Clinical Animal Behaviourist, has utilised with puppies.

Publication Type

Journal article.

<3>

Accession Number

20193098214

Author

Crawford, H. M.; Calver, M. C.

Title

Attitudes and practices of Australian veterinary professionals and students towards early age desexing of cats.

Source

Animals; 2019. 9(1):2. 136 ref.

Publisher

MDPI AG

Location of Publisher

Basel

Country of Publication

Switzerland

Abstract

Surgical desexing of cats is typically carried out after six months of age (Mature Age Desexing, MAD); between 4-6 months (Traditional Age Desexing, TAD); or before four months (Early Age Desexing, EAD). We complemented existing surveys of veterinarians' acceptance of EAD with online and face-to-face surveys, to ascertain the preferred desexing ages for cats and rationale of 957 Australian veterinarians, veterinary nurses, veterinary science students, and veterinary nursing students. A complementary survey of 299 veterinary practice websites across Australia documented any information provided about desexing cats. The most common reason for preferred desexing ages was reducing stray cat populations (30%); 78% of these respondents chose ages aligning with EAD. Vet nurses and nursing students were more conservative than vets or vet students, preferring to desex cats >4 months. Perceived anaesthetic risk was a major motivation, especially for nurses <=5 years' experience. Across 299 urban practices in Australian capital cities, 55% of surveyed websites provided no information about desexing cats or listed desexing without explaining why it was necessary, or when to perform it. Increasingly, Australian legislatures mandate desexing of cats by three months of age, so the practices of some current/future veterinary professionals do not match changing legislation.

Publication Type

Journal article.

<4>

Accession Number

20193073399

Author

Pizzi, R.

Title

Veterinary nursing in international conservation projects.

Source

British Veterinary Zoological Society: Proceedings of BVZS Conference 2018, 9-11 November, 2018, Birmingham, UK; 2018. :43.

Publisher

British Veterinary Zoological Society

Location of Publisher

Birmingham

Country of Publication

UK

Publication Type

Conference paper.

<5>

Accession Number

20193083553

Author

Warnes, C.

Title

Practical strategies for supporting elderly cats and their owners, both at home and in the veterinary surgery.

Source

The Veterinary Nurse; 2018. 9(10):540-545.

Publisher

MA Healthcare Limited

Location of Publisher

London

Country of Publication

UK

Abstract

As cats become elderly they are at increased risk of developing both health and behaviour problems. Veterinary nurses can support owners of elderly cats by encouraging them to bring their cats to the surgery for regular health checks, as earlier diagnosis and treatment will improve the prognosis for many health problems. They can also ask about and provide advice on any behaviour problems that arise, including giving advice about simple changes that can be made in the home to support cats that are becoming less mobile, or that have cognitive or sensory deficits. This should reduce stress and the incidence of problem behaviours, resulting in improved welfare for elderly cats, and potentially also improved quality of life for their owners.

Publication Type

Journal article.

<6>

Accession Number

20193083547

Author

Hargrave, C.

Title

Helping owners to support the emotional and behavioural needs of the socially mature cat.

Source

The Veterinary Nurse; 2018. 9(9):480-487.

Publisher

MA Healthcare Limited

Location of Publisher

London

Country of Publication

UK

Abstract

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This article forms part of a series that considers the behavioural and emotional needs of the domestic feline - from kitten to geriatric cat - and how the veterinary practice team can support the cat's owners in maintaining its emotional welfare. The articles are based on a series delivered on behalf of the Association of Pet Behaviour Counsellors and the British Veterinary Behaviour Association. This article is based on the material presented by Vicky Halls (RVN Dip Couns, Reg MBACP) at the London Vet Show (November 2017). The article considers the respective needs of the cat at various life stages post kittenhood, as well as feline stress and its effect on the domestic cat, the cat's behavioural and emotional needs, and how owners can make appropriate provisions. In addition, the article considers the issues that can arise when owners wish to maintain a multi-cat household, and how best to go about attempting to integrate a new kitten or cat into an existing feline group. A future article will pay specific attention to the needs of the senior and geriatric cat.

Publication Type

Journal article.

<7>

Accession Number

20193049527

Author

Lowe, R. J.

Title

Management of chronic pain in rabbits: don't pull your 'hare' out!

Source

Veterinary Nursing Journal; 2019. 34(1):7-11. 23 ref.

Publisher

Taylor & Francis

Location of Publisher

Abingdon

Country of Publication

UK

Abstract

Rabbits may be the third most popular pet; however, 35% of rabbit owners are not registered with a veterinary practice. This means that recognition of chronic pain disorders in these patients is particularly challenging. Musculoskeletal disorders such as osteoarthritis and lumbar spondylosis are common problems seen in rabbits. When it comes to management or palliative care for chronic cases there is so

much Veterinary Surgeons and Registered Veterinary Nurses can do to improve the welfare of rabbits suffering from chronic pain conditions. This article aims to address a few of these points.

Publication Type

Journal article.

<8>

Accession Number

20183360477

Author

Milroy, K. E.; Whiting, M.; Abeyesinghe, S.

Title

Reporting of suspected dog fighting to the police, Royal Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals and equivalents by veterinary professionals in the UK.

Source

Veterinary Record; 2018. 183(18):567.

Publisher

BMJ Publishing Group

Location of Publisher

London

Country of Publication

UK

Abstract

Dog fighting became unlawful in the UK in 1835, yet it continues today (as reported by the Royal Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals (RSPCA) and Crown Prosecution Service), although with an unknown prevalence. We used an online questionnaire to (1) determine the occurrence of dogs suspected of use in fighting in UK veterinary practices; (2) explore relative reporting of incidents to police, RSPCA or equivalent charity by registered veterinary nurses (RVN) and veterinarians; and (3) determine factors, influencing reporting. Emails (n=2493) containing the questionnaire were sent to UK veterinary practices: 423 questionnaires (159 by RVNs, 264 by veterinarians) were completed. One or more cases of dog fighting were suspected by 14.4 per cent of respondents in 2015; 182 cases suspected in total. Proportionately more RVNs suspected dog fighting than veterinarians (P=0.0009). Thirty-two respondents (7.6 per cent, n=422) claimed to have reported suspicions to the police, the RSPCA or equivalent charity previously; 59 respondents (14.2 per cent) had previously chosen not to. Reasons not to report included: uncertainty of illegal activity (81.4 per cent), fear of the client not returning to the practice (35.6 per cent) and concerns

regarding client confidentiality (22.0 per cent). Further work is required to address under-reporting of dog fighting by veterinary professionals.

Publication Type

Journal article.

<9>

Accession Number

20183343709

Author

Ryan, L.

Title

Better veterinary visits - working towards a patient-friendly practice.

Source

Veterinary Nursing Journal; 2018. 33(6):171-174. 22 ref.

Publisher

Taylor & Francis

Location of Publisher

Abingdon

Country of Publication

UK

Abstract

Awareness for improving patients' veterinary experiences is growing. A patient-friendly approach is not only considered better for our patients, but it makes working with them easier and safer for staff, saves time and makes day-to-day work with animals more fulfilling. This article discusses approaches to caring for patients' behavioural/emotional welfare while attending to their clinical needs, highlighting ways to achieve this. Patients' emotional welfare could be argued to be the animal's highest priority, so how can we make this happen alongside providing the best possible clinical care, as part of our aspiration towards an evidence-based approach to veterinary care?

Publication Type

Journal article.

<10>

Accession Number

20183268536

Author

Carozza, E. M.

Title

Understanding the cat.

Source

Today's Veterinary Nurse; 2018. 1(3):60-62, 64-65, 67, 69. 9 ref.

Publisher

Eastern States Veterinary Association Inc. dba North American Veterinary Community (NAVC)

Location of Publisher

Gainesville

Country of Publication

USA

Publication Type

Journal article.

<11>

Accession Number

20183257843

Author

Smith, A. N.; Klahn, S.; Phillips, B.; Parshley, L.; Bennett, P.; Flory, A.; Calderon, R.

Title

ACVIM small animal consensus statement on safe use of cytotoxic chemotherapeutics in veterinary practice.

Source

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www.rcvsknowledge.org

Journal of Veterinary Internal Medicine; 2018. 32(3):904-913. 66 ref.

Publisher

Wiley

Location of Publisher

Boston

Country of Publication

USA

Abstract

The purpose of this report is to offer a consensus opinion of ACVIM oncology diplomates and technicians on the safe use of cytotoxic chemotherapeutics in veterinary practice. The focus is on minimizing harm to the personnel exposed to the drugs: veterinary practitioners, veterinary technicians, veterinary staff, and pet owners. The safety of the patient receiving these drugs is also of paramount importance, but is not addressed in this statement. Much of the information presented is based on national recommendations by Occupational Safety and Health Administration, National Institute for Occupational Safety and Health, United States Pharmacopeia, and other published regulations. These directives reflect an abundance of caution to minimize exposure to medical personnel, but large-scale studies about the consequences of long-term occupational exposure are not available in veterinary medicine. Challenges in the delivery of optimal treatment safely and economically to veterinary patients in general practice without access to a veterinary oncologist or other specialist, because of costs or proximity, remain.

Publication Type

Journal article.

<12>

Accession Number

20183227455

Author

Malik, A.

Title

Pain in reptiles: a review for veterinary nurses.

Source

Veterinary Nursing Journal; 2018. 33(7):201-211. many ref.

Publisher

Taylor & Francis

Location of Publisher

Abingdon

Country of Publication

UK

Abstract

Reptiles are very likely to have the same pain experience as mammals, as the structures involved with nociception and processing are homologous. However, there is a big difference in expressive behaviours of pain between reptiles and mammals. This makes pain assessment challenging. Difficulty in pain assessment, along with other factors, makes poor pain management a welfare issue in the veterinary and the wider reptile-keeping context. Research in reptile pain is very limited so far; this article aims to provide some basic information on assessing pain in reptiles.

Publication Type

Journal article.

<13>

Accession Number

20183147254

Author

Hunt, G.

Title

The influence veterinary practice management teams have on the welfare of veterinary nurses within the work environment.

Source

Veterinary Nursing Journal; 2018. 33(4):114-117. 13 ref.

Publisher

Taylor & Francis

Location of Publisher

Abingdon

Country of Publication

UK

Abstract

There are many factors within a veterinary environment which can lead to poor welfare for veterinary nurses; this can lead to a number of negative consequences. This investigation proposed a study to establish whether a relationship existed between how approachable, in terms of discussing mental and physical well-being, practice management teams are, and whether veterinary nurses would consider leaving the veterinary practice due to perceived poor welfare within the veterinary practice. An online survey was distributed to veterinary nurses employed by Independent VetCare Ltd (n=83) and results were analysed using chi-squared analysis on Microsoft Excel 2013Reg.. It was established that no significant relationship could be demonstrated between managerial approachability and perceived poor welfare being a considerable factor for leaving the veterinary profession.

Publication Type

Journal article.

<21>

Accession Number

20183141763

Author

Dawson, L. C.; Dewey, C. E.; Stone, E. A.; Guerin, M. T.; Niel, L.

Title

Evaluation of a canine and feline behavioural welfare assessment tool for use in companion animal veterinary practice.

Source

Applied Animal Behaviour Science; 2018. 201:67-76. 47 ref.

Publisher

Elsevier

Location of Publisher

Amsterdam

Country of Publication

Netherlands

Abstract

Veterinary care can both positively and negatively impact animal welfare in terms of behavioural welfare. This occurs both in the veterinary clinic through interactions with patients and management of their stress, fear and aggression, and in the animal's home through the provision of behaviour and training advice for behavioural management as a whole. An animal welfare assessment scheme, incorporating management-, resource- and animal-based measures of animal welfare through interviews and appointment observations,

was developed to assess practices related to behavioural welfare in small animal veterinary clinics. It was tested for reliability, validity, and feasibility in 30 companion and mixed animal veterinary clinics, and information concerning current behavioural welfare practices was also collected. Based on weighted kappa statistics, inter-observer reliability showed almost perfect agreement for interview scoring (Kw=0.82 and 0.81) and substantial agreement for appointment observation scoring (Kw=0.74 and 0.70); however, at the individual question and handling item level, weighted kappa statistics for inter-observer reliability ranged greatly. Interviews were more feasible to carry out than appointment observations, although discrepancies between interview responses and veterinary staff-patient interactions observed during appointments suggest that interviews might be a less valid measure. Descriptive results suggest that there is enough variability in most assessed areas to allow for differentiation between veterinary clinics on the basis of their behavioural welfare practices. Additional research is required to explore these trends in strengths and areas for improvement in a larger sample of veterinary clinics.

Publication Type

Journal article.

<22>

Accession Number

20183122865

Author

Almond, S.

Title

Reducing stress in canine patients whilst hospitalised in a veterinary practice - a review Part 1.

Source

Veterinary Nursing Journal; 2018. 33(2):49-51. 21 ref.

Publisher

Taylor & Francis

Location of Publisher

Abingdon

Country of Publication

UK

Abstract

Being hospitalised is stressful for any canine patient and stress may be shown in physiological and behavioural responses (Druce, 2016), which may inadvertently increase wound healing time and immunosuppression (Scotney, 2010/2011). It is the job of the Registered Veterinary Nurse (RVN) to be able

to recognise signs of stress and implement methods to reduce this. With a multitude of methods available, RVNs need to be able to adapt their care, assessing each individual and employing the method deemed most suitable.

Publication Type

Journal article.

<23>

Accession Number

20183121949

Author

Lloyd, J. K. F.

Title

Minimising stress for patients in the veterinary hospital: why it is important and what can be done about it.

Source

Veterinary Sciences; 2017. 4(2):22. 67 ref.

Publisher

MDPI AG

Location of Publisher

Basel

Country of Publication

Switzerland

Abstract

Minimising stress for patients should always be a priority in the veterinary hospital. However, this is often overlooked. While a "no stress" environment is not possible, understanding how to create a "low stress" (sometimes called "fear-free") environment and how to handle animals in a less stressful manner benefits patients, staff and the hospital alike. Many veterinary practitioners believe creating a low stress environment is too hard and too time consuming, but this need not be the case. With some simple approaches, minimising patient, and hence staff, stress is achievable in all veterinary practices. This article provides a background on why minimising stress is important and outlines some practical steps that can be taken by staff to minimise stress for presenting and hospitalised patients. Useful resources on recognising signs of stress in dogs and cats, handling, restraint, behaviour modification, medications, and hospital design are provided.

Publication Type

Journal article.

<24>

Accession Number

20183092676

Author

Remy, D.

Title

Professional secrecy and veterinary auxiliaries. [French]

Source

Point Veterinaire; 2018. 49(383 (Part 1)):6-7. 3 ref.

Publisher

Newsmed

Location of Publisher

Paris

Country of Publication

France

Abstract

This article discusses the ethics on professional secrecy and confidentiality by veterinary auxiliaries for their customers. The legislation stated that the auxiliaries are also subjected to professional secrecy by function or by mission. This duty of discretion has no limit in time (like that which is incumbent on the veterinarian). The employee shall remain bound by all these rules during and outside his working hours and after the termination of his employment contract. All confreres should mention this obligation in the employment contracts of all their collaborators and explain to them what this duty of confidentiality. The employee is obliged to observe the greatest discretion, and is particularly bound to professional secrecy and it is the obligation of the employees of the cabinets and the veterinary clinics to respect the professional secrecy.

Publication Type

Journal article.

<25>

Accession Number

20183103605

Author

Jones, A.

Title

Current issues in veterinary transfusion medicine.

Source

The Veterinary Nurse; 2018. 9(1):34-40.

Publisher

MA Healthcare Limited

Location of Publisher

London

Country of Publication

UK

Abstract

Human and veterinary transfusion medicine is an area where there has been ongoing research and new developments. The way in which blood and transfusion products have been used has been questioned resulting in changes in their use and storage. In transfusion medicine, not only the research methods, but sometimes the application of the product itself, has raised ethical and moral questions, which has in part led to major differences between UK and US transfusion practices. Within the UK there is a rapidly growing demand for banked blood products and an increasing use in practice of both banked products and emergency whole blood donations. Registered veterinary nurses (RVNs) are now able to undertake further qualifications in emergency and critical care which includes the use of blood products. It is of vital importance for the RVN to keep up to date with current thinking on transfusion medicine and to ensure that transfusion guidelines and protocols within their work-place are up to date and evidence based.

Publication Type

Journal article.

<26>

Accession Number

20183050854

Author

Agicic, D.; Dzaja, P.; Severin, K.; Gaspar, A.

Title

The place and role of veterinary technicians in modern veterinary medicine. [Croatian]

Source

6. Hrvatski Veterinarski Kongres s meunarodnim sudjelovanjem, od 26. do 29. listopada 2016, Opatija, Hrvatska. Zbornik Radova; 2016. :37-48. 3 ref.

Publisher

Hrvatska Veterinarska Komora, Veterinarski Fakultet in Zagrebu

Location of Publisher

Zagreb

Country of Publication

Croatia

Abstract

Veterinary technicians, as a profession, are regulated by the Veterinary Act which determines the scope of activities they may perform. The Act is not in full compliance with EU Regulation 854/2004. There is a big difference in jurisdiction between technical personnel in health and in veterinary medicine although they have similar secondary education.

Publication Type

Conference paper.

<27>

Accession Number

20183029747

Author

Mellanby, R.

Title

The only way is ethics? Undertaking research as a practice-based Vet/RVN.

Source

Veterinary Evidence; 2017. 2(1):84.

