



## Anti-Vaccination Movement Affects Pets Too

BY: SAMANTHA BARTLETT, DVM

In 2019, the World Health Organization (WHO) listed vaccine hesitancy as the top threat to global health. The anti-vaccination movement that has steadily grown throughout the nation has now begun spilling over into the veterinary world. Many owners believe that vaccines can cause more harm than good to their beloved pets.

Veterinarians are seeing an increase in the number of clients that are declining vaccinations. Many cite the belief that vaccines will cause more illness than it will prevent. Some owners believe that an association between vaccines and autism in their pets is possible. Others believe that vaccines just open up the immune system to other illnesses.

The American Animal Hospital Association vaccine guidelines note that titer testing is an appropriate option for testing a pet's protection from a disease. Many owners find this a more attractive route than the recommended vaccine protocols in place. Legally, proof of circulating rabies antibodies does not directly correlate to immunity and currently there is no real way to measure that.

Concerns of an explosion of previously controlled diseases are real with the increase in the number of pet owners that are failing to vaccinate with core vaccines. Some veterinarians believe that part of the drive is that many of these owners have not been around during the times where most of these diseases were rampant and have not seen the devastation that can be caused by these deadly viruses.

Other very real concerns are the threats to public health posed by unvaccinated pets. Rabies is a very real threat to humans and many times their pets are the only barrier between them and the wildlife that carry the virus. The widespread vaccination of pets against rabies in the United States changed the landscape of human-contracted rabies. Other diseases such as leptospirosis in the United States and Hendra virus in horses in Australia are also very real threats to people.

Ultimately it is up to the veterinary profession to provide education to pet owners on the risks of not vaccinating their pets. In addition, a sincere discussion about pet owner's fears involving vaccination is in order. While the problem will not be solved in a day, a rational and compassionate approach will help pet owners realize that as veterinary professionals we only have their pet's best interests at heart and want to do everything we can to ensure a long and healthy life for their pet.

# CAPC Predicts Higher Heartworm Risk, Continued Spread of Lyme Disease in 2019

BY: SAMANTHA BARTLETT, DVM

In April, the Companion Animal Parasite Council (CAPC) released its annual parasite forecasts. The forecasts are a tool for veterinarians and pet owners to monitor the ever-changing landscape of parasite prevalence across the United States. CAPC predicts an increase in heartworm in the Southeast and Lyme disease in the Atlantic coast and Midwest.

In addition to the yearly forecast maps, users also have access to 30 day forecast maps down to the county level at [petdiseasealerts.org](http://petdiseasealerts.org). CAPC also provides maps showing the number of pets testing positive for a specific disease by county.

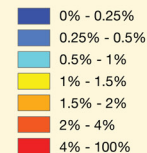
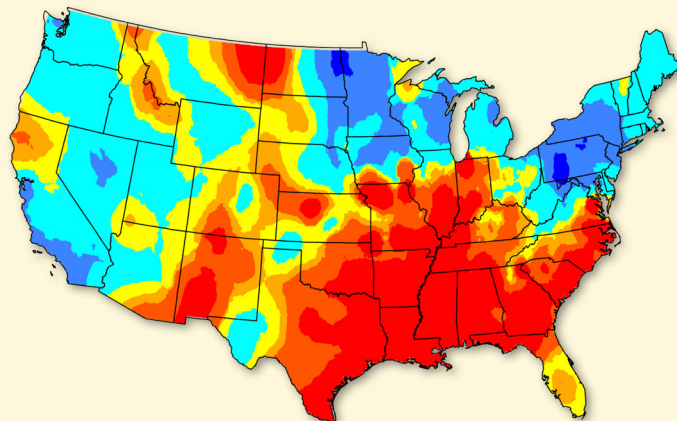
CAPC says the risk of heartworm is increasing both due to the changing weather patterns and to the increasing number of pets that travel on a regular basis. Lyme disease has the potential to spread more widely as the white-tailed deer population grows and infected ticks are disseminated by migratory birds in to the Appalachians, Midwest (specifically Wisconsin and Minnesota) and along the Atlantic coast.

Although heartworm and Lyme disease are areas of focus, predictions about other vector-borne diseases are also concerning. CAPC predicts that the incidence of Anaplasmosis will be stable, but Minnesota may see a higher incidence than normal. Ehrlichiosis incidences are expected to increase throughout south central United States. Oklahoma, Arkansas and Missouri are expected to see the biggest increases in cases.

These trends highlight the need for pet owners to continue preventive care and testing. CAPC strongly urges pet owners to get yearly testing for heartworm disease as well as year-round prevention in at-risk regions. CAPC also stresses the need for protection of pets from ticks in regions where ticks are prevalent. Depending on risk, Lyme vaccines may also be indicated particularly if pets are living or traveling in areas of high incidence. More details about prevention, treatment and forecast maps can be found at [capcvet.org](http://capcvet.org).

