



VPA NEWS



EDITORIAL

This is the second edition of a newsletter for the Veterinary Pharmacy Association. It is designed to provide information for all professional veterinary care providers.

Publication is rather later than was anticipated in order that details of the important meeting at the VMD to discuss Life after Brexit could be included. Two of our Committee members also attended a meeting to discuss our relationship with the Royal Pharmaceutical Society; details next time! . The Association was represented at the AHDA Conference in Birmingham in late January (where Nadia, a Pharmacy counter assistant from South Shields won an E-SQP award - and her friend won a case of champagne in the raffle!).

The Committee has been working hard to 'get all our ducks in line' and as it often does, it is taking rather longer than planned. However, a major Membership recruitment drive is about to start. In order to safeguard your personal details a Data Protection Policy has been adopted. We are delighted to welcome back our HAU Administrator Daisy, and look forward to working with her again very soon. During her absence Alison Pyatt has been holding the fort, so thanks to her.

Our friends at BEVA are offering a generous discount to their conference please see the flyer on the last page. This edition has an African flavour featuring our colleagues in Namibia. In addition, we also feature another of our outstanding SQPs. There are details of the CPD programme for 2018 accredited to AMTRA and the RPS – please have a look and see if any of the topics are appropriate for your area of practice – or maybe even just appeal for general interest

Comments welcome!!

secretary@vpa.education

Life after Brexit....

Dr Sarah Cockbill attended a meeting at the VMD on behalf of the VPA – lots of questions remain.

Discussions were related to negotiations as to where future Marketing Authorisations would be accessible i.e. in the UK, worldwide or those countries on the 'white list' of acceptable countries e.g. Australia, New Zealand, South Africa, the criteria for which would be reviewed regularly. Changes related to future changes of PSUR timings, deadlines and amendments to current systems were also discussed. Future labelling of imported products was also discussed. Would the labels be joint, dual or shared? *What would be the obligations for multilabelling with regard to language spacing, codes, and the current Quality Review Document?*

As may be seen from above, there are many problems still to be resolved. At present, there is no concrete information available from Parliamentarians as to when negotiations will be carried out or how inevitable changes will affect licensing and importation of medicinal products, both animal and human. Hence the VMD & MHRA are both planning for worst-case scenarios, which is one of the main reasons why the meeting was called. There is no positive information as to whether there will be any form of transition period to implement agreed changes or, if there is, its duration. Delegates indicated that it would be useful to have future meetings to be updated on the progress being made



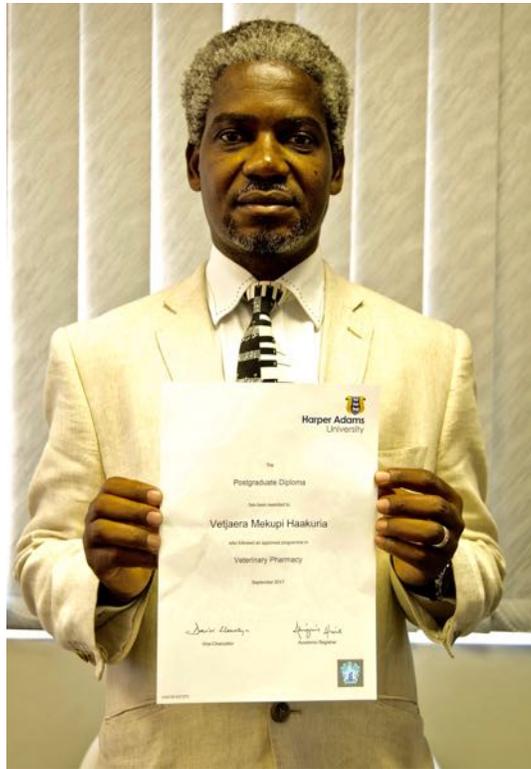
Miss Nadia Leal of Flogg Pharmacy Limited, South Shields, Tyne & wear won first prize in the E-SQP category at AHDA Conference in January at the Hilton Metropole, NEC. The theme for the Conference was 'Enhancing Professional Standards'. HAU staff and VPA members were there.