Publisher

RCVS Knowledge

Location of Publisher

London

Country of Publication

UK

Abstract

This digital audio presents the author's talk given at the Veterinary Evidence Today conference, held in Edinburgh, Scotland last 3rd of November, 2016 wherein the author highlights the valuable contribution that practice-based veterinary surgeons and veterinary nurses can make to the future of veterinary knowledge.

Publication Type

Miscellaneous.

<28>

Accession Number

20183066646

Author

Hargrave, C.

Title

Association of Pet Behaviour Counsellors' Veterinary Conference: from pups to pensioners.

Source

Companion Animal; 2018. 23(1):41-43. 6 ref.

Publisher

MA Healthcare Limited

Location of Publisher

London

Country of Publication

UK

Abstract

The Association of Pet Behaviour Counsellor's Annual Veterinary Conference was held on 25 October 2017. The theme was 'Effective strategies to support the emotional and behavioural welfare of your canine clients throughout their lifetimes, from pups to pensioners', and the focus was encouraging veterinary staff who understood the importance of behavioural awareness in their practice, but were not yet sure how best to provide that support to their patients and clients. The four presentations considered four stages in a dog's life: young puppies, who would be affected by the breeder's environment; older puppies and adolescents in the new owner's home; adult dogs, and elderly dogs that might need additional behavioural support.

Publication Type

Journal article.

<29>

Accession Number

20183029742

Author

Buckley, L.; Lees, J.

Title

Go slow feeding bowls: how effective are they at getting dogs to eat more slowly?

Source

Veterinary Evidence; 2016. 1(4):71. 7 ref.

Publisher

RCVS Knowledge

Location of Publisher

London

Country of Publication

UK

Abstract

This study arose from informal discussions on a vet nursing facebook group in which some vet nurses recommended 'go slow feeder' device (GSF) use to slow feeding and make feeding fun. This is the winning poster which was presented at the Veterinary Evidence Today conference, Edinburgh, last 1-3 November, 2016.

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Publication Type

Miscellaneous.

<30>

Accession Number

20183018900

Author

Shawcross, A.

Title

Euthanasia of aggressive dogs: ethical considerations.

Source

The Veterinary Nurse; 2017. 8(9):480-484.

Publisher

MA Healthcare Limited

Location of Publisher

London

Country of Publication

UK

Abstract

Over the last decade, attacks by dangerous dogs on humans and other animals have been on the rise. This has inevitably resulted in greater numbers of aggressive, but otherwise healthy, dogs being presented in practice - often for euthanasia. This article aims to explore the role of the registered veterinary nurse (RVN) in the euthanasia of such patients. Legal and professional accountability with regards to this dilemma will be considered, and ethical frameworks will be discussed, as a way to help guide the RVN in these cases. The role of the RCVS Code of Professional Conduct for Veterinary Nurses in dealing with ethical dilemmas will also be highlighted.

Publication Type

Journal article.

<31>

Accession Number

20183010534

Author

Dawson, L. C.; Dewey, C. E.; Stone, E. A.; Mosley, C. I.; Guerin, M. T.; Niel, L.

Title

Evaluation of a welfare assessment tool to examine practices for preventing, recognizing, and managing pain at companion-animal veterinary clinics.

Source

Canadian Journal of Veterinary Research; 2017. 81(4):270-279.

Publisher

Canadian Veterinary Medical Association

Location of Publisher

Ottawa

Country of Publication

Canada

Abstract

Successful prevention, recognition, and treatment of pain are integral to ensuring veterinary patient welfare. A canine and feline welfare assessment tool, incorporating verbal interviews with veterinarians using open-ended questions, was developed to assess pain management practices that safeguard and improve patient welfare. The tool was evaluated in 30 companion- and mixed-animal veterinary clinics in Ontario in order to assess its reliability, feasibility, and validity, while also benchmarking current practices. Responses were analyzed according to a scoring scheme developed based on published literature and expert opinion. Based on weighted kappa statistics, interview scoring had substantial inter-observer ($K_w=0.83$, 0.73) and near-perfect intra-observer ($K_w=0.92$) agreement, which suggests that the tool reliably collects information about pain management practices. Interviews were completed at all recruited clinics, which indicates high feasibility for the methods. Validity could not be assessed, as participants were reluctant to share information about analgesic administration from their clinical records. Descriptive results indicated areas for which many veterinarians are acting in accordance with best practices for pain management, such as pre-emptive and post-surgical analgesia for ovariohysterectomy patients, and post-surgical care instructions. Areas that offer opportunity for enhancement were also highlighted, e.g., training veterinary staff to recognize signs of pain and duration of analgesia in ovariohysterectomy patients after discharge. Overall, based on this limited sample, most veterinarians appear to be effectively managing their patients' pain, although areas with opportunity for enhancement were also identified. Further research is needed to assess trends in a broader sample of participants.

Publication Type

Journal article.

<32>

Accession Number

20173383224

Author

Otten, N. D.; Rousing, T.; Forkman, B.

Title

Influence of professional affiliation on expert's view on welfare measures.

Source

Animals; 2017. 7(11):85. 33 ref.

Publisher

MDPI AG

Location of Publisher

Basel

Country of Publication

Switzerland

Abstract

The present study seeks to investigate the influence of expert affiliation in the weighing procedures within animal welfare assessments. Experts are often gathered with different backgrounds with differing approaches to animal welfare posing a potential pitfall if affiliation groups are not balanced in numbers of experts. At two time points (2012 and 2016), dairy cattle and swine experts from four different stakeholder groups, namely researchers (RES), production advisors (CONS), practicing veterinarians (VET) and animal welfare control officers (AWC) were asked to weigh eight different welfare criteria: Hunger, Thirst, Resting comfort, Ease of movement, Injuries, Disease, Human-animal bond and Emotional state. A total of 54 dairy cattle experts (RES=15%, CONS=22%, VET=35%, AWC=28%) and 34 swine experts (RES=24%, CONS=35%, AWC=41%) participated. Between - and within - group differences in the prioritization of criteria were assessed. AWC cattle experts differed consistently from the other cattle expert groups but only significantly for the criteria Hunger ($p=0.04$), and tendencies towards significance within the criteria Thirst ($p=0.06$). No significant differences were found between expert groups among swine experts. Inter-expert differences were more pronounced for both species. The results highlight the challenges of using expert weightings in aggregated welfare assessment models, as the choice of expert affiliation may play a confounding role in the final aggregation due to different prioritization of criteria.

Publication Type

Journal article.

<33>

Accession Number

20173374707

Author

Taylor, C. L.

Title

Veterinary hospice: a compassionate option at the end of a pet's life?

Source

The Veterinary Nurse; 2017. 8(8):416-423.

Publisher

MA Healthcare Limited

Location of Publisher

London

Country of Publication

UK

Abstract

In veterinary medicine, palliative care is a relatively recent topic, with the demand for high quality hospice and palliative care for terminally ill companion animals increasing and more owners being attracted to practices that offer such services. Death of an animal is a common occurrence in veterinary practice witnessed by veterinary professionals on a daily basis; despite this, veterinary staff remain apprehensive about approaching the subject of end-of-life care with owners. End-of-life care can be a challenging period for veterinary personnel as most staff have not had any comprehensive training to consistently deliver the best possible end-of-life experience. The complex and delicate issue of end-of-life care can be introduced to the owners following the diagnosis of a terminal illness, allowing the owners to explore alternative veterinary care to euthanasia. It is important that the owners understand that palliative care is not curative but may increase the amount of time that the owners have with a pet following a terminal diagnosis. Owners can experience spiritual conflict when faced with the impending death of a pet and require support from veterinary professionals for assistance during this difficult period. Following the bereavement of a pet, grieving owners often experience disenfranchised grief as it is often trivialised in society, it is understandable then that owners seeking understanding and validation often turn to the veterinary profession for support.

Publication Type

Journal article.

<34>

Accession Number

20173356918

Author

Goldberg, M. E.

Title

How to be a pain management advocate for exotic and zoo animals?

Source

The Veterinary Nurse; 2017. 8(7):389-397.

Publisher

MA Healthcare Limited

Location of Publisher

London

Country of Publication

UK

Abstract

Veterinary nurses must advocate for their painful patients. This does not just include companion animals but extends to all species. An understanding of pain physiology, pain scoring systems and species-specific signs of pain are imperative for the veterinary nurse. How does pain management for these species differ from those of more traditional species? What can be done to educate clients and zoological staff about pain in animals that they work with daily?

Publication Type

Journal article.

<35>

Accession Number

20173343184

Author

Robertson, S.

Title

Basic "TLC" and nursing techniques that can make all the difference to your patients.

Source

41st World Small Animal Veterinary Association Congress, Cartagena, Colombia, 27-30 September 2016; 2016. :552-553. 8 ref.

Publisher

World Small Animal Veterinary Association

Location of Publisher

Cartagena

Country of Publication

Colombia

Publication Type

Conference paper.

<36>

Accession Number

20173281569

Author

Lind, A. K.; Sandberg, E.; Forkman, B.; Norling, Y.; Keeling, L.

Title

Towards an easier assessment of stress in dogs at the clinic. [Swedish]

Source

Svensk Veterinartidning; 2017. 69(9):29-31. 4 ref.

Publisher

Sveriges Veterinarförbund

Location of Publisher

Stockholm

Country of Publication

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Sweden

Abstract

The aim of this study was to develop a simple, non-invasive scoring system to assess stress in dogs at the clinic by the use of questionnaires and behaviour tests. Questionnaires were filled in by the owner, the nurse and the veterinarian. To assess the dog-owner relationship, the Monash Dog Owner Relationship Scale was filled in by the dog-owner. There were 233 dog-owners who took part in the questionnaire study and 105 of their dogs (patients at the clinic) were tested. The dog-owner, the test-leader, the nurse and the veterinarian were each asked to score if the dog was stressed and to evaluate overall how the dog experienced the visit. Dogs rated as more stressed were less likely to take social contact with an unfamiliar person and more willing to play and eat a treat outside the veterinary clinic compared to inside the clinic. The results also indicated that the type of relationship the owner has with the dog may influence the dog's behaviour during the clinical examination. Dog-owners who had a high perceived emotional closeness with their dog or a high perceived awareness of the cost of having a dog were scored by the veterinarian as tending to be worse at calming their dog during the clinical examination. Finally, the good agreement between the different measures in this study suggests that there is potential for a scoring system to be developed to assess the extent to which the dog is stressed in the clinic. Awareness of dog's different reactions to a veterinary clinic is important for them to be handled accordingly (for their own safety and for that of the examining veterinarian), and so that their overall experience of the clinic is improved.

Publication Type

Journal article.

<37>

Accession Number

20173268110

Author

Gower, L.

Title

Pre-pubertal feline neutering: the role of the veterinary nurse in owner education.

Source

Veterinary Nursing Journal; 2017. 32(7):194-200. 50 ref.

Publisher

Taylor & Francis

Location of Publisher

Abingdon

Country of Publication

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UK

Abstract

Pre-pubertal neutering (PPN), which occurs at or before four months of age, is endorsed by several feline charities and veterinary bodies in an effort to curtail feline overpopulation and reduce the numbers of unwanted cats in rescue centres. The concept of PPN remains controversial among veterinary surgeons due to concerns over increased anaesthetic and surgical risks, as well as perceived long-term health and behavioural repercussions. Despite active promotion and support of PPN by feline welfare bodies, as well as scientific evidence that PPN has no significant health risks or disadvantages compared with traditional age neutering (TAN), many private practices still do not recommend or perform PPN. Registered Veterinary Nurses (RVNs) play a crucial role in client education and must maintain up-to-date, accurate knowledge, to provide appropriate advice on timing and effects of feline neutering, enabling them to gain informed consent from owners for neutering procedures.

Publication Type

Journal article.

<38>

Accession Number

20173231504

Author

Martin, D.

Title

The veterinary technician's role in implementing fear free.

Source

Today's Veterinary Technician; 2017. 2(4):48-52. 2 ref.

Publisher

Eastern States Veterinary Association, Inc (NAVC)

Location of Publisher

Glen Mills

Country of Publication

USA

Publication Type

Journal article.

<39>

Accession Number

20173197146

Author

Priestman, T. I.

Title

Delegation and the legal, professional and ethical issues for veterinary nurses: a case study.

Source

The Veterinary Nurse; 2017. 8(4):226-229.

Publisher

MA Healthcare Limited

Location of Publisher

London

Country of Publication

UK

Abstract

This article aims to examine a given scenario from legal, professional and ethical perspectives to highlight what is appropriate delegation. It is important to consider a student's level of knowledge and stage of training to also gain insights into the appropriate delegation of tasks in practice.

Publication Type

Journal article.

<40>

Accession Number

20173197142

Author

Thornton, C.

Title

Supporting quality of life in feline patients with chronic kidney disease.

Source

The Veterinary Nurse; 2017. 8(4):200-206.

Publisher

MA Healthcare Limited

Location of Publisher

London

Country of Publication

UK

Abstract

Chronic kidney disease (CKD) is a progressive terminal disease that is commonly seen in cats in small animal veterinary practices. Veterinary nurses will be involved in caring for these patients during the diagnostic and treatment phases including providing end-of-life care when symptoms increase and the patient either dies a natural death or is euthanased. Palliative or hospice care will be provided by owners in the home environment. Veterinary nurses have a role in supporting owners to deliver high quality care to their pet and when making difficult decisions about their pet's death.

Publication Type

Journal article.

<41>

Accession Number

20163398346

Author

Montrose, T.; Carroll, G.; Wills, A.

Title

Minimising pet stress at veterinary practice visits.

Source

Veterinary Times; 2016. 46(50):8, 10. 22 ref.

Publisher

Veterinary Business Development Ltd

Location of Publisher

Peterborough

Country of Publication

UK

Abstract

Practice visits are frequently stressful for pets. High proportions of dogs and cats exhibit fear and distress during trips to a veterinary centre. Reducing the stress pets experience during practice visits is important to maximise their welfare and ensure owners do not attempt to minimise their pets' distress by avoiding veterinary visits. Practices could do more to ameliorate the stress experienced by pets. They can help to make visits less stressful through the design and management of the waiting room, timing of and use of rehearsal appointments, appropriate approach and handling techniques, positive reinforcement methods, such as treat feeding, and use of sensory stimulation. While many of these recommendations are non-controversial, they are not always implemented and greater consideration would benefit veterinary staff, clients and patients.

Publication Type

Journal article.

<42>

Accession Number

20173018987

Author

Kerrigan, L.

Title

Preserving the 'passion' in compassionate nursing care.

Source

The Veterinary Nurse; 2016. 7(8):436-439.

Publisher

MA Healthcare Limited

Location of Publisher

London

Country of Publication

UK

Abstract

The Parliamentary and Health Service Ombudsman's (2011) report *Care and Compassion?* criticised the standards of care for many National Health Service (NHS) patients, especially the elderly, by stating the NHS was failing to respond to the needs of patients with care and compassion. Two years previously, the Healthcare Commission reached similar conclusions, stating trusts needed to resolve shortcomings in nursing care - specifically compassion, empathy and communication (Healthcare Commission, 2009). For most veterinary professionals compassion, empathy and respect are core values and viewed as integral to their role. This article will look at compassionate care within the context of veterinary nursing - what it is, what prevents it and what enables staff, day in and day out, to be compassionate towards every patient committed to their care and their owner.

Publication Type

Journal article.

<43>

Accession Number

20173031820

Author

Lynch, H.

Title

Helping pets enjoy their golden years: the technician's role.

Source

Today's Veterinary Technician; 2016. 1(3):8-13. 8 ref.

Publisher

Eastern States Veterinary Association, Inc (NAVCA)

Location of Publisher

Glen Mills

Country of Publication

USA

Publication Type

Journal article.

<44>

Accession Number

20173054407

Author

Rippingale, M.

Title

General anaesthetic risks in horses - what evidence is available, and what can Registered Veterinary Nurses do to help?

Source

Veterinary Nursing Journal; 2017. 32(1):14-17. 6 ref.

Publisher

Taylor & Francis

Location of Publisher

Abingdon

Country of Publication

UK

Abstract

The risk of mortality or serious morbidity is particularly high in horses undergoing general anaesthesia (GA). GA is unfortunately generally not something that Registered Veterinary Nurses (RVNs) have a lot of involvement with in equine practice. This is a shame, as certain risk factors for equine patients undergoing GA have been identified by a series of studies known as The Confidential Enquiry into Perioperative Equine Fatalities (CEPEF 1-3) (2002-2004). RVNs are in a unique position to use the information gained from the CEPEF studies to improve the welfare of their patients.

Publication Type

Journal article.

<45>

Accession Number

20173054405

Author

Almond, S.

Title

Ethics: the role of the veterinary nurse in the euthanasia of healthy but aggressive animals.

Source

Veterinary Nursing Journal; 2017. 32(1):6-8. 20 ref.

Publisher

Taylor & Francis

Location of Publisher

Abingdon

Country of Publication

UK

Abstract

Euthanasia of healthy animals with aggressive behavioural traits is an area often leading to heated debate, with justifications for or against euthanasia being voiced not just by clients, but also veterinary professionals. Ensuring duty of care is upheld means any nurse must be able to empathise with owners when faced with the prospect of euthanasia, despite whether they agree with the owner's decision. Understanding the ethical and moral values behind an owner's decision allows a nurse not only to act in a professional manner, but ensures legal and lawful actions are conducted, ultimately aiming to protect colleagues, owners and animal welfare.

Publication Type

Journal article.

<46>

Accession Number

20173069683

Author

Lind, A. K.; Hybring-Sandberg, E.; Forkman, B.; Keeling, L. J.