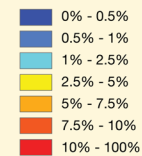
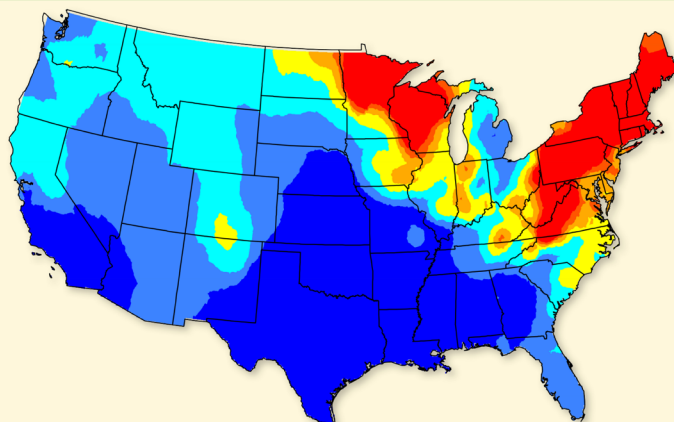
## Forecasted Prevalence of Heartworm

### 2019



## Forecasted Prevalence of Lyme Disease

### 2019





## New ACVIM Consensus Statement on GI Protectants

BY: SAMANTHA BARTLETT, DVM

The latest consensus statement released by the American College of Veterinary Internal Medicine (ACVIM) addresses the appropriate use of gastroprotectants in dogs and cats. The consensus is that GI protectants are used excessively and inappropriately especially in management of pancreatitis and renal disease. The ACVIM has thus put out the statement to provide guidance on the best practices for use of these medications.

Gastroprotectants addressed in the statement include Antacids, H-2 blockers, proton pump inhibitors, misoprostol and sucralfate. Also stressed in the statement is that none of the acid reducing medications used in dogs and cats is approved for use in these animals underlying the need for more research.

Antacids are short-acting and do not act significantly on the pH of the GI tract. There are therefore not considered useful in the treatment of gastric ulcers or GERD. The consensus finds that H-2 receptor antagonist such as famotidine are inferior to proton pump inhibitors for the treatment of Ulcers or reflux. In addition, the use of H2 blockers in conjunction with PPIs may inhibit the effectiveness of PPIs.

Proton Pump Inhibitors used twice daily are best for treating gastroduodenal ulceration and erosion and have best effects after 3-4 days of therapy. Long-term use should be tapered to avoid rebound effects. Keep in mind that these drugs may interfere with the effectiveness of other drugs that may require an acidic environment to work. Side effects include diarrhea and dysbiosis.

The statement position on misoprostol discussed that one study showed a significant reduction in gastric damage caused by administration of high dose aspirin to dogs, but no evidence exists to support the use in cases of NSAID or glucocorticoid administration. Likewise, the use of sucralfate for esophageal damage has not been supported and the ACVIM deems that sucralfate is an inferior choice to PPIs for the treatment of GUE.

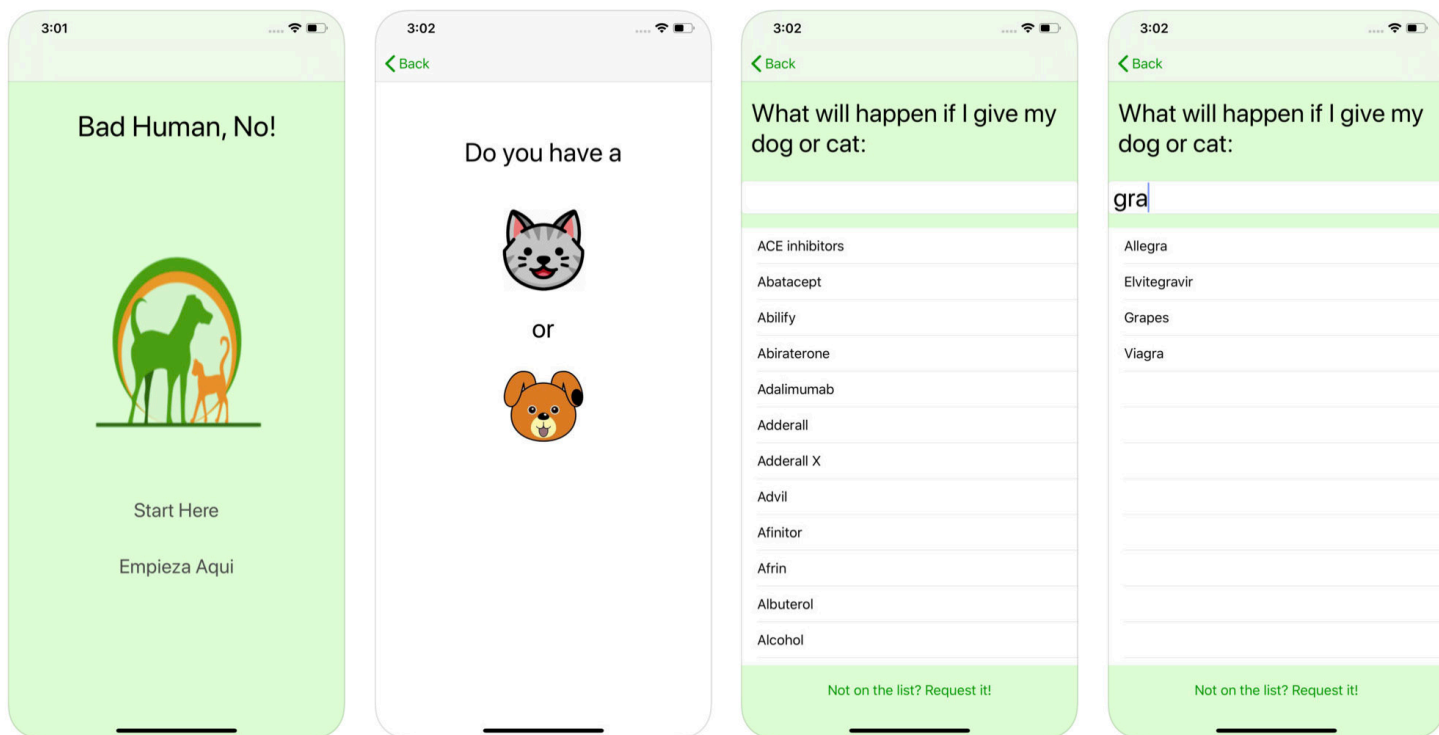
The ACVIM recommendations are that PPIs are indicated twice daily for the treatment of gastroduodenal ulceration and erosion, to prevent esophagitis from reflux. Use of antacids in patients with renal disease is only indicated if they are at a higher risk of GI ulceration or bleeding. Otherwise, injudicious long-term use of gastroprotectants in renal patients puts them at increased risk of decreased bone mineral density. Once daily dosing of PPIs may help prevent stress related mucosal disease in high performance animals.