Harper Adams University

We are delighted to report that **Dr Vetjaera Haakuria**, Deputy Associate Dean: School of Pharmacy, University of Namibia (UNam) has been awarded a Post Graduate Diploma in Veterinary Pharmacy from HAU. Following a visit to Windhoek by Dr Alison Pyatt and Dr Steven Kayne in 2016, negotiations are at an advanced stage for UNam to commence teaching a Veterinary Pharmacy programme in 2019. This will incorporate elements of the HAU curriculum.

Modules 6 of the Veterinary Pharmacy Course was taught at HAU in February at a Residential weekend. A two-hour Veterinary Pharmacy introductory session was given to final year students at the Welsh School of Pharmacy, Cardiff in March.



Harper Adams has offered its unique Veterinary Pharmacy qualifications since 2009. Veterinary pharmacists, SQPs, veterinary nurses and veterinary science graduates from the UK, Ireland and overseas have completed the courses successfully. The first MSc was awarded to Michael Thomason in 2015.

VPA welcomes Shari Strydom, our first overseas student member!!

Growing up, I have been blessed to have lived most of my life on a farm. I was born in Pretoria, South Africa and moved to Namibia in 2001. At about 5 years old my little-girl-dream came true when my father bought my twin sister and me a pony and we started riding. After school, my sister and I would race to finish homework and since the horses would be right outside the door, we would go riding until sunset and regardless of the weather! My father, to my wildest excitement, bought a farm and registered his own Arabian stud.



I always had a very big part of my heart to fill with the love for animals. Don't get me wrong, humans are also great! My goal as I grew up had several 'jumps'. First, I wanted to be a doctor then I wanted to be a veterinarian, but euthanising animals would 'kill' me. One day, I thought- why not be an accountant? My grandfather said, "I think you should be a pharmacist...". What a brilliant man! Many people struggle to find a purpose in life and have the toughest time figuring out who they are. I know with every inch of my soul my purpose is to be a 'care taker!' I do not see myself as a person with limitations. I want to challenge myself and study every day I can! Dr Haakuria at the School of Pharmacy first told me of the Veterinary Pharmacist Association. His words were, "Here is something I think you will be very excited about." and he handed me the first VPA leaflet. I wanted to register immediately. Being the proud first international student member, I will try and be the best example of myself as a young person striving toward the veterinary pharmacist dream and share my excitement as I am getting there! 

The One Health Triad - *not such a new idea!*

The origins of the One Health Model dates as far back as 1821, with the first links created between human and animal diseases are recognized by Rudolf Virchow. Virchow noticed links between human and animal disease coining the term *zoonosis*. The major connection Virchow made was between *Trichinella spiralis* in swine and human infections. It was over a century later before the ideas laid out by Virchow were integrated into a single health model connecting human health with animal health.

In 1964, Dr. Calvin Schwabe, a former member of World Health Organization (WHO) and the founding chair of Department of Epidemiology and Preventive Medicine at the Veterinary School at the University of California Davis, called for a "One Medicine" model emphasizing the need for collaboration between human and wildlife pathologist as a means of controlling and even preventing disease spread. It wouldn't be for another four decades before the One Health became a reality with the 12 Manhattan Principles, where human and animal pathologists called for "One Health, One World."

The One Health Model has gained momentum in recent years due to the discovery of the multiple interconnections that exist between animal and human disease. Recent estimates place zoonotic diseases as the source 60% of total human pathogens, and 75% of emerging human pathogens.

The One Health Model can constantly be applied with human and animal interactions. One of the main situations where One Health can be applied is with canine and feline obesity being linked to their owners and their own obesity. Obesity in canines and felines is not good for them nor is it good for humans. The

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The One Health Model can constantly be human and animal interactions. One of the main situations where One Health can be applied is with canine and feline obesity being linked to their owners and their own obesity. Obesity in canines and felines is not good for them nor is it good for humans. The obesity of humans and their animals can result in many health problems such as diabetes mellitus, and osteoarthritis. In some cases if the obesity of the pet is so bad the pet may be removed from its owner and put up for adoption. **The only solution for this cause is to encourage owners to have a healthy lifestyle for both them and their animals. Zoonotic Diseases is another situation that the One Health.**

This piece has been reproduced from Wikipedia.