Title

Assessing stress in dogs during a visit to the veterinary clinic: correlations between dog behavior in standardized tests and assessments by veterinary staff and owners.

Source

Journal of Veterinary Behavior: Clinical Applications and Research; 2017. 17:24-31. 46 ref.

Publisher

Elsevier

Location of Publisher

New York

Country of Publication

USA

Abstract

A visit to a veterinary clinic can be very stressful for the dog, and stress may interact with pain. The aim of this study was to observe the behavior of dogs in a veterinary clinic and to correlate it with subjective stress assessments by different persons. Systems have already been developed to assess pain in dogs. We tested the behavior of 105 dogs, sampled from 233 dog owners who completed our questionnaire and whose dogs were patients at the clinic. The dog owner, the test leader, the nurse, and the veterinarian were each asked to assess if the dog was experiencing pain or was stressed and to evaluate, overall, how the dog experienced the visit. Three behavior tests were also carried out to describe the dog's reaction in the veterinary clinic: a "social contact" test, a "play" test, and a "treat" test. The play and treat tests were carried out both inside and outside the veterinary clinic to see if the dogs reacted differently in the 2 situations. Agreement between observers was good to excellent but generally better when assessing pain than stress. Dogs rated as more stressed were significantly less likely to engage in social contact with an unfamiliar person ($P < 0.0001$). They were significantly more willing to play and eat a treat outside the veterinary clinic compared to inside the clinic ($P < 0.001$), implying that the dogs themselves experienced inside the clinic as being more negative. The results also indicated that the type of relationship the owner has with the dog may influence the dog's behavior during the clinical examination. The good agreements between the different measures in this study suggest that there is potential for a system to be developed to assess the extent to which the dog is stressed in the clinic.

Publication Type

Journal article.

<47>

Accession Number

20173081180

Author

Wild, S.

Title

Legal and ethical veterinary practice: a scenario evaluation.

Source

Veterinary Nursing Journal; 2017. 32(2):45-49. 22 ref.

Publisher

Taylor & Francis

Location of Publisher

Abingdon

Country of Publication

UK

Abstract

As newly enrolled student veterinary nurses (SVNs) enter into placement, there will be some who observe clinical practices which do not meet with the legal and ethical requirements of the profession. Reflecting on one scenario, a new graduate evaluates how four years of training has developed a deeper knowledge and more confident personal standpoint regarding the importance of their ability to step in as the patient's advocate, and the desire to exercise agency in the promotion of ethical and legal delivery of practice.

Publication Type

Journal article.

<48>

Accession Number

20173089233

Author

Adams, V. J.

Title

Approach to the companion animal cancer patient: current therapies.

Source

The Veterinary Nurse; 2017. 8(1):30-36.

Publisher

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MA Healthcare Limited

Location of Publisher

London

Country of Publication

UK

Abstract

As one of the most treatable of all the chronic diseases, a diagnosis of cancer ultimately leads to a discussion of treatment options, including therapy directed at the cancer as well as any associated pain or other clinical signs, including paraneoplastic disease, and any comorbidity. The goal of treatment is to achieve as good a quality of life as possible for as long as possible. Given that curative-intent definitive treatment is not always an option, palliative treatment is available and can make the animal comfortable during the latter part of life. The aim of this article is to describe the various cancer therapies available, focusing on the role the veterinary nurse can play in facilitating communication between owner and veterinary surgeon about treatment options and quality of life of the animal.

Publication Type

Journal article.

<49>

Accession Number

20173120493

Author

Remillard, L. W.; Meehan, M. P.; Kelton, D. F.; Coe, J. B.

Title

Exploring the grief experience among callers to a pet loss support hotline.

Source

Anthrozoos; 2017. 30(1):149-161. 48 ref.

Publisher

Routledge

Location of Publisher

Abingdon

Country of Publication

UK

Abstract

The present study explored the grief experience among callers to the Ontario Veterinary College Pet Loss Support Hotline (PLSH). Summary notes (n=75) of the conversations between callers and PLSH volunteers were qualitatively analyzed using content analysis. Major content categories emerging from the analysis include personal pet narrative; perceived support sources; grief experiences; relationship with pet; memorialization; grief coping strategies; grief triggers; decision to euthanize; and veterinary interaction. Findings support that pet loss grief is a broad, complex construct, which can be complicated by a pet owner's perceptions that they have minimal social support sources and negative veterinary interactions. Pet owners involved in the current study appeared comfortable sharing personal stories about their pet's death when asked. In addition, memorialization appeared to be widely used by PLSH callers and may have helped them cope with their loss. Importantly, the interaction with veterinary staff was identified to potentially aggravate or alleviate a pet owner's grief experience. Implications for mental health counselors and veterinary staff are that asking pet owners to tell their pet's story and explore their support network may have value following the loss of a pet. Also, effectively communicating about memorialization and grief coping strategies may be beneficial when talking to owners experiencing grief. Finally, there continues to be a need for curricula and continuing professional training courses for veterinarians and mental health counselors to address topics such as the human-animal bond, grief, euthanasia, and memorialization practices.

Publication Type

Journal article.

<50>

Accession Number

20173127660

Author

Deane, K.

Title

Training zoo animals for better welfare, better nursing.

Source

The Veterinary Nurse; 2017. 8(2):116-122.

Publisher

MA Healthcare Limited

Location of Publisher

London

Country of Publication

UK

Abstract

Background: Historically, methods used to carry out veterinary procedures in animals within a zoo usually involved manual restraint or darting as a first choice. Aim: To see whether any animal can be trained and if that trained behaviour will improve animal welfare through allowing veterinary procedures to be carried out. Method: A range of species were looked at retrospectively to establish if they could be trained and how that affected welfare. A study was then carried out using a group of Zebras, who were trained for hand injection for their annual vaccination. Results: Case studies indicated that any animal can be trained and the results of using training could improve their welfare. The use of remote delivery systems, such as darts, resulted in pain, stress and deferred aggression. Conclusion: A number of different species can be trained to carry out a behaviour, if this is applied in all animals the need for restraint and general anaesthesia could be reduced. This would result in improved welfare to zoo animals, but can be applied to all patients, exotic and small animal.

Publication Type

Journal article.

<51>

Accession Number

20173127655

Author

Stokes, L.; Wright, I.

Title

Pet travel: the lesser known threats to UK pets.

Source

The Veterinary Nurse; 2017. 8(2):74-83.

Publisher

MA Healthcare Limited

Location of Publisher

London

Country of Publication

UK

Abstract

Increased pet travel, human migration and climate change are leading to the rapid spread of parasitic diseases and their vectors. This, in turn, increases the risk of pets and their owners encountering these agents while abroad and bringing them back to the UK. In addition, legal and illegal imports of dogs from continental Europe are also increasing the likelihood of novel parasites being introduced. Some of these, such as *Leishmania infantum*, are unlikely to establish as the UK neither possesses their vectors nor has ideal conditions for their establishment. Mosquitoes, fruit flies and ticks, however, are already common across the British Isles and can transmit a number of parasites with veterinary and zoonotic significance. The fluid nature of parasite distributions means that an increasing range of parasites need to be considered and general principals in control and biosecurity implemented. Veterinary nurses are key players in the fight to keep exotic diseases out of the UK. This article considers some of the control measures required to protect the UK and its pets as well as some of the more novel parasites that have entered the UK in travelled and imported pets.

Publication Type

Journal article.

<52>

Accession Number

20173185641

Author

Gray, A. J.

Title

Are bereavements giving you grief?

Source

Veterinary Nursing Journal; 2017. 32(5):133-135. 11 ref.

Publisher

Taylor & Francis

Location of Publisher

Abingdon

Country of Publication

UK

Abstract

Working as a Veterinary Nurse has many high points; however, there are sad cases too. If we are always caring for our clients and patients without giving ourselves time to rest and recuperate we will inevitably

suffer with compassion fatigue. With structured and supportive frameworks we can continue to support our clients and protect ourselves as well.

Publication Type

Journal article.

<53>

Accession Number

20163016152

Author

Yeates, J.

Title

The veterinary nurse's role in helping tackle the most difficult animal welfare challenges.

Source

Veterinary Nursing Journal; 2016. 31(1):30-31. 1 ref.

Publisher

Taylor & Francis

Location of Publisher

Abingdon

Country of Publication

UK

Publication Type

Journal article.

<54>

Accession Number

20163060509

Author

Dawson, L. C.; Dewey, C. E.; Stone, E. A.; Guerin, M. T.; Niel, L.

Title

A survey of animal welfare experts and practicing veterinarians to identify and explore key factors thought to influence canine and feline welfare in relation to veterinary care.

Source

Animal Welfare; 2016. 25(1):125-134. 24 ref.

Publisher

Universities Federation for Animal Welfare (UFAW)

Location of Publisher

Wheathampstead

Country of Publication

UK

Abstract

Veterinary care is important for maintaining companion animal health; however, it also has the potential to impact other aspects of patient welfare. To investigate factors related to veterinary care that are likely to influence canine and feline welfare, animal welfare researchers, veterinarians with an expertise in animal welfare, and Canadian and American companion and mixed animal veterinarians were invited to participate in a three-stage online survey. Participants were asked to do the following: (i) identify factors related to the veterinary experience that impact patient welfare; (ii) rate the relative impact of each factor; and (iii) gauge the feasibility of measuring and improving each factor. Overall, 78 participants identified 85 factors that impact animal welfare in the clinic (eg restraint techniques) and home environment (eg advice regarding behaviour and training). Among factors, seven themes emerged: physical environment of the clinic; routine animal care provided by veterinary team members ('staff'); interactions between the patient, staff, and client; clinic management; medical and surgical procedures; staff attitudes and education; and communication between the veterinarian and client. Mean relative impact scores ranged from 1.0 to 3.8 on a five-point scale (0-4), with 70% of factors receiving a score greater than 3. Most participants (>80%) agreed that 68% of the identified factors could be feasibly improved in an average veterinary clinic and that 43% of the factors could be feasibly measured during a welfare assessment. These results identify key areas where veterinary care may impact the welfare of canine and feline patients and highlight priority areas where assessment and improvement are possible.

Publication Type

Journal article.

<55>

Accession Number

20163101022

Author

Williams, L.

Title

Cat handling and associated stress: a clinical nursing perspective.

Source

Veterinary Nursing Journal; 2016. 31(3):88-93. 3 ref.

Publisher

Taylor & Francis

Location of Publisher

Abingdon

Country of Publication

UK

Abstract

Cats are becoming more popular as pets, possibly because they are seen as more suitable for households in which both 'parents' are working - but that is a discussion for another day! Certainly, where I am based in London, research by the Pet Food Manufacturers Association (PMFA) shows that the cat population has increased from 10% in 2013 to 12% in 2014 (pfma.org.uk). With this in mind, it is up to us to help our clients understand their feline pets better and in turn provide the best care for our patients. However, many owners may be disinclined to bring their cats to the veterinary practice due to worries about their pet's mental well-being. This can be detrimental to the cat's health, as treatable conditions may be left too long for viable treatment options to be used. In this article, I intend to focus on stress-free handling and management of cats in the practice situation.

Publication Type

Journal article.

<56>

Accession Number

20163075759

Author

Ackerman, N.

Title

Mandatory microchips: how they affect veterinary nurses.

Source

VN Times; 2016. 16(3):8-9.

Publisher

Veterinary Business Development Ltd

Location of Publisher

Peterborough

Country of Publication

UK

Publication Type

Journal article.

<57>

Accession Number

20163075757

Author

Hubbard, R.

Title

Supporting staff and pet owners with euthanasia.

Source

VN Times; 2016. 16(3):16-17.

Publisher

Veterinary Business Development Ltd

Location of Publisher

Peterborough

Country of Publication

UK

Publication Type

Journal article.

<58>

Accession Number

20163131311

Author

Hedberg, M.

Title

Communicating with your colleagues and your clients - remember the Seven C's!

Source

Veterinary Nursing Journal; 2016. 31(4):115-117. 7 ref.

Publisher

Taylor & Francis

Location of Publisher

Abingdon

Country of Publication

UK

Abstract

Communication is a vital part of patient care and client relationship in today's veterinary practice. Reviewing communication from the aspects of context, content, complexity, concentration, courtesy, consistency, and compassion, the article suggests ways the veterinary nurse can improve how they talk to their clients in the consult room or other areas of interaction. Improving communication directly affects client compliance, customer experience, and so leads to improved animal welfare.

Publication Type

Journal article.

<59>

Accession Number

20163131310

Author

Hawksworth, S.

Title

Cultural challenges surrounding euthanasia in Hong Kong: an RVN's perspective.

Source

Veterinary Nursing Journal; 2016. 31(4):111-114. 36 ref.

Publisher

Taylor & Francis

Location of Publisher

Abingdon

Country of Publication

UK

Abstract

This article discusses the ethical aspects that must be considered and rationalised when dealing with clients who, due to cultural or religious beliefs, do not want their pets euthanased and instead choose to take the animal home for a 'natural death'. Not all countries have the benefit of the robust animal welfare legislation of the UK, and RVNs working in other countries have to consider the ethical issues that they will face.

Publication Type

Journal article.

<60>

Accession Number

20163170022

Author

Speight, C.

Title

Environmental enrichment for pet rabbits - how can the RVN help educate owners?

Source

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Veterinary Nursing Journal; 2016. 31(5):144-148. 10 ref.

Publisher

Taylor & Francis

Location of Publisher

Abingdon

Country of Publication

UK

Publication Type

Journal article.

<61>

Accession Number

20163170020

Author

Down, J.; Moyes, S.

Title

Helping your clients understand optimal rabbit care.

Source

Veterinary Nursing Journal; 2016. 31(5):135-139. 6 ref.

Publisher

Taylor & Francis

Location of Publisher

Abingdon

Country of Publication

UK

Abstract

Veterinary nurses play a vital role in practice, examining and treating animals. Rabbit welfare can be improved by educating our clients to understand the key problems their pets encounter, and by giving practical advice on how to prevent common conditions. Nutritional and dental care, weight management and behaviour are important areas that must be discussed with clients. This article provides a guide to what to discuss and how to present your thoughts to ensure optimal rabbit care.

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Publication Type

Journal article.

<62>

Accession Number

20163199905

Author

Fraser, M.; Girling, S.

Title

Legalities of treating wildlife in UK veterinary practice.

Source

The Veterinary Nurse; 2016. 7(3):140-147.

Publisher

MA Healthcare Limited

Location of Publisher

London

Country of Publication

UK

Abstract

Many different species of wildlife will be presented to veterinary practices. In addition to providing care for these patients, veterinary nurses need to be aware of the legal aspects that apply. Legislation relating to wildlife species is particularly relevant to taking animals from the wild, keeping wild animals and birds in care, releasing them back into the wild and notifiable diseases. Following devolution, there are some differences in legislation in different parts of the UK. Specific species, particularly endangered species, have more detailed legislation which also needs to be adhered to. While lay people may have the best of intentions, they need to be aware that all veterinary care needs to follow Schedule 3 of the Veterinary Surgeon's Act 1966, and the best interests of the animals must be central to all care that is given.

Publication Type

Journal article.

<63>

Accession Number

20163199874

Author

Welsh, L.

Title

The euthanasia of aggressive dogs.

Source

The Veterinary Nurse; 2015. 6(9):517-521.

Publisher

MA Healthcare Limited

Location of Publisher

London

Country of Publication

UK

Abstract

This article will discuss the ethical issues concerned with the euthanasia of aggressive dogs in practice and where veterinary nurses (VNs) stand within this debate. Ethical theories will be discussed and, specifically, how these relate to the euthanasia of aggressive dogs in practice. The role that VNs play in the euthanasia of these patients and where VNs stand within the law when assisting with the euthanasia of aggressive dogs will also be discussed. Last, the article will look at the Code of professional Conduct for both veterinary surgeons and VNs and how it can be used to gain guidance when dealing with ethical dilemmas.

Publication Type

Journal article.

<64>

Accession Number

20163172425

Author

Kerrigan, L.

Title

Care of small mammals: advice on rabbits and small furrries.

Source

VN Times; 2016. 16(5):26-28. 5 ref.

Publisher

Veterinary Business Development Ltd

Location of Publisher

Peterborough

Country of Publication

UK

Abstract

The health and welfare of small mammals is directly related to their natural behaviour, environment and nutritional needs. The Animal Welfare Act (2006) places a duty of care on owners to ensure their animals' welfare needs are met via the provision of a suitable environment and diet; the ability to exhibit normal behaviour patterns; to be housed with, or apart from, other species; and to be protected from pain, suffering, injury and disease. It is, therefore, imperative VNs educate owners of such pets to ensure their health and welfare needs are met, with owners acting within the law. This article outlines the advice VNs should give to novice owners of rabbits and small furrries. As veterinary nurses, we readily advise clients about additional needs of elderly animals at home. However, we must be careful not to neglect applying our recommendations to these same animals when admitted into practice and under our care. Ageing animals seldom have a single disease, but instead have a unique combination of multiple organ disease with varying levels of dysfunction (Fortney, 2004). Such changes in organ system function, however, may be covert until the ageing animal is stressed by illness, general anaesthetic procedure or hospital stay (Carpenter et al, 2005).

Publication Type

Journal article.

<65>

Accession Number

20163204846

Author

Kimber, S.; Gardner, D. H.

Title

Relationships between workplace well-being, job demands and resources in a sample of veterinary nurses in New Zealand.

Source

New Zealand Veterinary Journal; 2016. 64(4):224-229. 39 ref.

Publisher

Taylor & Francis

Location of Publisher

Melbourne

Country of Publication

Australia

Abstract

AIM: To use a job demands-resources model to examine the associations among perceived job demands, job resources, family-to-work enrichment, positive team relationships, work engagement, emotional exhaustion, cynicism and intention to leave, in a sample of New Zealand veterinary nurses. **METHODS:** Data were collected by means of a self-reported online survey, with the help of eight New Zealand tertiary education providers and the New Zealand Veterinary Nurses' Association. Nine measures or variables were assessed using questions or statements with responses categorised on a linear scale. Measurement models for each of the variables in the study were assessed to establish whether the variables represented the respective item-level data. Structural equation modelling was then used to test the hypothesised interrelationships among study variables. **RESULTS:** There were 253 respondents; 17.1% of individuals who classified themselves as veterinary nurses in the 2013 New Zealand census. In the final structural model job demands were associated with emotional exhaustion (standardised regression coefficient $\beta = 0.57$), which was related to cynicism ($\beta = 0.52$) and intention to leave ($\beta = 0.56$). Job resources were negatively related to emotional exhaustion ($\beta = -0.32$). Higher work engagement was associated with lower emotional exhaustion ($\beta = -0.29$) and lower intention to leave ($\beta = -0.30$). Job resources were associated with work-to-family enrichment ($\beta = 0.69$), which was related to work engagement ($\beta = 0.57$); and job resources were associated with positive team relationships ($\beta = 0.79$). **CONCLUSION:** It is important that job resources are available to help deal with demanding work. Without resources, demanding work is associated with exhaustion, cynicism and increased intention to leave, while positive spill over between work and family life are related to higher work engagement.

Publication Type

Journal article.

<66>

Accession Number

20163250535

Author

Druce, K.

Title

Reducing stress in isolated patients.

Source

Veterinary Nursing Journal; 2016. 31(7):206-209. 16 ref.

Publisher

Taylor & Francis

Location of Publisher

Abingdon

Country of Publication

UK

Abstract

Patients are often fearful, stressed or anxious when visiting the veterinary practice. Staff members go to great lengths to ensure that patients have a positive experience and to limit negative emotions. Waiting areas and kennel environments are becoming increasingly species-specific and practitioners are more aware of, and more empathetic towards, stressed and anxious patients. Isolation of patients is sometimes necessary due to the risk of infectious disease, but are all isolation facilities adequate? Do we transfer our skills and knowledge effectively to minimise stress and anxiety when caring for isolated patients and provide a standard of care comparable with other areas of the practice?

Publication Type

Journal article.

<67>

Accession Number

20163258683

Author

Ayers, H.

Title

Pain recognition in reptiles and investigation of associated behavioural signs.

Source

The Veterinary Nurse; 2016. 7(5):292-300.

Publisher

MA Healthcare Limited

Location of Publisher

London

Country of Publication

UK

Abstract

Background: There is minimal research into reptile pain management and analgesic protocols, and current opinions surrounding this topic are outdated; the last significant study was carried out by Read in 2004. The aim of this current study was to consider the current ideas and highlight any advancements in reptile analgesia. **Objective:** To investigate current ideas within analgesia in reptiles, with focus on the creation of a behavioural ethogram for clinical reference. **Methods:** A survey was created using an online platform and distributed to experts in the field of reptile pain management (veterinarians and veterinary nurses) as well as experienced animal carers (herpetoculturists and pet owners). **Results:** A chi-square test revealed no statistical significance in behavioural signs recognised between veterinary professionals and animal carers. Continuity existed between the behavioural signs recognised by both expert groups. **Conclusion:** A lack of confidence was identified when assessing pain in reptiles. The top three behavioural signs of pain in the three subgroups were statistically agreed on across both groups of expert individuals, indicating a good basis for a behavioural ethogram.

Publication Type

Journal article.

<68>

Accession Number

20163238275

Author

Elsheikha, H.

Title

Pet worming protocols: how to ensure owner compliance.

Source

VN Times; 2016. 16(7):8...12. 10 ref.

Publisher

Veterinary Business Development Ltd

Location of Publisher

Peterborough

Country of Publication

UK

Abstract

Pet owners do not always follow a prescribed course of treatment. This mismatch between what is instructed and what owners do is commonly referred to as "non-compliance" or "non-adherence". Failure of pet owners to comply with prescribed worming protocols is one of the main reasons for failing to achieve optimal worm control, with adverse consequences on animal health and welfare. It is these consequences that can potentially compromise the relationship between veterinary professionals and their clients. Interventions, as they stand, do not effectively enhance compliance because they focus only on encouraging pet owners to follow the prescribed treatment recommendations, indicating other models should be worth considering. VNs can play a more important role in providing a broader approach to compliance via understanding of the needs, attitudes and social contexts of pet owners, as well as the barriers to complying with worming protocols. Suggestions for enhancing compliance include proper handling of the practice visit, providing ongoing education, providing written instructions and reminders, reviewing of compliance and establishing a relationship with clients that inspires trust. In this article, the author discusses the reasons for poor compliance and proposes innovative solutions for improving it.

Publication Type

Journal article.

<69>

Accession Number

20163274366

Author

Marshall, L.

Title

The RVN's role in educating and supporting clients in managing behavioural problems in their pet.

Source

Veterinary Nursing Journal; 2016. 31(8):245-247. 12 ref.

Publisher

Taylor & Francis

Location of Publisher

Abingdon

Country of Publication

UK

Abstract

The RCVS Code of Conduct outlines the terms under which veterinary nurses must practice. One responsibility requires that registered veterinary nurses must give adequate care in order to provide the best standards of welfare for their patients. Given that significant numbers of welfare problems can be related to behaviour-related problems, it can be argued that there should be a greater focus on behaviour during clinics in order to promote a better quality of life for patients.

Publication Type

Journal article.

<70>

Accession Number

20163274365

Author

Gregersen, S.

Title

Giving your clients the best end-of-life experience with their pets.

Source

Veterinary Nursing Journal; 2016. 31(8):241-244. 6 ref.

Publisher

Taylor & Francis

Location of Publisher

Abingdon

Country of Publication

UK

Abstract

Animal hospice and end-of-life care are emerging specialities within veterinary medicine which hold considerable potential for development by veterinary nursing professionals. In the first of a two-part series, Dr Susan Gregersen shares what she has learned over the past 10 years of helping more than 6000 pets and families face the challenges of end-of-life care at home. This article explains the importance of focusing on end-of-life care in veterinary practice, and explores the experience of pet euthanasia from an owner's perspective.

Publication Type

Journal article.

<71>

Accession Number

20163314082

Author

Gregersen, S.

Title

Getting the best result at the end using animal hospice.

Source

Veterinary Nursing Journal; 2016. 31(9):271-275. 5 ref.

Publisher

Taylor & Francis

Location of Publisher

Abingdon

Country of Publication

UK

Abstract

A rapidly growing specialty in the USA, animal hospice care is finally mirroring the human hospice movement in offering comfort-oriented care at the end of life, most often incorporating a gentle euthanasia. In the second of a two-part series, *The Hospice Vet*, Dr Susan Gregersen MRCVS, describes the emerging speciality of animal hospice or end-of life (EOL) care, and why it has an important place within regular veterinary practice. Based on her experiences helping more than 6000 pets during the past decade, Susan also discusses the role that specially trained veterinary nurses can play in animal hospice and palliative medicine.

Publication Type

<72>

Accession Number

20163331664

Author

Belshaw, Z.; Asher, L.; Dean, R. S.

Title

The attitudes of owners and veterinary professionals in the United Kingdom to the risk of adverse events associated with using non-steroidal anti-inflammatory drugs (NSAIDs) to treat dogs with osteoarthritis.

Source

Preventive Veterinary Medicine; 2016. 131:121-126. 38 ref.

Publisher

Elsevier B.V.

Location of Publisher

Amsterdam

Country of Publication

Netherlands

Abstract

Non-steroidal anti-inflammatory drugs (NSAIDs) are commonly prescribed by veterinary surgeons for the treatment of canine osteoarthritis, and affected dogs may receive these drugs for long periods of time. Whilst short term administration of NSAIDs to dogs is linked to adverse events such as gastrointestinal haemorrhage and renal injury, reports of adverse events associated with their long-term administration are limited in the veterinary literature. This study aimed to investigate the attitudes towards the long term use of NSAIDs for canine osteoarthritis held by three groups who manage osteoarthritic dogs in the United Kingdom: dog owners, veterinary surgeons and veterinary nurses. A qualitative methodology was adopted, using semi-structured interviews and focus groups. Thematic analysis of these data identified three themes: awareness of potential risks; recognition of adverse events; and influence of risk perception on the use of NSAIDs. Awareness of, and concern about, the risk of adverse events associated with NSAID administration to dogs with osteoarthritis was high in all groups, with veterinary surgeons being one of a variety of information sources used by owners to acquire this knowledge. Veterinary surgeons described difficulty in recognising, managing and avoiding adverse events associated with NSAIDs. When adverse events occurred, a wide range of management approaches were adopted ranging from a brief drug respite to permanent cessation of administration of any NSAIDs to that dog. Commonly employed approaches to minimise risk included dose reduction and screening blood tests. This study describes a high level of

concern about the risks associated with long term NSAID administration to dogs with osteoarthritis and highlights a diverse range of strategies employed to minimise these risks. The evidence base for these strategies is poor, and this may present a risk to animal welfare if the affected dogs are not receiving adequate analgesia. In order to address this, more accurate and comprehensive data must be supplied to both veterinary professionals and owners on the true frequency of adverse events associated with long term administration of veterinary NSAIDs and how best to avoid them.

Publication Type

Journal article.

<73>

Accession Number

20163331038

Author

Barnard-Nguyen, S.; Breit, M.; Anderson, K. A.; Nielsen, J.

Title

Pet loss and grief: identifying at-risk pet owners during the euthanasia process.

Source

Anthrozoos; 2016. 29(3):421-430. 29 ref.

Publisher

Bloomsbury Publishing Plc

Location of Publisher

London

Country of Publication

UK

Abstract

Pet owners often experience complex and profound grief reactions when their animals are euthanized. Veterinary staff are increasingly being called upon to be aware of and to respond to the grief reactions of pet owners at this critical time. The objectives of this study were to identify pet owners who are most at risk of grief and to suggest veterinary interventions during the euthanasia process. A convenience sample of 409 pet owners whose animals had been euthanized in the past year took part in a survey. Variables of interest included pet and pet-owner demographics, pet-death characteristics, attachment to pet, and bereavement reactions. Stepwise multiple regression analyses were conducted to identify factors related to the three grief reaction subtypes: sorrow, anger, and guilt. Results indicated that attachment to pets was a strong predictor of feelings of grief/sorrow ($p < 0.001$) and anger ($p < 0.001$). Sudden death was also related

to feelings of anger ($p < 0.05$). Cancer diagnosis was negatively related to feelings of anger ($p < 0.05$) and guilt ($p < 0.01$). The findings from this study provide additional insight into the complexity of grief following pet euthanasia. For veterinary staff, anticipating the needs of pet owners and supporting them through the grief process is an integral role. Understanding which pet owners are at greatest risk of grief is an important initial step, followed by empathic communications, sensitive interactions, and the provision of grief support.

Publication Type

Journal article.

<74>

Accession Number

20163346202

Author

Mullineaux, E.

Title

Legal responsibilities of veterinary professionals when working with wildlife centres.

Source

Companion Animal; 2016. 21(10):592-597. 24 ref.

Publisher

MA Healthcare Limited

Location of Publisher

London

Country of Publication

UK

Abstract

Injured or orphaned animals are frequently presented by members of the general public to veterinary surgeons working in general practice in the UK. After some form of veterinary intervention and treatment, suitable cases can be rehabilitated, usually at a wildlife centre, before being released back to the wild. Wild animals in the UK are included in the Veterinary Surgeons Act 1966 and the Veterinary Medicines Regulations, therefore Registered veterinary surgeons and veterinary nurses have legal as well as ethical responsibility for their care. In order to ensure full care to the point of successful release of suitable cases back to the wild, a good collaborative working relationship between veterinary professionals and wildlife rescue centres is essential.

Publication Type

Journal article.

<75>

Accession Number

20163355346

Author

Bradbury, A. G.; Dickens, G. J. E.

Title

Appropriate handling of pet rabbits: a literature review.

Source

Journal of Small Animal Practice; 2016. 57(10):503-509. many ref.

Publisher

Wiley-Blackwell

Location of Publisher

Oxford

Country of Publication

UK

Abstract

Many rabbits show fear behaviours when lifted off the ground. Estimates from owner surveys suggest that around 60% of pet rabbits struggle when lifted and fear-related aggression is common. This article integrates information from both laboratory and pet rabbit studies to formulate a list of recommendations for appropriate handling of rabbits. Reduction of the frequency of the stressor can be achieved by educating owners on alternative management practices to reduce the need to carry their rabbits. However, in some situations, it is unavoidable that a rabbit is lifted. Amelioration of the stress in these instances can be achieved by a 2 pronged strategy. First, the population of rabbits can be made more resilient to infrequent stressors by selectively breeding for confident rabbits and by better socialisation of unweaned kits, and, where possible, training of individual animals to permit handling. Secondly, any unavoidable lifting can be made less stressful by educating veterinary staff in appropriate methods of holding rabbits during both consultations and inpatient care. Better understanding of appropriate interactions with rabbits will improve welfare.

Publication Type

Journal article.

<76>

Accession Number

20163354679

Author

Winter, R.

Title

Hydrotherapy and physiotherapy: what the RVN should know.

Source

Veterinary Nursing Journal; 2016. 31(10):312-315. 3 ref.

Publisher

Taylor & Francis

Location of Publisher

Abingdon

Country of Publication

UK

Publication Type

Journal article.

<77>

Accession Number

20163354678

Author

Morgan, S.

Title

A nursing approach to the equine standing surgical patient.

Source

Veterinary Nursing Journal; 2016. 31(10):308-311. 13 ref.

Publisher

Taylor & Francis

Location of Publisher

Abingdon

Country of Publication

UK

Abstract

Veterinary literature has shown increasing interest in the development of surgical techniques on the standing horse to avoid the risks of general anaesthesia. The diverse, often complex and lengthy procedures now possible present their own risks to both patient and staff, particularly if the patient becomes anxious. Sedated equines can still react unpredictably, but Veterinary Nurses with an understanding of equine behaviour and perception can use their skills to minimise stress and discomfort in their patients to reduce the risks further. This article discusses how physiological knowledge combined with patient observation in practice can improve patient welfare and personnel safety during standing procedures.

Publication Type

Journal article.

<78>

Accession Number

20163365160

Author

Magalhaes-Sant'Ana, M.; More, S. J.; Morton, D. B.; Hanlon, A.

Title

Ethical challenges facing veterinary professionals in Ireland: results from Policy Delphi with vignette methodology.

Source

Veterinary Record; 2016. 179(17):437.

Publisher

BMJ Publishing Group

Location of Publisher

London

Country of Publication

UK

Abstract

Ethics is key to the integrity of the veterinary profession. Despite its importance, there is a lack of applied research on the range of ethical challenges faced by veterinarians. A three round Policy Delphi with vignette methodology was used to record the diversity of views on ethical challenges faced by veterinary professionals in Ireland. Forty experts, comprising veterinary practitioners, inspectors and nurses, accepted to participate. In round 1, twenty vignettes describing a variety of ethically challenging veterinary scenarios were ranked in terms of ethical acceptability, reputational risk and perceived standards of practice. Round 2 aimed at characterising challenges where future policy development or professional guidance was deemed to be needed. In round 3, possible solutions to key challenges were explored. Results suggest that current rules and regulations are insufficient to ensure best veterinary practices and that a collective approach is needed to harness workable solutions for the identified ethical challenges. Challenges pertaining mostly to the food chain seem to require enforcement measures whereas softer measures that promote professional discretion were preferred to address challenges dealing with veterinary clinical services. These findings can support veterinary representative bodies, advisory committees and regulatory authorities in their decision making, policy and regulation.

Publication Type

Journal article.

<79>

Accession Number

20163400664

Author

Bishop, G.; Cooney, K.; Cox, S.; Downing, R.; Mitchener, K.; Shanan, A.; Soares, N.; Stevens, B.; Wynn, T.

Title

2016 AAHA/IAAHPC end-of-life care guidelines.

Source

Journal of the American Animal Hospital Association; 2016. 52(6):341-356.

Publisher

American Animal Hospital Association

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Location of Publisher

Denver

Country of Publication

USA

Abstract

End-of-life (EOL) care and decisionmaking embody the critical final stage in a pet's life and are as important and meaningful as the sum of the clinical care provided for all prior life stages. EOL care should focus on maximizing patient comfort and minimizing suffering while providing a collaborative and supportive partnership with the caregiver client. Timely, empathetic, and nonjudgmental communication is the hallmark of effective client support. Veterinarians should not allow an EOL patient to succumb to a natural death without considering the option of euthanasia and ensuring that other measures to alleviate discomfort and distress are in place. Animal hospice care addresses the patient's unique emotional and social needs as well as the physical needs traditionally treated in clinical practice. An EOL treatment plan should consist of client education; evaluating the caregiver's needs and goals for the pet; and a collaborative, personalized, written treatment plan involving the clinical staff and client. Primary care practices should have a dedicated team to implement palliative and hospice care for EOL patients. How the healthcare team responds to a client's grief after the loss of a pet can be a key factor in the client's continued loyalty to the practice. Referral to professional grief-support counseling can be a helpful option in this regard.

Publication Type

Journal article.

<80>

Accession Number

20163399095

Author

Murphy, S.

Title

Post-operative pain assessment in dogs.