A discussion the OHT concept has been introduced into the Public Health module of the HAU Vet Pharm courses.

The Rob Morris Column



“It’s raining cats and dogs!”

With a quarter of pharmacy customers owning a dog and 17% owning a cat it’s fair to say there are quite a few about! In fact, there are 8.5 million dogs in 6.5 million households, and, 7.5 million cats in 4.8 million households in the UK

Brits spend on average £1,150 a year (or £95 per month) on their pets which equates to £10 billion on dogs and £8 billion on cats – the statistics are mind boggling! The market for health products is in the region of £3 billion of which pharmacy has only a tiny share of about 3%. Why is this if nearly half of customers who use pharmacies daily are from households that own a dog or cat?

The answers are open to debate but clearly the focus on (human) dispensing and the NHS has occupied most of the thinking and operation of pharmacies. Counter (OTC) business has become less important as revenue and profit are very dependent on prescription numbers and income. A second factor has been the



dominance of the veterinary practices who supply most of the expensive (POM-V) medications for fleas and worms which are routinely bought as preventatives by pet owners. Few prescriptions for these POM-V products are forthcoming because vets rely on this income to run their practices rather than charge high fees for services.

Thirdly, the reclassification of certain dog/cat flea and worm treatments from POM-V to NFA-VPS (effectively a “P” medicine in the pharmacy) has seen a growth in “suitably qualified persons” (SQPs) in the large pet stores. SQPs are trained to allow them to prescribe the products that a pharmacist can also supply. There are thousands of SQPs so a pharmacy is not the only alternative to a veterinary practice for supply.

Clearly there is a lot of opportunity for a pharmacy in the right area and with a suitable NHS/OTC mix to develop a veterinary business built around cat and dog flea and worm treatments. There are many other pet product categories, such as Prescription Diets, but the former is the place to start. Pet owners are very brand aware and many of the products are advertised on national TV so clear merchandising is important – and of course product knowledge.

The future is positive as many of the POM-V flea and worm products should be reclassified to NFA-VPS once they have proven safety in the market place over 5 years.

My message to pharmacists is to get involved – research your particular area, prepare and train your colleagues and then build a product and service that will win over all these pet owners hanging around your pharmacy! Training and support is of course where the VPA comes in so whatever level you want to be at there is a course or CPD to help you get established.

Good luck!

VPA Committee

Chair: Dr Steven Kayne

Vice Chair/Membership Dr Alison Pyatt

Secretary Dr Sarah Cockbill

Treasurer Michael Thomason

RPS Liaison Rob Morris

SQP Liaison Kevin Turnbull

Consultation documents Andrew Cairns



Profile

Alice Geddes

An award winning SQP with a BSc honours degree in Biology from the University of Leeds, an MSc (with Merit) in Veterinary Pharmacy from HAU, Alice manages a pharmacy facility for Synergy Farm Health in Dorset.

Alice was brought up on a beef and sheep farm in West Dorset where she always had a keen interest in the farm and livestock. In 2009 she began studying for a BSc in Biology at the University of Leeds and graduated with a 2:1 with honours in 2012.

Early in 2013, Alice began her career working at her parents' local farm animal practice, Synergy Farm Health as a Pharmacy assistant. The main responsibilities of this role included dispensing medicines, under vet supervision, to farm clients based across Devon, Somerset and Dorset. She soon began training to become an Animal Health Advisor completing her training through Harper Adams and qualified as an SQP in 2014.

As her role with the practice was starting to develop she began looking to widen her education and discovered the Veterinary Pharmacy MSc course at Harper Adams University. Alice saw this as an opportunity to develop her knowledge and with the course structured on a part time basis it allowed her to complete alongside full time work.

Alice says that she received a huge amount of support from the practice, allowing time to travel to and from HAU as well as allowing work hours to be set aside to complete assignments and projects.

When the final year began, focus turned towards the

research project, with my chosen topic looking at the *dispensing error on sheep drench guns*.