Source

Veterinary Nursing Journal; 2016. 31(11):334-339. 52 ref.

Publisher

Taylor & Francis

Location of Publisher

Abingdon

Country of Publication

UK

Abstract

The development of the Registered Veterinary Nurse's (RVN's) role has progressed greatly within recent years with the establishment of the Veterinary Nurse Charter in February 2015, which enforces and strengthens the profession making RVNs autonomous and self-regulating. With this newly achieved autonomy, RVNs need to provide gold-standard care relative to recent, appropriate literature. An important aspect of this is monitoring pain in post-operative patients. As veterinary professionals there is an ethical and legal obligation to identify and treat pain where required.

Publication Type

Journal article.

<81>

Accession Number

20163399094

Author

Campbell, E. J.

Title

Owners' abilities to recognise and comprehend signs or displays of aggression in their canine companions outwith the home environment.

Source

Veterinary Nursing Journal; 2016. 31(11):329-333. 16 ref.

Publisher

Taylor & Francis

Location of Publisher

Abingdon

Country of Publication

UK

Abstract

Due to welfare and safety factors, canine aggression is at the forefront of a vast volume of behavioural assessments. Conditions resulting in behaviour problems normally result from a form of stimuli, including

internal (psychological) or external (handling errors). The study's main aims were establishing owner's level of awareness when their dog displays aggressive behaviours towards veterinary staff and discovering whether/why owners can be reluctant to disclose information to veterinary staff regarding incidences of frequent aggression in their canines. The results highlighted the importance of owner education with regards to the occurrence of canine aggression in stressful environments.

Publication Type

Journal article.

<82>

Accession Number

20163379896

Author

Villalobos, A. E.

Title

Forming an end of life hospice/Pawspice service.

Source

CAB Reviews; 2016. 11(031):1-4.

Publisher

CABI

Location of Publisher

Wallingford

Country of Publication

UK

Abstract

Practitioners who support the human-animal bond can organize a team to provide end of life hospice/'Pawspice' care services in their hospitals. Selected staff can acquire communication skills needed to deal with end of life care issues. Pawspice carers often express worry, disappointment, fear, sadness, anxiety, anticipatory grief and fear of their pet's death. Staff can be trained to provide emotional care for the carers and end of life palliative medicine and body care for patients in end of life decline. We must dispel the old myths that discourage end of life care and refute the reasons why doctors feel reluctant to discuss a poor prognosis. Using the HHHHMM Quality of Life Scale points out areas to improve and justify palliative care at the end of life.

Publication Type

<83>

Accession Number

20153002272

Author

Pereira, G. da G.; Fragoso, S.; Morais, D.; Brito, M. T. V. de; Sousa, L. de

Title

Comparison of interpretation of cat's behavioral needs between veterinarians, veterinary nurses, and cat owners.

Source

Journal of Veterinary Behavior: Clinical Applications and Research; 2014. 9(6):324-328. 19 ref.

Publisher

Elsevier

Location of Publisher

New York

Country of Publication

USA

Abstract

Cats have certain strongly motivated behaviors, which could be defined as "needs," that should be understood to provide the cat the best quality of life and assure proper welfare. It is well recognized that cats have several behavioral needs, which if not met, can result in anxiety and secondary behavior problems. These problems can lead to relinquishment or euthanasia. Veterinarians and veterinary nurses have a special role when educating owners. To increase owners' compliance, veterinary professionals should have evidence-based knowledge for the right information to be communicated to feline owners. The goal of the present study was to identify and compare the level of knowledge that veterinarians, veterinary nurses, and pet owners have about cat behavior and to compare their perceptions on this subject. We were also interested in determining whether living with a cat affected the professionals' knowledge base and what they are able to properly communicate to pet owners. It was expected that the veterinarians would have the highest level of knowledge regarding the interpretation of feline behavioral needs. We also hypothesized that those professionals who had or have previously owned a cat would have a better understanding of what cats actually need. A questionnaire, called "questionnaire to assess cat's needs" (QACN), was completed by cat owners, veterinarians, and veterinary nurses. The QACN had 13 different statements about the behavioral needs of cats, and each participant had to select their level of agreement with the statement. The QACN was then scored and a principal component analysis was used to

identify meaningful associations. The following 3 components were extracted: elimination, stress releasers, and human stimulation. Contrary to what was expected, the results showed that in some specific areas (stress releasers and human stimulation) veterinarians' and veterinary nurses' knowledge was not significantly different from that of cat owners. This could mean that the role of these professionals in preventing behavioral problems can be very compromised. Those professionals who had owned a cat personally were better at identifying the behavioral needs of cats, with some significant differences (related with stress releasers), compared with those professionals who had never owned a cat. More education about feline behavior should be included when training veterinarians and veterinary nurses for clients to continue to trust these professionals to provide them with evidence-based knowledge about cat behavior.

Publication Type

Journal article.

<84>

Accession Number

20153016464

Author

McMillan, S.

Title

Patient safety in anaesthesia.

Source

The Veterinary Nurse; 2014. 5(10):558-560, 562-565. 21 ref.

Publisher

MA Healthcare Limited

Location of Publisher

London

Country of Publication

UK

Abstract

Anaesthesia is a complex process resulting in numerous steps in the assessment of veterinary patients, preparation of drugs and equipment, checking of the equipment and communication between team members at several points. It is imperative that within this veterinary professionals strive to ABOVE ALL uphold their declaration to 'ensure the health and welfare of animals committed to their care'. The pursuit of patient safety in veterinary anaesthesia is in its infancy but must strive to reduce the gap between best

practice and the care currently delivered in veterinary practices. This has to involve an evidence-based approach to veterinary anaesthesia and a realisation that preventable human errors occur every day. It must be recognised that not only do these errors occur but that they are inevitable and that only by the recognition and reporting of these errors can analysis and reflection occur to offer preventative strategies. By using veterinary specific tools such as checklists and reporting systems, weveterinary nurses can make a difference.

Publication Type

Journal article.

<85>

Accession Number

20153024943

Author

Hewson, C.

Title

Grief for pets - Part 2: Avoiding compassion fatigue.

Source

Veterinary Nursing Journal; 2014. 29(12):388-391.

Publisher

Wiley-Blackwell

Location of Publisher

Oxford

Country of Publication

UK

Abstract

Dealing with clients' distress, especially at euthanasia, is one of the main stressors for veterinary nurses, and it can result in compassion fatigue. There seems to have been little acknowledgement of this in the workplace or the literature, and we lack research on prevalence, risk factors and the most effective strategies of prevention. This article introduces the topic and suggests how you might avoid compassion fatigue, through self-care and both informal and formal support at work.

Publication Type

Journal article.

<86>

Accession Number

20153089127

Author

Hewson, C.

Title

Grief for pets. Part 3: Supporting clients.

Source

Veterinary Nursing Journal; 2015. 30(1):26-30. 15 ref.

Publisher

Taylor & Francis

Location of Publisher

Abingdon

Country of Publication

UK

Abstract

Dealing with clients' distress, especially at euthanasia, is one of the main stressors for veterinary nurses. However, few have had formal training in how the death of an animal companion affects clients, and how to communicate with them. This article introduces some practical approaches and wording that you might use to support clients at the end of their animals' lives.

Publication Type

Journal article.

<87>

Accession Number

20153116687

Author

O'Dair, H.

Title

Euthanasia of pets: strengthening end-of-life care.

Source

In Practice; 2015. 37(3):143-145. 13 ref.

Publisher

BMJ Publishing Group

Location of Publisher

London

Country of Publication

UK

Abstract

Practices often have procedures in place to educate and bond clients when they first visit with young animals, but the significance of having similar policies during pets' end-of-life care can be overlooked. Hilary O'Dair discusses how support services can help grieving owners and veterinary staff, while also facilitating client retention and loyalty.

Publication Type

Journal article.

<88>

Accession Number

20153135418

Author

Stokes, L.; Wright, I.

Title

The Pet Travel Scheme (PETS) and parasite protection for the travelling pet.

Source

The Veterinary Nurse; 2015. 6(2):60-62, 64-66, 68, 70. 12 ref.

Publisher

MA Healthcare Limited

Location of Publisher

London

Country of Publication

UK

Abstract

Changes to the Pet Travel Scheme (PETS) has led to renewed interest in the scheme and concern surrounding pet travel. In addition to the new rules, the distribution of parasites not covered by the scheme are also changing and it is vital for veterinary professionals to keep up to date, not only with new legal requirements, but also the parasite prevention requirements of pets travelling abroad. Veterinary nurses play a vital role in giving pet travel advice, both in day-to-day interaction with clients and as part of organised travel clinics. This article discusses a practical approach both to the compulsory requirements of the scheme but also other parasite prevention that should be considered.

Publication Type

Journal article.

<89>

Accession Number

20153206458

Author

Kerrigan, L.

Title

How to conduct a nurse-led senior clinic Part 2 - Patient assessment and diagnostic testing.

Source

The Veterinary Nurse; 2015. 6(4):236-239. 9 ref.

Publisher

MA Healthcare Limited

Location of Publisher

London

Country of Publication

UK

Abstract

The recent passing of the new Royal Charter, formally recognising veterinary nursing as a profession by underpinning veterinary nursing regulation and granting veterinary nurses the status of associate members of the Royal College of Veterinary Surgeons, represents a huge step forward for the UK veterinary nursing profession. Veterinary nurses are qualified, registered, highly skilled and accountable professionals who possess the knowledge and skills to educate owners regarding many aspects of preventative care, including senior wellness. The second of this two-part article examines the role of the qualified veterinary nurse in the assessment of an ageing dog or cat during a nurse-led senior clinic.

Publication Type

Journal article.

<90>

Accession Number

20153216401

Author

Froehlich, F.; Forbes, N.

Title

Nursing of large psittacines in practice.

Source

Veterinary Nursing Journal; 2015. 30(6):167-171. 12 ref.

Publisher

Taylor & Francis

Location of Publisher

Abingdon

Country of Publication

UK

Abstract

The following article highlights specific aspects of nursing with respect to the treatment of large psittacines such as macaws. Legal aspects as well as biosecurity measures, hospital set up, dietary requirements and administration of medications are discussed. Tips for handling, restraint and feeding will provide a practical guide to give colleagues the knowledge and confidence to hospitalise avian patients.

Publication Type

Journal article.

<91>

Accession Number

20153237390

Author

Smith, N. J.

Title

To spay or not to spay: the nurse's role in owner education.

Source

The Veterinary Nurse; 2015. 6(5):252, 254-256, 258-259. many ref.

Publisher

MA Healthcare Limited

Location of Publisher

London

Country of Publication

UK

Abstract

Veterinary nurses are directly involved with providing advice and gaining informed consent for ovariohysterectomy in bitches. In order to allow them to provide accurate information regarding this common procedure it is vital they fully understand the potential advantages and disadvantages regarding the procedure. It is very easy for clients to gain information, often inaccurate, from internet sources so in order to be able to provide correct evidence-based information, and therefore gain the confidence of the client, it is vital nurses fully understand the implications of any surgery for which they are gaining consent. Veterinary nurses are accountable for their actions and in order to comply with the code of conduct they must ensure that clients have a full understanding of procedures for which they are consenting.

Publication Type

Journal article.

<92>

Accession Number

20153280879

Author

Hedges, S.

Title

Advanced approaches to handling dogs in practice.

Source

The Veterinary Nurse; 2015. 6(6):308, 310-312, 314-315. 17 ref.

Publisher

MA Healthcare Limited

Location of Publisher

London

Country of Publication

UK

Abstract

There have been ground breaking advances in the field of dog training and behaviour modification in the last 20 years. Traditional theories advocating the use of 'dominance' to control dog behaviour have given way to 'force free' techniques that rely on understanding and changing the dog's motivation. An entirely hands off approach is not realistic in all cases in veterinary practice. However routine application of contemporary behavioural principles to the approach and handling of dogs in practice can improve welfare and reduce defensive aggression for the benefit of both patient and staff alike.

Publication Type

Journal article.

<93>

Accession Number

20153349257

Author

Macdonald, J.

Title

Animal Welfare Foundation Discussion Forum 2015.

Source

Veterinary Nursing Journal; 2015. 30(10):297-298.

Publisher

Taylor & Francis

Location of Publisher

Abingdon

Country of Publication

UK

Abstract

The author recounts a day spent at the Animal Welfare Foundation (AWF) Discussion Forum; an annual event held in Central London. Two free places are offered to veterinary nurses every year in a competition run by BVNA and AWF.

Publication Type

Journal article.

<94>

Accession Number

20153349256

Author

Rosewell, L.

Title

Maintaining standards of welfare in hospitalised rabbits.

Source

Veterinary Nursing Journal; 2015. 30(10):290-296. 11 ref.

Publisher

Taylor & Francis

Location of Publisher

Abingdon

Country of Publication

UK

Abstract

Rabbits are the third most popular pet in Britain (Fraser & Girling, 2009). Over time, campaigns such as Rabbit Awareness Week have helped to dispel common misconceptions about their husbandry and promote responsible rabbit ownership. This has led to an increase in the number of rabbits being vaccinated, neutered and insured (PDSA, 2014). With an increase in the number of rabbits entering the veterinary surgery, the RVN must be aware of their health and welfare requirements during hospitalisation.

Publication Type

Journal article.

<95>

Accession Number

20153349255

Author

Hewson, C.

Title

End-of-life care: the why and how of animal hospice.

Source

Veterinary Nursing Journal; 2015. 30(10):287-289. 18 ref.

Publisher

Taylor & Francis

Location of Publisher

Abingdon

Country of Publication

UK

Abstract

Palliative care is a relatively recent topic in veterinary medicine. A further development is animal hospice care, which is starting to come to prominence in the UK. Like their counterparts in human medicine, veterinary nurses are exceptionally well-placed to spearhead and deliver palliative and hospice services. Such work fits with the developing status of the profession, not unlike community nursing or Macmillan

cancer nursing in human medicine. This paper introduces the principles of animal hospice care, discusses some current concerns, and outlines the potential roles and contribution of the profession.

Publication Type

Journal article.

<96>

Accession Number

20153440594

Author

Scotney, R. L.; McLaughlin, D.; Keates, H. L.

Title

A systematic review of the effects of euthanasia and occupational stress in personnel working with animals in animal shelters, veterinary clinics, and biomedical research facilities.

Source

Journal of the American Veterinary Medical Association; 2015. 247(10):1121-1130. 45 ref.

Publisher

American Veterinary Medical Association

Location of Publisher

Schaumburg

Country of Publication

USA

Abstract

Background - The study of occupational stress and compassion fatigue in personnel working in animal-related occupations has gained momentum over the last decade. However, there remains incongruence in understanding what is currently termed compassion fatigue and the associated unique contributory factors. Furthermore, there is minimal established evidence of the likely influence of these conditions on the health and well-being of individuals working in various animal-related occupations. Objective - To assess currently available evidence and terminology regarding occupational stress and compassion fatigue in personnel working in animal shelters, veterinary clinics, and biomedical research facilities. Data Sources - Studies were identified by searching the following electronic databases with no publication date restrictions: ProQuest Research Library, ProQuest Social Science Journals, PsycARTICLES, Web of Science, Science Direct, Scopus, PsychINFO databases, and Google Scholar. Search terms included (euthanasia AND animals) OR (compassion fatigue AND animals) OR (occupational stress AND animals). Study Appraisal and Synthesis - Only articles published in English in peer-reviewed journals that included use of quantitative or qualitative

techniques to investigate the incidence of occupational stress or compassion fatigue in the veterinary profession or animal-related occupations were included. On the basis of predefined criteria, 1 author extracted articles, and the data set was then independently reviewed by the other 2 authors. Results - 12 articles met the selection criteria and included a variety of study designs and methods of data analysis. Seven studies evaluated animal shelter personnel, with the remainder evaluating veterinary nurses and technicians (2), biomedical research technicians (1), and personnel in multiple animal-related occupations (2). There was a lack of consistent terminology and agreed definitions for the articles reviewed. Personnel directly engaged in euthanasia reported significantly higher levels of work stress and lower levels of job satisfaction, which may have resulted in higher employee turnover, psychological distress, and other stress-related conditions. Limitations and Conclusions - Results of this review suggested a high incidence of occupational stress and euthanasia-related strain in animal care personnel. The disparity of nomenclature and heterogeneity of research methods may contribute to general misunderstanding and confusion and impede the ability to generate high-quality evidence regarding the unique stressors experienced by personnel working with animals. The present systematic review provided insufficient foundation from which to identify consistent causal factors and outcomes to use as a basis for development of evidence-based stress management programs, and it highlights the need for further research.

Publication Type

Journal article.

<97>

Accession Number

20143130269

Author

Chapman, S. J.

Title

Obesity and the health and welfare of the leisure horse.

Source

The Veterinary Nurse; 2014. 5(2):94-99. 15 ref.

Publisher

MA Healthcare Limited

Location of Publisher

London

Country of Publication

UK

Abstract

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Obesity is defined as an accumulation of excess body fat and is a medical disease in which excess fat has accumulated to such an extent that it has an adverse effect on the general health of the horse. Obesity is recognised as a cause for concern with regards to the health and welfare of companion animals, with one in five horses kept for leisure purposes currently regarded as obese. While obesity is not widely regarded as a welfare issue by the general public, owners have a duty of care to prevent pain and suffering in horses, and evidence suggests that an obese horse is more at risk of developing painful conditions such as laminitis. Recognition of obesity in horses is an inherent problem, with many owners underestimating the body condition and weight of their horse; this being further complicated by the fact that with larger framed horses, or horses that are already overweight, assessing body condition is more difficult. There are a number of ways of assessing body condition, including measuring actual bodyweight, assigning a body condition score and using formulas such as the body mass index. Body condition scoring is regarded as subjective, but is the most practical means by which owners can regularly assess the body condition of their horse. As with many diseases/disorders, the cause of obesity is multifactorial; however, the most common reason for a horse to become obese is overfeeding coupled with a lack of exercise. Obesity can be addressed by client education, and the veterinary nurse can provide advice with regards to weight management programmes. However, these need to be tailored to the individual horse, and owners need to recognise that they are entering into a long-term commitment.

Publication Type

Journal article.

<98>

Accession Number

20143162720

Author

Herron, M. E.; Shreyer, T.

Title

The pet-friendly veterinary practice: a guide for practitioners. (Special Issue: Behavior: a guide for practitioners.)

Source

Veterinary Clinics of North America, Small Animal Practice; 2014. 44(3):451-481.

Publisher

W.B. Saunders

Location of Publisher

Philadelphia

Country of Publication

USA

Abstract

Low-stress handling is important for the safety of the veterinary staff and for the welfare of the patient. The commitment to ensuring the emotional well-being of the patient should be equal to that shown toward the physical well-being of the animals under a veterinarian's care. Before handling animals it is essential to assess the environment and the patient's response to it. Taking the time to create a behavior handling plan makes future visits easier and bonds clients to the practice. Understanding how and when to use handling tools is key to making patient visits safer, more humane, and more efficient.

Publication Type

Journal article.

<99>

Accession Number

20143188657

Author

Aitken, E.

Title

Client education benefits all: patient, client and practice.

Source

Veterinary Nursing Journal; 2014. 29(5):178-180.

Publisher

Wiley-Blackwell

Location of Publisher

Oxford

Country of Publication

UK

Abstract

The education of clients by the veterinary nurse is an important role, which helps to improve animal welfare. From the very simple waiting room displays to the more time-consuming clinics and client evenings, there are methods to suit various situations with associated benefits for the patient, as well as the practice and client. Besides improving welfare, increased client transactions help to improve profit margins and the bond between client and practice. It is recognised that the human-animal bond is very

strong and the education of clients on preventive medicine and disease helps to maintain that bond for as long as possible.

Publication Type

Journal article.

<100>

Accession Number

20143207853

Author

Walsom, C.

Title

Microchips, contact details and the veterinary nurse.

Source

The Veterinary Nurse; 2014. 5(4):180-182.

Publisher

MA Healthcare Limited

Location of Publisher

London

Country of Publication

UK

Publication Type

Journal article.

<101>

Accession Number

20143243378

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Author

Kerrigan, L.

Title

Anticipating grief - the role of pre-euthanasia discussions.

Source

The Veterinary Nurse; 2014. 5(5):236-243. 27 ref.

Publisher

MA Healthcare Limited

Location of Publisher

London

Country of Publication

UK

Abstract

Given the deep emotional relationships that many people share with their pets, discussing euthanasia is stressful for both pet owners and veterinary professionals. Such discussion is however essential, and the manner in which veterinary personnel provide care for a client whose pet is approaching the end of its life has the potential to alleviate or aggravate grief. Where the loss can be anticipated, as is the case with terminally ill pets, discussion prior to the loss of the pet can be extremely helpful in lessening owners' feelings of responsibility, validating their decisions and enabling them to know they did their best for their treasured companion.

Publication Type

Journal article.

<102>

Accession Number

20143239484

Author

Girling, S. J.

Title

Veterinary nursing of exotic pets.

Source

Veterinary nursing of exotic pets; 2013. (Ed.2):viii + 368 pp. many ref.

Publisher

Blackwell Publishing

Location of Publisher

Oxford

Country of Publication

UK

Abstract

Veterinary Nursing of Exotic Pets is the definitive reference book on the principles and practice of nursing exotic species. From rabbits and chinchillas to budgies and iguanas, it not only covers husbandry, nutrition and handling, but provides an overview of diseases and treatments, and explores anatomy and chemical restraint. The redesigned layout and full colour artwork make it quicker and easier to find exactly what you're looking for. New coverage for this revised and enlarged second edition includes: emergency and critical care, radiography, and small marsupials such as sugargliders. In addition to the thorough explanations of appropriate home-care which will enable you to confidently advise clients, the book now also covers the care of hospitalised exotics. Key features: Provides an understanding of the basics of diseases, husbandry, anatomy and physiology of exotic pets as outlined by the RCVS examinations Gives veterinary nurses the confidence to discuss exotic pets with clients by providing a solid knowledge base in these species. This book acts as a companion to the City and Guilds NVQ level 4 equivalent qualification 'Veterinary Nursing of Exotic Species'. Suitable for veterinary nurses, veterinary technicians and veterinary students.

Publication Type

Book.

<103>

Accession Number

20143243591

Author

Hewson, C.

Title

Grief for pets Part 1: Overview and update on the literature.

Source

Veterinary Ireland Journal; 2014. 4(7):380-385. 38 ref.

Publisher

Veterinary Ireland

Location of Publisher

Dublin

Country of Publication

Irish Republic

Publication Type

Journal article.

<104>

Accession Number

20143282106

Author

Garlick, K.; Orpet, H.

Title

Student veterinary surgeon support for and knowledge of veterinary nursing professional regulation in the UK.

Source

The Veterinary Nurse; 2014. 5(6):346-350. 25 ref.

Publisher

MA Healthcare Limited

Location of Publisher

London

Country of Publication

UK

Abstract

Objective: To investigate UK student veterinary surgeons' knowledge of and support for the veterinary nursing profession and how this differs between veterinary institutions. **Methods:** Data were examined from a quantitative questionnaire, sent to the population of final year veterinary students at each of the seven veterinary institutions in the UK. **Results:** An association was found between respondents attending a university offering a veterinary nursing degree and increased support for the veterinary nursing profession

($p=0.016$), this however did not influence respondents knowledge of the veterinary nursing profession. No statistical correlation was found between the university a respondent attended and respondents' knowledge of and support for the veterinary nursing profession. Conclusion: Results demonstrated that final year veterinary students supported the veterinary nursing profession and veterinary student knowledge of the veterinary nursing profession was evenly distributed amongst the student veterinary surgeon population. Veterinary students attending universities which also offered veterinary nursing courses showed increased support for the veterinary nursing profession.

Publication Type

Journal article.

<105>

Accession Number

20143282105

Author

Kerrigan, L.

Title

How to preserve quality of life in the ageing canine: in-home modification and nutritional supplements.

Source

The Veterinary Nurse; 2014. 5(6):338-343. 22 ref.

Publisher

MA Healthcare Limited

Location of Publisher

London

Country of Publication

UK

Abstract

Members of the veterinary practice team are likely to have been involved in conversations about the quality of life (QoL) of a companion animal. Such conversations occur frequently in veterinary practice and may lead to treatment decisions, non-treatment decisions, or even the decision to perform euthanasia. QoL discussions amongst veterinary personnel often centre around a similar goal and understanding of preventing suffering and preserving animal welfare, however when such discussions occur with clients it can be difficult to ascertain whether the client has an equal or similar understanding of the QoL of their pet. The aim of this article is to define QoL and discuss ways in which it may be determined and practically managed in the ageing canine.

Publication Type

Journal article.

<106>

Accession Number

20143282100

Author

Hewson, C.

Title

The impact of pet loss: an update on the research and evidence-based ways to help grieving clients.

Source

The Veterinary Nurse; 2014. 5(6):300-305. 31 ref.

Publisher

MA Healthcare Limited

Location of Publisher

London

Country of Publication

UK

Abstract

Grief on an animal's death is a normal reaction. However, although some support resources are available, including counsellors, helplines and online fora, there is little collective societal understanding of pet owners' grief. In addition to personal and situational factors (e.g. age, coping style, how the animal died) that may shape or complicate clients' grief, it may be compounded by guilt and the incomprehension of those around them. Thus, while most bereaved owners can adapt to life without their animal companion, many suffer unnecessarily in the process. Research continues on the complexities of grief for animals, but we still lack evidence for the most effective approaches to supporting bereaved clients. A pragmatic approach would follow the guidelines on human bereavement, using staff training and client-care resources so that: veterinary personnel did not make assumptions about the needs of grieving clients; and all newly bereaved owners received information about diverse support resources before their animals died or at the time of death. This article outlines some of the more recent research pertinent to pet owners' grief. It also highlights evidence-based approaches to bridging the grief support gap with clients.

Publication Type

Journal article.

<107>

Accession Number

20143277429

Author

Hewson, C.

Title

Grief for pets Part 2: Realistic client care so that you 'do no harm'.

Source

Veterinary Ireland Journal; 2014. 4(8):431-436. 33 ref.

Publisher

Veterinary Ireland

Location of Publisher

Dublin

Country of Publication

Irish Republic

Abstract

Research indicates that many clients think about their animal companions' deaths while the animals are still well, and would like their veterinarians to lead discussions about end-of-life issues. However, most veterinarians are unaware of this. Moreover, they have not been trained in how pet loss affects clients, and how best to communicate with them. Because of this, personnel necessarily depend on their intuition and experience and, lacking the evidence-based communication skills that can assist clients optimally, they can inadvertently make some clients' grief more painful. This article critiques some popular veterinary assumptions about clients' grief in light of current knowledge. It also outlines the practical features of client care during animals' end-of-life phase, emphasising the pre-euthanasia consultation. At a minimum and, in accordance with guidelines to medical personnel, veterinarians should offer every client information about grief and further support resources, when the animal's death is imminent or earlier, if the client desires.

Publication Type

Journal article.

<108>

Accession Number

20143308602

Author

Yeates, J.

Title

The role of the veterinary nurse in animal welfare.

Source

Veterinary Nursing Journal; 2014. 29(7):250-251.

Publisher

Wiley-Blackwell

Location of Publisher

Oxford

Country of Publication

UK

Abstract

Nurses have several roles in the animal welfare movement, and have unique skills, compassion and experience that often make them best placed to drive animal welfare improvements. RVNs have a role in patient care, can act as owners' consciences as 'Welfare Ambassadors', and can also play a role as veterinary surgeons' consciences, in particular in promoting analgesia and good handling. They are also well placed to improve welfare in the local community, volunteering for charities and at community events for animals that might never otherwise get veterinary attention. More than anything, the veterinary nursing profession can speak out about welfare issues in veterinary practice and in wider society.

Publication Type

Journal article.

<109>

Accession Number

20143306579

Author

Kerrigan, L.

Title

Caring for ageing cats: management and handling tips to offer owners.

Source

VN Times; 2014. 14(9):6-7. 10 ref.

Publisher

Veterinary Business Development Ltd

Location of Publisher

Peterborough

Country of Publication

UK

Abstract

Ageing cats have a different set of needs and challenges than when they were younger; however, this is not always acknowledged or understood by owners. This may, in part, be due to the insidious nature of many age-related feline conditions, along with the fact cats are masters at disguising signs of discomfort by making changes to their lifestyle, activity level and behaviour VNs play a vital role, therefore, in educating owners regarding clinical signs to look out for, along with in-home modifications that may make the ageing cat's everyday life a little more comfortable.

Publication Type

Journal article.

<110>

Accession Number

20143348772

Author

Hewson, C.

Title

Grief for pets - Part 1: Overview and some false assumptions.

Source

Veterinary Nursing Journal; 2014. 29(9):302-305.

Publisher

Wiley-Blackwell

Location of Publisher

Oxford

Country of Publication

UK

Abstract

Dealing with clients' distress, especially at euthanasia, is a significant stressor for many veterinary nurses. However, few have had formal training in how pet loss affects clients, and how best to communicate with grieving clients. Moreover, many veterinary practices do not take a comprehensive approach to client care during animals' end-of-life phase. This article provides an overview of grief for pets and critiques some popular assumptions. A second article will outline practical ways to support clients.

Publication Type

Journal article.

<111>

Accession Number

20143355859

Author

Cherry, H.

Title

Assessing pain and emotional well being in feline patients with chronic kidney disease.

Source

The Veterinary Nurse; 2014. 5(7):392, 394-396. 29 ref.

Publisher

MA Healthcare Limited

Location of Publisher

London

Country of Publication

UK

Abstract

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Pain is both a sensory and emotional experience and can be measured with the use of pain scoring charts. Pain scoring is seen as a valuable tool especially as an aid to post-operative nursing care. Currently pain scoring systems are designed for assessing acute post-operative pain and have been validated for use in dogs. However they can be useful in assessing pain experienced in cats suffering from diseases such as chronic kidney disease, and can assist the nursing care provided to patients hospitalised for treatment of the disease. Patient care could be improved if a more holistic approach to nursing was adopted which encouraged veterinary nurses to not only consider the physical aspects of pain but also the emotional side.

Publication Type

Journal article.

<112>

Accession Number

20143385665

Author

Hargrave, C.

Title

How to reduce the impact of firework season for owners of sound sensitive pets.

Source

The Veterinary Nurse; 2014. 5(8):468-472. 12 ref.

Publisher

MA Healthcare Limited

Location of Publisher

London

Country of Publication

UK

Abstract

Studies estimate that 49% of the canine population are affected by sound sensitivity, with fireworks and thunderstorms being particularly problematic. It is reasonable to assume that a large proportion of pet species will be similarly affected, particularly those from prey species (including cats, horses and rabbits) for whom sensitivity to changes in sound is highly adaptive. As a consequence, firework displays and thunder storms are a major welfare problem for the majority of companion animals. Yet the seasonal nature of the problem leads many owners to overlook the enormity of the issue and its potential to infiltrate into other aspects of their pet's life. This article aims to assist veterinary staff in providing practical guidance to all pet

owners, ensuring that fewer pets are sensitised in the future, and that the welfare of pets with existing sound sensitivity is not further depleted.

Publication Type

Journal article.

<113>

Accession Number

20133038211

Author

Murphy, D.

Title

Antibiotic resistance in veterinary medicine.

Source

Veterinary Nursing Journal; 2012. 27(11):422-423.

Publisher

Wiley-Blackwell

Location of Publisher

Oxford

Country of Publication

UK

Abstract

Antibiotics are essential medicines in the veterinary practice to help preserve the health and welfare of our animals. However, antibiotic resistance is an important topic of discussion for both the medical and veterinary professions. It is something we clearly all need to take seriously - and veterinary nurses need to be aware of the facts, to help them guide clients on responsible antibiotic use, once the vet has prescribed antibiotics for the treatment of a condition. You might need to explain why an antibiotic has not been prescribed, for example, or to impress upon a client the importance of finishing the prescribed course.

Publication Type

Journal article.

<114>

Accession Number

20133038206

Author

Bolster, C.

Title

Fireworks are no fun for pets.

Source

Veterinary Nursing Journal; 2012. 27(10):387-390. 6 ref.

Publisher

Wiley-Blackwell

Location of Publisher

Oxford

Country of Publication

UK

Abstract

Fear of fireworks in pets is very common and can impact on the animals' welfare, as well as leading to more severe problems. Management in itself is not adequate and drugs do not cure the problem. Changing the fear response can be successful, but needs to be done carefully and gradually, using desensitisation and counter-conditioning. Veterinary staff are in a good position to help prevent fear of fireworks developing in the first place, by discussing habituation from an early age. Although most pets are unlikely ever to enjoy fireworks, owners should do their best to make it tolerable for them.

Publication Type

Journal article.

<115>

Accession Number

20133038178

Author

Hargrave, C.

Title

Behavioural first-aid advice on canine house-soiling problems - Part 2.

Source

Veterinary Nursing Journal; 2012. 27(5):198-200.

Publisher

Wiley-Blackwell

Location of Publisher

Oxford

Country of Publication

UK

Abstract

In this, the second of two articles giving first aid advice to enable nursing staff to help the owner of the house-soiling dog, we consider initial advice for owners of dogs whose house-soiling activity may be associated with anxiety or fear. The welfare of such dogs is a particular concern, as any frustration or anger that owners display on returning home to a mess will further enhance the dog's distress and may exacerbate the problem. Although such problems will need the intervention of a behaviourist who can assist the family in modifying their pet's environment and its behaviour, first aid advice is essential in helping owners to understand what should be done immediately, why they should remain calm and why specialist help is necessary.

Publication Type

Journal article.

<116>

Accession Number

20133038155

Author

Martin, N.

Title

The state of UK pet rabbit welfare - what we can do about it.

Source

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Veterinary Nursing Journal; 2012. 27(2):66-68.

Publisher

Wiley-Blackwell

Location of Publisher

Oxford

Country of Publication

UK

Abstract

Around 1.7 million rabbits are kept as pets across the UK and, unfortunately, the majority are not living the healthy and happy lives they deserve. For the first time, the PDSA Animal Well-being (PAW) report* reveals the true picture of rabbit care in the UK today, and highlights areas where improvements are needed. Veterinary nurses play a vital role in educating current and potential owners about what rabbits need, and this article offers practical suggestions to help veterinary practices focus their attention onto rabbit well-being.

Publication Type

Journal article.

<117>

Accession Number

20133008846

Author

Valentine, A.

Title

Knowing and nursing lizards.

Source

The Veterinary Nurse; 2012/2013. 3(10):616-621. 5 ref.