This was a key topic at Synergy with increasing concern around the rise of anthelmintic resistance and methods in reducing its spread. The project was co-supervised by a Veterinary colleague, Emily Gascoigne, and Kate Phillips a sheep specialist at Harper Adams. Data was collected over a number of months from clients of the practice before being formally written up. The completed thesis was submitted to the *Veterinary Record* with the aim of publication in 2018.

Alice has won two awards at the AMTRA and AHDA SQP awards in the categories, SQP in a Veterinary Practice and the Mastermind award.

Alice is now working as Pharmacy Manager at Synergy, organising a team of 6 people ensuring the continued supply of Veterinary medicines to our clients under prescription from the vets within the practice.

Alice says, “Completing the Veterinary Pharmacy course at Harper Adams has allowed me to progress within my role taking on further responsibilities and becoming a key member of a larger team within the practice”.

Reports from the media

Crackdown on 'designer pet' breeders



Unscrupulous breeders of puppies and kittens who knowingly produce animals with genetic defects, such as French bulldogs that cannot breathe properly, will be liable for prosecution under animal welfare

legislation. The move will bring protests from Britain's booming – and lucrative – pet breeding industry. It comes amid a controversy surrounding certain breeds such as the Scottish fold cat. The cat has a genetic defect preventing it from forming cartilage, the connective tissue whose absence causes lifelong arthritis. Others include the Munchkin cat pictured here, with its disproportionately short legs, and the Cavalier King Charles spaniel, many of which are bred to have an unnaturally small skull that compresses its brain, affecting its spinal cord. Breeders producing such animals have believed themselves to be safe because the wording of the Animal Welfare Act 2006 seems to exclude them. This weekend the Department for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs confirmed that this interpretation of the act was now seen as incorrect.

The Governing Council of the Cat Fancy, which oversees feline pedigrees and is the registration body for cats in the UK, refuses to recognise breeds such as the Scottish fold cat. The Kennel Club, which administers pedigree dogs, has faced widespread criticism for allowing breeds such as French bulldogs to retain recognition.

The move follows a campaign led by the British Veterinary Association (BVA).

Passive smoking: How tobacco use could be harming your pet

A pilot study in Glasgow has shown exposing dogs to smoke could shorten their lifespan.

Researchers at Glasgow University have spent three years looking into the affects of cigarette



smoke on dogs and say the results so far are concerning.

Early signs in the pilot study suggest not only could dogs living with smokers die younger but

dogs living in smoke-free homes could also be affected by passive smoking. More than 40 dogs in and around Glasgow were recruited to take part in the research, which shows even those dogs whose owners don't smoke still have levels of nicotine in their fur. *STV News 21 Oct 2017*

Exotic animal parties 'to face new regulations'

Mobile zoos that provide exotic animals for



children's parties will require licences to operate in England, the government has said.

It comes as the RSPCA told the BBC's Victoria Derbyshire programme animals such as meerkats and raccoons were being handled and kept inappropriately. Animals used currently range from snakes and tarantulas to - more controversially - skunks and monkeys. Animal welfare group the Scottish SPCA said it was opposed to mobile zoos.

<http://www.bbc.co.uk/news/uk-41551396>

Secret video shows Fast food restaurant chicken supplier allegedly breaching cruelty laws

Secret filming at Cambria Farm in Taunton, Somerset, claims to show a worker dumping a live chick in a wheelbarrow full of dead birds. The chick was left for an hour before the same worker returns and snaps its neck, according to vegan campaign group Animal Equality. The group says it also filmed workers kicking chickens, lame birds struggling to walk and slowly dying on their backs because they were unable to stand and reach water. Other distressing images show chickens with ammonia burns leaving them red raw, ill and dying birds being left to fend for themselves and workers snapping chickens' necks.

Read more at: <https://www.edinburghnews.scotsman.com/our-region/edinburgh/sickening-video-shows-nando-chicken-supplier-allegedly->

News from across the Irish Sea

Connor Ward has been invited to join the Pharmachem Committee in the Irish Republic. This is a group of pharmacists with an interest in veterinary pharmacy in Ireland. Connor says, "They heard of my studies in veterinary pharmacy at Harper Adams and made contact regarding my views on this.. They initially had the support of one of the main wholesalers in Ireland, Unipharm, but this company have distanced themselves from the organisation in favour of becoming suppliers to the veterinary industry including veterinary surgeries, agricultural merchants and independent pharmacies". We will follow developments with interest.

Pharmacy Show

8-9 October 2017 • NEC Birmingham

For all that pharmacy demands

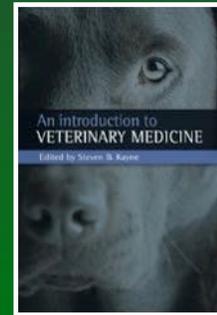


Harper Adams University was represented at the Pharmacy Show, billed as 'The Ultimate Show for Pharmacy Owners', with a stand in a prominent position. Staff and members of the VPA attended and some useful contacts were made with potential students and VPA members. Discussions with other education providers who were exhibiting was also useful.

Dr Michael Jepson, who was elected first Honorary Fellow of the VPA, was presented with his certificate during the Show.

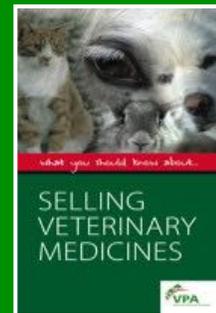


RECOMMENDED BOOKS



An Introduction to Veterinary Medicine, edited by Steven Kayne will equip pharmacists, veterinary nurses and SQPs with the knowledge necessary to enable a confident and appropriate involvement in this area of practice.

[ORDER HERE](#)



Selling Veterinary Medicines from the Veterinary Pharmacists Association is designed to be a handy reference for those dealing with owners of companion animals, mammals and horses in a retail environment.

[ORDER HERE](#)

'Puff' - the magic parrot

Did you hear of the couple who actually gave up smoking because of their parrot? They took their parrot to the vet as they were very concerned by its state of health. The vet noted and deduced that a key source of the parrots 'unwellness' was to do with respiratory distress. After questioning the couple, it became apparent that it had to do with passive smoking! The couple, whose previous attempts to give up smoking, had always failed, were faced with the potential demise of their beloved Parrot – and that did the

trick! How many other pets are there that could aid smoking cessation with a pharmacist's cooperation, one wonders? And the NHS would presumably pay the appropriate fee! Surely another reason to see public health more comprehensively!

The birds that pied

But what about the housewife who inadvertently, accidentally and sadly killed her four pet birds? All she did was to put a meat pie in the oven for dinner. However, she used a Teflon baking tray and the

probably overheated non-stick surface limited fumes which irreversibly damaged the respiratory systems of Charlie the parrot, Molly the cocktail and budgies Billy and Greg. Advice – keep birds out of the kitchen!

Drunk as a ... cat

A pub landlord and his wife were worried when their cat was unable to stand up and walk in a straight line. You've guessed, and the vet confirmed that the cat had become an alcoholic as a result of supping beer from the bar drip trays. The cat is now undergoing detox.

Cases *contributed by MHJ*

Why you should consider joining in the VPA...

The Veterinary Pharmacy Association is a professional multidisciplinary organisation to promote and support the practice of Veterinary Pharmacy by all veterinary health care providers. In the UK, Ireland and beyond.

The Association will seek to highlight the role of veterinary pharmacy by

- Promoting excellence in the safe, effective and appropriate use of medication in animals, thereby improving animal health and well-being.
- Raising awareness of public health implications arising from contact between humans and animals.
- Facilitating fully accredited training & Continuing Professional Development.

There will be lots of advantages of joining the VPA! Our educational focus is reflected in our website domain and with support from our good friends at Harper Adams University there will be CPD events and articles to support colleagues whatever your profession and depth of involvement in the veterinary sector. We will seek to respond to consultative documents from Government and professional sources and publish leaflets and books. There will be social events too, of course, with visits to sites of veterinary interest.

With a broad membership across the sector there will be a wealth of experience for younger colleagues starting out in this fascinating area of practice.

All this cannot happen overnight, but hopefully many people will want to be involved. The application form is on the website so please join us! www.vpa.education

CPD Opportunities for all VPA Members

Zoonotic Infection Associated With Food.