Publisher

MA Healthcare Limited

Location of Publisher

London

Country of Publication

UK

Abstract

Lizards are a commonly encountered reptile species in first opinion practice. They are relatively low maintenance pets, making them desirable for households with children or for those that work long hours. Many presenting ailments in lizards originate from poor husbandry and potentially have considerable welfare implications linked to the case. This is often caused by the vast amount of contradictory information available on the internet, perplexing inexperienced owners. Veterinary professionals can educate and try to prevent further complications. In order to successfully treat, hospitalize and care for reptilian patients, veterinary patients need to be fully equipped, knowledgeable and patient. The latter is of high importance because unlike mammalian patients, reptiles have a low metabolic rate, slowing the response to medications and treatment. Owners should be made aware of this, especially if a treatment course is expected to continue for weeks. This article aims to give an overview of how to nurse lizards in a hospital setting and to prompt more thorough, detailed histories to be taken.

Publication Type

Journal article.

<118>

Accession Number

20133085529

Author

Tudor, N.

Title

Law, ethics and professional practice - Part 1: euthanasia of healthy, but aggressive, dogs.

Source

Veterinary Nursing Journal; 2013. 28(2):58-59. 8 ref.

Publisher

Wiley-Blackwell

Location of Publisher

Oxford

Country of Publication

UK

Abstract

The Dangerous Dogs Act 1991 is in place to protect the public from aggressive dogs. Many dogs are euthanased as a result of vicious attacks on animals and people, especially children. The first article in this three-part series will focus on why dogs bite and the consequences of aggressive tendencies - for the dog, dog owner, veterinary surgeon and the veterinary nurse. The veterinary nurse has a duty of care ethically and professionally, but not every case is 'black and white'. So what would you do if you disagreed with the decision to euthanase a healthy, but potentially aggressive, dog?

Publication Type

Journal article.

<119>

Accession Number

20133083063

Author

Crump, L.

Title

Ethical dilemmas: who can decide when euthanasia is justified?

Source

The Veterinary Nurse; 2013. 4(1):4...11. 19 ref.

Publisher

MA Healthcare Limited

Location of Publisher

London

Country of Publication

UK

Abstract

The aim of this article is to examine the ethical dilemma of euthanasia, considering the views of the veterinary nurse, the owner and the animal. The article will include criminal and civil consequences and will explain basic ethical theories with the aim of answering the question of who can decide when euthanasia should be carried out.

Publication Type

Journal article.

<120>

Accession Number

20133147977

Author

Greenfield, S.

Title

How to recognise fear in canine inpatients.

Source

The Veterinary Nurse; 2013. 4(3):150...155. 19 ref.

Publisher

MA Healthcare Limited

Location of Publisher

London

Country of Publication

UK

Abstract

The veterinary environment has been seen to cause a fear-based reaction in a large number of patients. Fear of the veterinary practice or environment can lead to occurrences of aggression, injury and impede on the welfare of patients. The ability to recognise the warning signals and the indicators of fear will equip veterinary staff with the knowledge to recognise when a patient is experiencing a fear response. Steps can then be taken to turn the veterinary environment from negative to positive and improve the welfare of all patients as well as make the experience safer for all involved.

Publication Type

Journal article.

<121>

Accession Number

20133147974

Author

Dale, V. H. M.; Orpet, H.; Davis, R. C.

Title

The veterinary nurse and teamworking.

Source

The Veterinary Nurse; 2013. 4(3):132...136. 10 ref.

Publisher

MA Healthcare Limited

Location of Publisher

London

Country of Publication

UK

Publication Type

Journal article.

<122>

Accession Number

20133192088

Author

Mann, A.

Title

Ethics and the RVN - why should we be concerned?

Source

The Veterinary Nurse; 2013. 4(4):198...201. 17 ref.

Publisher

MA Healthcare Limited

Location of Publisher

London

Country of Publication

UK

Abstract

Throughout their career veterinary nurses (VNs) may experience ethical dilemmas. These can range from something minor, such as not placing cats and dogs in the same ward, to a dilemma such as knowing that a veterinary surgeon (VS) in the practice is illegally docking tails. This may become more commonplace for VNs with the accountability they now face within their job roles as a result of the VN register. This article focuses on a potential scenario that could arise - the administration of a prescription only medicine (POM) by a registered VN in an emergency situation to provide analgesia. This is an illegal act and breaks the Code of Professional Conduct (2012) set out by the Royal College of Veterinary Surgeons (RCVS) but the ethical dilemma arises as a VN may see that the right thing to do is making sure the patient is not suffering.

Publication Type

Journal article.

<123>

Accession Number

20133259807

Author

Webb, J.; Welsh, P.; Whiting, M.

Title

A case-based approach to professional and legal issues.

Source

The Veterinary Nurse; 2013. 4(6):358-362. 22 ref.

Publisher

MA Healthcare Limited

Location of Publisher

London

Country of Publication

UK

Abstract

This article contemplates the professional and legal implications of a registered veterinary nurse's actions in practice through reflection on a fictitious scenario stemming from a potentially difficult situation. The

aim is to utilize this analysis to make recommendations for future practice and provide evidence to support the development of the profession. The case sample is that of a Bernese mountain dog diagnosed with an osteosarcoma in the right forelimb and subjected to amputation of the incorrect limb due to incorrect documentation by the registered veterinary nurse, which ultimately led to euthanasia of the animal. The role of the registered veterinary nurse, professional issues (code of professional conduct and communication), legal issues (criminal law, civil law, breach of contract and negligence) and professional conduct are discussed.

Publication Type

Journal article.

<124>

Accession Number

20133259804

Author

Hargrave, C.

Title

An introduction to developmental problems in puppy hood.

Source

The Veterinary Nurse; 2013. 4(6):334-345. 48 ref.

Publisher

MA Healthcare Limited

Location of Publisher

London

Country of Publication

UK

Abstract

Many veterinary staff wondered why the Companion Animal Welfare Council, that conducted independent studies into the welfare, care and treatment of companion animals, concluded that the minimum standard of accredited qualification for professionals instructing a puppy class should be at level 4 to 5, i.e. equivalent to a foundation degree or early years of undergraduate level study. It is intended that this article will go some way towards explaining the complexity and variety of problems that can be faced by the young puppy and why it is essential for veterinary staff in charge of this part of a dog's emotional and behavioural development to be able to recognise problems and give appropriate advice to owners. To fail to intervene appropriately in this essential aspect of preventative behavioural medicine can lead to

permanent and irreversible behavioural problems. In turn such problems may lead to abuse, relinquishment or euthanasia of the dog and to potential injury to owners. Put simply, there is more to preparing puppies for life than opportunities to play together and it is particularly inappropriate to encourage a party atmosphere of excessive emotional arousal.

Publication Type

Journal article.

<125>

Accession Number

20133268616

Author

Macdonald, J.

Title

Welfare and ethics part two: values, beliefs, communication.

Source

VN Times; 2013. 13(8):16, 18. 13 ref.

Publisher

Veterinary Business Development Ltd

Location of Publisher

Peterborough

Country of Publication

UK

Abstract

The topic of animal welfare and ethics is both vast and complex, encompassing and underpinning many different aspects of veterinary care. Veterinary professionals deal with a multitude of welfare and ethical situations on a daily basis, and many considerations need to be addressed in order to reach decisions and advise clients. A variety of influential factors are to be examined and that can be of assistance in thinking through a problem or dilemma that has a welfare and ethics aspect, and use a scenario as a base to explore some areas for reasoning a difficult case, and how this exploration may assist us in the decision-making process and in approaching difficult conversations with our clients. The purpose of this article is not to offer definitive solutions, but to suggest areas for deliberation when we are faced with difficult ethical situations. In part one (VN Times 13.07; July) we outlined some considerations for the presented case, and looked at assessment of welfare and quality of life. In this part of the article we shall look at values and beliefs, human welfare factors and communication.

Publication Type

Journal article.

<126>

Accession Number

20133345538

Author

Boland, Z.

Title

The role of the community vet nurse.

Source

In Practice; 2013. 35(8):479-481. 3 ref.

Publisher

BMJ Publishing Group

Location of Publisher

London

Country of Publication

UK

Abstract

The role of community vet nurses is well established in human health care, but less so in the veterinary field. This article brings together information from a number of charities, animal welfare organisations, the British Veterinary Nursing Association and private vet practices to gauge the breadth and depth of community veterinary nursing across the UK. Zara Boland describes the current role of community vet nurses, as well as their future potential and the rewards for practices that are willing to embrace the concept.

Publication Type

Journal article.

<127>

Accession Number

20133374232

Author

Lee, J.; Welsh, P.; Whiting, M.

Title

Professional and legal issues: surgical misadventure.

Source

The Veterinary Nurse; 2013. 4(8):504-507. 24 ref.

Publisher

MA Healthcare Limited

Location of Publisher

London

Country of Publication

UK

Publication Type

Journal article.

<128>

Accession Number

20133374231

Author

Greenfield, S.

Title

How to reduce stress in the veterinary waiting room.

Source

The Veterinary Nurse; 2013. 4(8):494...501. 41 ref.

Publisher

MA Healthcare Limited

Location of Publisher

London

Country of Publication

UK

Abstract

The veterinary environment has been seen to be a stressful environment for patients. This stress can have a negative impact on the welfare of inpatients and result in dangerous interactions between owners/staff and patients. The waiting room is the first exposure a patient has to the veterinary environment. By taking measures to ensure the environment is as stress free as possible the likelihood of patient stress can be reduced. This article highlights measures that can be taken to reduce stress within the waiting room. These range from building layout to pheromone therapy. By utilising as many of the highlighted options as possible stress within the waiting room may be reduced. This will have a positive effect on the consultation and subsequent visits to the practice.

Publication Type

Journal article.

<129>

Accession Number

20123053996

Author

Branscombe, L.

Title

Keeping it legal: delegation to veterinary nurses.

Source

In Practice; 2012. 34(1):52-53.

Publisher

BMJ Publishing Group

Location of Publisher

London

Country of Publication

UK

Abstract

Last year marked the 50th anniversary of veterinary nursing and, with non-statutory regulation of the profession being sought by the majority of its members, it is timely to consider the veterinary nurse's role. In this article, Liz Branscombe explains the procedures that can legally be delegated to veterinary nurses within the veterinary practice, as covered by Schedule 3 of the Veterinary Surgeons Act 1966.

Publication Type

Journal article.

<130>

Accession Number

20123053447

Author

Renwick, C.

Title

PETS update - what veterinary staff and clients need to know.

Source

VN Times; 2012. 12(2):8, 10. 8 ref.

Publisher

Veterinary Business Development Ltd

Location of Publisher

Peterborough

Country of Publication

UK

Abstract

THE Pet Travel Scheme (PETS) was introduced in 2000 and allows for the movement of non-commercial animals into EU and selected (listed) non-EU countries, providing they meet the scheme's requirements. Up to December 2010, some 75,000 cats, dogs and ferrets entered the UK through PETS and the regulations have kept the UK free from rabies and the tapeworm *Echinococcus multilocularis*. On January 1, 2012, PETS changed to harmonise the UK's regulations with the rest of the EU. Veterinary staff, particularly veterinary surgeons and veterinary nurses, have a vital role to play in informing the public of the requirements of the new regulations.

Publication Type

Journal article.

<131>

Accession Number

20123115064

Author

Albin, K.

Title

Administering chemotherapy: is it safe for pregnant or breast-feeding veterinary technicians?

Source

Veterinary Technician; 2010. 31(10):unpaginated. 10 ref.

Publisher

Veterinary Learning Systems Inc.

Location of Publisher

Yardley

Country of Publication

USA

Abstract

This article discusses the risk factors, risk assessment and biohazard exposure of pregnant and breast-feeding veterinary technicians handling and administering chemotherapeutic drugs. The guidelines, precautions and regulations in safety handling and prevention of cytotoxic exposure of employees in the workplace are highlighted.

Publication Type

Journal article.

<132>

Accession Number

20123111272

Author

Shaw, N.

Title

When is a pet not a pet? Rethinking the ethics of animal terminology.

Source

The Veterinary Nurse; 2012. 3(2):64...69. 21 ref.

Publisher

MA Healthcare Limited

Location of Publisher

London

Country of Publication

UK

Abstract

Current academic debate is exploring the idea that words, similes and metaphors that relate to non-human animals may reinforce cultural and societal notions of inequality between humans and other animals. Historically, three major philosophical traditions have biased humans over animals and have reflected and reinforced an agenda of human superiority. As language is used to construct and convey meaning, it has been proposed by some that the word 'pet' should be replaced with the term 'companion animal' to reflect a more egalitarian relationship between the animal and the human caregiver. Such discussions around the use of animal-related language could entail re-evaluating the general status of animals in society and how veterinary nurses respond to the emergence of the notion of animal personhood, both in professional practice and in their wider lives.

Publication Type

Journal article.

<133>

Accession Number

20123153288

Author

Lines, L.

Title

How to manage the veterinary dispensary.

Source

The Veterinary Nurse; 2012. 3(3):182-187. 11 ref.

Publisher

MA Healthcare Limited

Location of Publisher

London

Country of Publication

UK

Abstract

This article provides readers with guidance on the setting up and running of a veterinary dispensary. Following guidance and requirements from relevant bodies (such as the Veterinary Medicines Directorate (VIVID), British Small Animal Veterinary Association (BSAVA) and Royal College of Veterinary Surgeons (RCVS)), readers will be taken through some of the required and recommended policies and regulations associated with the management of a veterinary dispensary. It is important for the veterinary nurse to be aware of current requirements for veterinary prescriptions, prescribing cascade, suitably qualified person, waste guidelines and the understanding of stock control which has been included in this article.

Publication Type

Journal article.

<134>

Accession Number

20123320931

Author

Whiting, M.

Title

Legal and ethical considerations when undertaking veterinary nurse research.

Source

The Veterinary Nurse; 2012. 3(7):394...400. 24 ref.

Publisher

MA Healthcare Limited

Location of Publisher

London

Country of Publication

UK

Abstract

Establishing a unique body of knowledge to define veterinary nursing as a profession is a key role of nursing research, but how that research is undertaken in terms of professionalism, ethics, welfare and law will help shape nurses' professional identity. Consideration and protection of those individuals who are the subjects of research is the fundamental part of research ethics. Although certain regulations and processes seem burdensome they need to be in place to protect the animal client and the nursing profession as a whole. Research involving recognized acts of veterinary nursing will always prioritize animal welfare but there are many other aspects to consider too. Most importantly to research ethics is open discussion there is potential room for further guidance from regulators and the formation of a centralized ethical review committee for general practice.

Publication Type

Journal article.

<135>

Accession Number

20123326373

Author

Docherty, S.

Title

Riding into recession: equine rescue and the credit crunch.

Source

VN Times; 2012. 12(9):26-27. 5 ref.

Publisher

Veterinary Business Development Ltd

Location of Publisher

Peterborough

Country of Publication

UK

Abstract

This article looks into the problems faced by rescue and rehabilitation centres for equids across the UK. At present, it is extremely relevant to the welfare of horses, because many owners may be struggling financially. In particular, the World Horse Welfare charity has four rescue and rehabilitation centres around the UK. It has been contacted by the author and information regarding specific numbers and issues have been noted in this article. With a 22.76 per cent increase in horse cases in just one year, it is thought the predicted increase will stretch the centres close to full capacity. This is not just an issue for the owners who have to rehome their horses, but for the staff involved - grooms, welfare officers and, most definitely, veterinarians - who are being loaded with increasing numbers of welfare cases. It is thought a way to aid this problem could come from the public-horse owners in a suitable and able situation might take on abandoned or rehomed horses as field companions or simply for the short term until rescue centres are better able to help and spend the time and effort that is needed to rehabilitate the horses.

Publication Type

Journal article.

<136>

Accession Number

20123361016

Author

Canning, E.

Title

The ethical, legal and professional implications of the frequency of inpatient checks during out of hours hospitalization.

Source

The Veterinary Nurse; 2012. 3(8):517-520. 18 ref.

Publisher

MA Healthcare Limited

Location of Publisher

London

Country of Publication

UK

Abstract

This article discusses the ethical, legal and professional implications on the precision of animal care and frequency of in-patient clients during out of hours hospitalization. The role of veterinary nurses in providing veterinary care, importance of workable treatment plan, appropriate frequency of checks to in-patients and effective communication to clients about the proposed care their pets will receive during out of hours hospitalization to avoid ethical, legal and professional issues are highlighted.

Publication Type

Journal article.

<137>

Accession Number

20113130547

Author

Jeffery, A.

Title

Veterinary nursing in the UK: the move towards statutory regulation.

Source

The Veterinary Nurse; 2010. 1(1):65-68. 5 ref.

Publisher

MA Healthcare Limited, Quay Books Division

Location of Publisher

London

Country of Publication

UK

Abstract

This article examines the developments leading to the current status of veterinary nurses in the UK and discusses the implementation of a non-statutory register of veterinary nurses instead of a full statutory regulation.

Publication Type

Journal article.

<138>

Accession Number

20113130534

Author

Torgersen, A. E.

Title

Veterinary nursing in Norway.

Source

The Veterinary Nurse; 2010. 1(2):123-126. 16 ref.

Publisher

MA Healthcare Limited, Quay Books Division

Location of Publisher

London

Country of Publication

UK

Abstract

This article aims to give an account of the developments that have occurred in Norway regarding the veterinary nursing profession, the legislation for authorization of the profession, the education and the future challenges being met for the continuing education of veterinary nurses in Norway.

Publication Type

Journal article.

<139>

Accession Number

20113130529

Author

Abbitt, G.

Title

Legal, ethical and professional issues for veterinary nurses.

Source

The Veterinary Nurse; 2010/2011. 1(3):186-188. 16 ref.

Publisher

MA Healthcare Limited, Quay Books Division

Location of Publisher

London

Country of Publication

UK

Abstract

This article takes a case-based approach to a scenario that occurred in a veterinary practice. The actions of the veterinary nurse are looked at from a legal, professional and ethical perspective, with recommendations for practice suggested.

Publication Type

Journal article.

<140>

Accession Number

20113203147

Author

Black, A. F.; Winefield, H. R.; Chur-Hansen, A.

Title

Occupational stress in veterinary nurses: roles of the work environment and own companion animal.

Source

Anthrozoos; 2011. 24(2):191-202. 32 ref.

Publisher

Berg Publisher

Location of Publisher

Oxford

Country of Publication

UK

Abstract

Veterinary nursing has been identified as an occupation at risk for occupational stress and burnout, but a better understanding of job stressors and influencing factors is needed. The aim of this study was to examine occupational stress in a veterinary nursing population based on established work stress theories. This study sought to determine which environmental aspects of the work situation may be detrimental to well-being and which factors may operate to reduce job stress. A sample of South Australian veterinary nurses (n=127) completed a postal questionnaire about their work environment (job demands and control, work social supports) and their psychological distress, work burnout, and job satisfaction, with a response rate of 76.5%. The potential influence of attachment to participants' own companion animals was investigated using the Owner Pet Relationship Scale. Hierarchical regressions then explored the contribution to psychological outcomes, of social support at work and attachment to own companion animal, after controlling for work load, exposure to euthanasia, contact with clients, work demands, and work control. While social support at work ameliorated occupational stress, attachment to companion animal was linked to decreased job satisfaction. Supportive interpersonal relations in the workplace have a key role in veterinary nurses' job satisfaction. Management skill training may have a role in the development of more satisfying workplaces for the veterinary nursing sector, which may have implications for the undergraduate and post-registration training of veterinary practice managers.

Publication Type

Journal article.

<141>

Accession Number

20113241762

Author

Lock, K.

Title

Reflections on designing and implementing a nursing care plan.

Source

The Veterinary Nurse; 2011. 2(5):272-277. 27 ref.

Publisher

MA Healthcare Limited, Quay Books Division

Location of Publisher

London

Country of Publication

UK

Abstract

This article reflects on the author's own experiences of creating and implementing a nursing care plan in practice. The concept of nursing theory, the nursing process and nursing models are looked at and the importance of these concepts to the development of veterinary nursing as a profession is examined. Care plans have the potential to improve the care provided to patients by encouraging veterinary nurses to look at the patient as a whole and therefore move away from the medical model. To improve the chances of successful implementation, team involvement and thorough training is strongly recommended.

Publication Type

Journal article.

<142>

Accession Number

20113292123

Author

Scarlett, F.

Title

Small animal anaesthesia and the role of the nurse: Part One.

Source

VN Times; 2011. 11(9):18...22. 6 ref.

Publisher

Veterinary Business Development Ltd

Location of Publisher

Peterborough

Country of Publication

UK

Publication Type

Journal article.

<143>

Accession Number

20113322524

Author

Wager, C.

Title

Informed consent: what do veterinary nurses need to know?

Source

The Veterinary Nurse; 2011. 2(7):344-349. 18 ref.

Publisher

MA Healthcare Limited, Quay Books Division

Location of Publisher

London

Country of Publication

UK

Abstract

Whether consent is informed or not has numerous implications for the veterinary team. A signed consent form is not sufficient to establish informed consent. Consent to treatment of an animal by the owner can constitute a contract between the client and the veterinary practice; that the consent is informed is a legal requirement of ensuring any such contract is valid. In order to be sufficiently informed, the likely outcome and any possible risks of the proposed treatment must be clearly explained. Communication skills are vital in conveying this information to clients. While it is the veterinary surgeon's professional responsibility to obtain consent, veterinary nurses still have a key role to play in the process.

Publication Type

Journal article.

<144>

Accession Number

20113340960

Author

Prebble, J.

Title

Chinchilla husbandry: an overview of correct care.

Source

The Veterinary Nurse; 2011. 2(8):452-458. 12 ref.

Publisher

MA Healthcare Limited, Quay Books Division

Location of Publisher

London

Country of Publication

UK

Abstract

Chinchillas are increasingly being kept as pets in the UK and are occasionally being seen in veterinary practices. They are small, long-lived rodents that are generally most active during the night. They have soft dense fur which may become detached if handled roughly. They are social animals and benefit from being kept in pairs or small groups. Chinchillas require large multi-level cages as they are active animals and like to jump. Diet should consist of hay, chinchilla nuggets and occasional high fibre treats. Many of the conditions encountered in veterinary practice are as a result of inadequate husbandry or diet; dental disease, digestive disorders, diabetes mellitus and heatstroke may all be seen. Their active nature means chinchillas are also prone to traumatic injury. Veterinary nurses can play an important role in educating owners (and prospective owners) about the needs of their pets.

Publication Type

Journal article.

<145>

Accession Number

20093343327

Author

Dwiggins, J.

Title

Feline inappropriate elimination: how to get owners to treat, not euthanize.

Source

Veterinary Technician; 2009. 30(9):28...34. 9 ref.

Publisher

Veterinary Learning Systems Inc.

Location of Publisher

Yardley

Country of Publication

USA

Abstract

This article is presented to help veterinary technicians and technologists educate cat owners about inappropriate elimination (Feline Inappropriate Elimination) and how it can be successfully treated.

Publication Type

Journal article.

<146>

Accession Number

20103008901

Author

Echols, M. S.; Fisher, P.; Fordham, M.; Tibbetts, L.; Topor, S.

Title

The role of the avian/exotic animal technician.

Source

Journal of Avian Medicine and Surgery; 2009. 23(1):64-68.

Publisher

Association of Avian Veterinarians

Location of Publisher

Bedford

Country of Publication

UK

Publication Type

Journal article.

<147>

Accession Number

20103073285

Author

Cousquer, G.

Title

Rabbit welfare assessment.

Source

VN Times; 2010. 10(3):14-15.

Publisher

Veterinary Business Development Ltd

Location of Publisher

Peterborough

Country of Publication

UK

Abstract

In this article, the author looks at the significant role of veterinary nurses in improving pet rabbit welfare.

Publication Type

Journal article.

<148>

Accession Number

20103179241

Author

Sharp, S.; Voglewede, C.

Title

Euthanasia - practical techniques to deal with owner and staff grief.

Source

Veterinary technician. Proceedings of the North American Veterinary Conference, Orlando, Florida, USA, 16-20 January 2010; 2010. :161-164. 2 ref.

Publisher

The North American Veterinary Conference

Location of Publisher

Gainesville

Country of Publication

USA

Publication Type

Conference paper.

<149>

Accession Number

20093038595

Author

Bloor, C.

Title

Role of VNs within dentistry: following the rules of the law.

Source

VN Times; 2009. 9(1):6-8.

Publisher

Veterinary Business Development Ltd

Location of Publisher

Peterborough

Country of Publication

UK

Publication Type

Journal article.

<150>

Accession Number

20093018131

Author

Meredith, A. L.

Title

Wildlife triage for the veterinary nurse.

Source

33rd World Small Animal Veterinary Association Congress, Dublin, Ireland, 20-24 August 2008; 2008. :687-689. 5 ref.

Publisher

Australian Small Animal Veterinary Association

Location of Publisher

Bondi

Country of Publication

Australia

Publication Type

Book chapter

Conference paper.

<151>

Accession Number

20093189445

Author

Roberts, L.

Title

Nursing care of the oncology patient.

Source

VNT CPD; 2009. 3(4):1-4. 8 ref.

Publisher

Veterinary Business Development Ltd

Location of Publisher

Peterborough

Country of Publication

UK

Abstract

This article discusses the important role of veterinary nurses in providing nursing care for oncologic cats and dogs, and supporting pet owners through this difficult situations. The article also highlights the safety aspects of using cytotoxic drugs, and the comfort and nutritional management of the cancer patient.

Publication Type

Journal article.

<152>

Accession Number

20093137270

Author

Moore, I.

Title

Dealing with the special end-of-life needs of oncology patients.

Source

Conference Proceedings, Ontario Veterinary Medical Association (OVMA), Westin Harbour Castle, Toronto, Ontario, Canada, 29-31 January, 2009; 2009. :unpaginated. 10 ref.

Publisher

Ontario Veterinary Medical Association (OVMA)

Location of Publisher

Milton

Country of Publication

Canada

Publication Type

Conference paper.

<153>

Accession Number

20093286627

Author

McMahon, L.

Title

Blood donation, collection and storage.

Source

VNT CPD; 2008. 2(1):1-4.

Publisher

Veterinary Business Development Ltd

Location of Publisher

Peterborough

Country of Publication

UK

Abstract

Due to recent changes in legislation allowing the licensing of blood banks for supply of animal blood and its products, and the ever growing use of blood transfusions in dogs and cats, it is imperative that veterinary nurses understand the process of collecting blood, storing blood, giving a transfusion and the

associated legal requirements. In this article, the author describes the technique for obtaining a unit of blood from a cat or dog and discusses blood product processing and storage.

Publication Type

Bulletin article.

<154>

Accession Number

20083225365

Author

Hancock, G.; Schubert, C.

Title

The utilisation of veterinary nurses in practice.

Source

European Journal of Companion Animal Practice; 2008. 17(2):191-196. 5 ref.

Publisher

Federation of European Companion Animal Veterinary Associations (FECAVA)

Location of Publisher

Paris

Country of Publication

France

Abstract

The utilisation of veterinary nurses and other support staff in veterinary practices in the USA and EU is far less developed and uniform than the use of nurses in the human medical profession. Many benefits may accrue to the practice owner as well as the patients and hospital employees as utilisation of staff, especially nurses, improves. This article describes examples of utilisation from other professions and data collected by the USA National Commission on Veterinary Economic Issues. The author advocates licensing and greater uniformity of licenses for veterinary nurses, and much greater delegation of tasks to veterinary nurses and hospital staff members.

Publication Type

Journal article.

<155>

Accession Number

20083117053

Author

Malmierca, E.

Title

How to deal with clients when their pets die. [Spanish]

Source

Ateuves; 2007. 2(12):10-14, 16-18.

Publisher

ASIS Veterinaria s.l.

Location of Publisher

Zaragoza

Country of Publication

Spain

Abstract

Veterinarians need to show understanding and provide more personal treatment during visits where clients' pets are put down. Reasons for putting down animals include loss of quality of life due to old age, terminal illnesses, or non-treatable behavioural problems. Vets can and should assess, explain and help, but never make the decision regarding animal euthanasia. Sometimes pet owners may decide to prolong animals' lives for selfish reasons, in which case the vet may need to help owners reach a different decision. Grief is a psychological trauma which should heal with time. There are four stages in the grieving process: denial, aggressiveness, depression and acceptance. The duration and intensity of grieving is influenced by factors such as the type of death, the quality of the relationship between pet and owner, and the owner's age. In the period leading up to euthanasia, veterinary nurses should attend to the comfort and wellbeing of both pets and owners, and help allay owners' fears. After the process is completed, the corpse should be covered with a blanket and removed to another place. Owners should be offered somewhere tranquil where they can collect their thoughts. In many cases losing a pet is like losing a family member, so treating the corpse as an object is not appropriate. It is normal for pet corpses to be dealt with by municipal services. Sometimes corpses need to be stored until there are enough to cover disposal costs. Technically there is no difference between incineration and cremation, but the International Cremation Federation has established that the correct term for humans is cremation. Animal incinerators have followed this trend by establishing pet crematoria. Recently formed companies have trained their staff to deal with the psychology of human grieving. There are few pet cemeteries in Spain, but vets should be able to provide information about these if necessary. After the death of an animal, the veterinarian should keep in contact with the owner. It is also important to ensure that records are updated so that, for example, vaccination notices are not sent out for deceased pets.

Publication Type

Journal article.

<156>

Accession Number

20073038397

Author

Morgan, C. A.; McDonald, M.

Title

Ethical dilemmas in veterinary medicine. (Effective Communication in Veterinary Practice.)

Source

Veterinary Clinics of North America, Small Animal Practice; 2007. 37(1):165-179. 54 ref.

Publisher

W.B. Saunders

Location of Publisher

Philadelphia

Country of Publication

USA

Abstract

This article focuses on ethical questions surrounding the treatment of veterinary patients and ways of communicating these to clients. Employing communication skills used in medical situations to explore the reasons underpinning ethical dilemmas and to search for solutions with clients, staff and colleagues is also emphasized. The sources of ethical tension in veterinary medicine (differences in valuing animals, responsibilities to animals, interests of animals and veterinarian's role), strategies to avoid or manage ethical tensions and creating moral boundaries are discussed.

Publication Type

Journal article.

<157>

Accession Number

20073078240

Author

Luescher, A. U.; Flannigan, G.; Frank, D.; Mertens, P.

Title

The role and responsibilities of behavior technicians in behavioral treatment and therapy.

Source

Journal of Veterinary Behavior: Clinical Applications and Research; 2007. 2(1):23-25. 1 ref.

Publisher

Elsevier

Location of Publisher

Oxford

Country of Publication

UK

Publication Type

Journal article.

<158>

Accession Number

20073072847

Author

Archer, E.

Title

Nursing the recumbent patient.

Source

VN Times; 2007. 7(4):12, 14-15. 6 ref.

Publisher

Veterinary Business Development Ltd

Location of Publisher

Peterborough

Country of Publication

UK

Publication Type

Journal article.

<159>

Accession Number

20073106100

Author

Rogelberg, S. G.; Reeve, C. L.; Spitzmuller, C.; DiGiacomo, N.; Clark, O. L.; Teeter, L.; Walker, A. G.; Starling, P. G.; Carter, N. T.

Title

Impact of euthanasia rates, euthanasia practices, and human resource practices on employee turnover in animal shelters.

Source

Journal of the American Veterinary Medical Association; 2007. 230(5):713-719. 17 ref.

Publisher

American Veterinary Medical Association

Location of Publisher

Schaumburg

Country of Publication

USA

Abstract

Objective - To examine the effects of euthanasia rates, euthanasia practices, and human resource practices on the turnover rate among employees with euthanasia responsibilities at animal shelters. Design - Cross-sectional original study. Sample Population - 36 shelters across the United States that employed at least 5 full-time employees and performed euthanasia on site. Procedures - By mail, 1 survey was sent to each shelter. Surveys were completed by a senior member of management and were returned by mail. Questions assessed characteristics (eg, euthanasia rates) and practices of the animal shelter, along with

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employee turnover rates. By use of correlation coefficients and stepwise regression analyses, key predictors of turnover rates among employees with euthanasia responsibilities were investigated. Results - Employee turnover rates were positively related to euthanasia rate. Practices that were associated with decreased turnover rates included provision of a designated euthanasia room, exclusion of other live animals from vicinity during euthanasia, and removal of euthanized animals from a room prior to entry of another animal to be euthanized. Making decisions regarding euthanasia of animals on the basis of factors other than behavior and health reasons was related to increased personnel turnover. With regard to human resources practices, shelters that used a systematic personnel selection procedure (eg, standardized testing) had comparatively lower employee turnover. Conclusions and Clinical Relevance - Data obtained may suggest several specific avenues that can be pursued to mitigate turnover among employees with euthanasia responsibilities at animal shelters and animal control or veterinary medical organizations.

Publication Type

Journal article.

<160>

Accession Number

20073085187

Author

Coleman, D. L.; Slingsby, L. S.

Title

Attitudes of veterinary nurses to the assessment of pain and the use of pain scales.

Source

Veterinary Record; 2007. 160(16):541-544. 9 ref.

Publisher

British Veterinary Association

Location of Publisher

London

Country of Publication

UK

Abstract

In April 2004, a questionnaire was distributed to veterinary nurses across the UK to assess their attitudes towards the assessment and management of pain in practice. During the six-week collection period, a total of 541 questionnaires were returned, of which 24 (4.25 per cent) were discounted due to completion errors. Overall, the pain scores for procedures involving dogs were higher than those for cats; the

veterinary nurses' pain scores were higher for all procedures than those of veterinary surgeons in a previous study. Both veterinary nurses and veterinary surgeons were primarily involved with monitoring pain postoperatively, and 96 per cent of veterinary nurses felt that their knowledge of pain management could be enhanced; 8.1 per cent of the practices used a formal pain scoring system, with the simple descriptive scale most commonly used; 80.3 per cent of the veterinary nurses agreed that a pain scale was a useful clinical tool.

Publication Type

Journal article.

<161>

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Title

2000 Report of the AVMA Panel on Euthanasia.

Source

Journal of the American Veterinary Medical Association; 2001. 218(5):669-693. 215 ref.

Publisher

American Veterinary Medical Association

Location of Publisher

Schaumburg

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USA

Abstract

The following paper is a report from the American Veterinary Medical Association (AVMA) Panel on Euthanasia, and discusses euthanasia in the context of providing humane death to an animal. Selection of the most appropriate method of inducing humane death in any given situation depends on several factors including the species and number of animals involved, available means of animal restraint, and skill of personnel. The need to minimize animal distress including fear, anxiety and apprehension, and to consider human psychologic responses to the loss of a life are reiterated. The paper elaborates on acceptable, conditionally acceptable and unacceptable agents (inhalant and non-inhalant) and physical methods for euthanasia. Special considerations are also discussed, such as euthanasia for equine and nonconventional species, for animals intended for food and fur production, for prenatal and neonatal animals, and for mass euthanasia.

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Author

Williams, S.; Mills, J. N.

Title

Understanding and responding to grief in companion animal practice.

Source

Australian Veterinary Practitioner; 2000. 30(2):55-62. 30 ref.

Publisher

Australian Small Animal Veterinary Association

Location of Publisher

Bondi

Country of Publication

Australia

Publication Type

Journal article.