Friday 14th September 2018
1:30pm – 3.00pm

*Intended learning outcome for
the session:*

1. Recognise opportunities to intervene proactively in the pharmacy or veterinary practice environment to ensure pet owners are aware of their responsibilities both to their animal and to the public at large.
2. Explain the potential dangers of, and risks from, contaminated food.

Companion Animal Parasitology (including Drug Categories and Legislation)

Saturday 15th September
2018 11.00am – 3.00pm

*Intended learning outcome for
the session:*

1. Appreciate the potential health problems for a range of the most popular pets and relate to common presenting signs.

2. Identify the specific parasitic diseases of companion animals and realise the suitable prophylactic and treatment options within your category of registration



3. Assist clients appropriately in response to requests for a medicine or dressing.
4. Recognise conditions or scenarios that fall without your competence or legal jurisdiction and refer as necessary

Strategic Worming Plans for Horses.

Sunday 16th September 2018
9.00am – 10.30am

*Intended learning outcome for
the session:*

1. Identify the specific parasitic conditions of horses and recommend suitable prophylactic and treatment options within your category of registration.

2. Recognise conditions or scenarios that fall without your competence or legal jurisdiction and refer as necessary.

Equine Nutrition.

Sunday 16th September
2018 10:45am – 12.00pm

*Intended learning outcome for
the session:*

1. Recognise conditions or scenarios that fall without your competence or legal jurisdiction and refer as necessary.
2. Specify the major common diseases affecting horses and available treatments.
3. Recommend suitable measures or appropriate products to maintain equine health.

For more details and to
book, please contact:
Daisy Hollands
dhollands@harper-
adams.ac.uk 01952 815042

All courses are accredited to
AMTRA for CPD points
HAU is a RPS accredited
CPD provider and courses
qualify for RPS CPD
requirements.

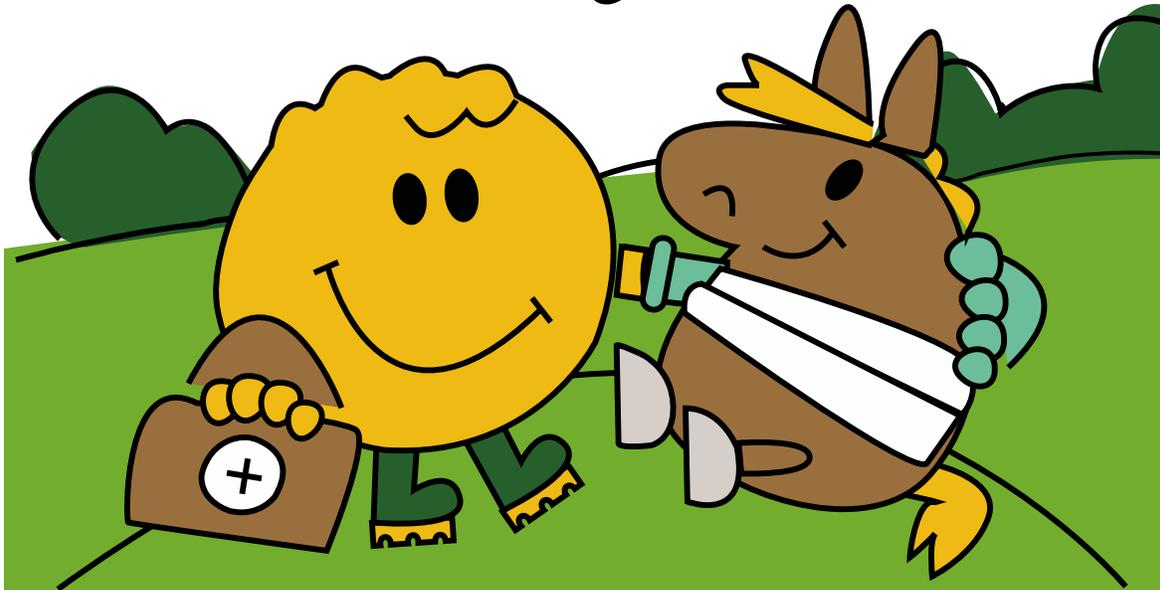
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Non-Member rates to attend*

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