The ACVIM does not recommend the use of gastroprotectants for pancreatitis, nonerosive gastritis, renal disease, thrombocytopenia-induced bleeding, non-H pylori Helicobacter infection, hepatic disease without GI bleeding or spinal cord injury unless they are also at increased risk for GI ulceration and bleeding.

In conclusion, the ACVIM opinion advocates for the judicious use of gastroprotectants in dogs and cats and recognizes the need for more specific research in the use of the pharmaceuticals for specific conditions in dogs and cats. Newer generations of PPIs may also become more relevant as new research is concluded.

# Veterinarian Creates App That Lists Safe Foods and Meds for Pets

BY: SAMANTHA BARTLETT, DVM



Mari Delaney, a veterinarian in Elmira, NY, has created an app to help pet owners determine if a food or drug is safe for their pet. The app is called Bad Human, No! and provides a database of human foods, prescription medications and over-the-counter drugs along with the possible toxicity and average vet bill of treating the toxicity.

Dr. Delaney came up with the idea for the app after treating a canine patient that had become ill when its owner treated it with Aleve. Delaney says she created the app, not as medical advice, but as a preventive tool to keep your pet, and your wallet, safe. The app bypasses all of the conflicting information found in a Google search and lets you know what is and isn't safe for your pet. The database includes many over the counter and prescription drugs as well as foods that are not safe for pets. The app also includes symptoms associated with that drug or food and an estimate of the cost to treat those symptoms at the vet. For example, if you ask the app what will happen if you feed grapes to your cat, it will give a result of kidney failure with a vet bill range of \$300-\$8,000

Dr. Delaney, a 1992 graduate of Cornell University College of Veterinary Medicine, says she hopes owners can benefit from her 25 years of experience. Her goal in developing the app is to help prevent tragedies when well-meaning owners give their pets the wrong thing that can lead to unaffordable vet bills or worse.

The app can be downloaded for a small fee from the Apple store or Google. Just click the button below to get the app.







Date: Saturday, July 27, 2019

Time: 6:30PM July 27th to 8:00AM July 28th

Ages: All ages 6 and up are allowed to attend this event.

Location: Kansas City Zoo

6800 Zoo Dr.

Kansas City, MO 64132

Come make a splash and learn all about sharks and stingrays! What does a stingray feel like? How are they similar to sharks? How big do these animals get? It's a night to remember with an evening full of stingray themed games and activities. Then get ready for an up close encounter with some more animals, and an evening night hike through the zoo.

This event is FREE to KCVMA members. Up to 30 members may register for 1 ticket and 1 guest ticket free of charge. Up to 35 additional tickets may be purchased for \$40 each. Contact Brian Ellis at [bellis@kcvma.com](mailto:bellis@kcvma.com) for additional tickets. Space is limited, be sure to register soon!

### PLEASE REVIEW THIS IMPORTANT INFORMATION IN REGARDS TO ATTENDING THIS EVENT.

**Admittance:** Only participants who have pre-registered will be permitted to attend.

**Arrival/Departure:** Education staff will meet you between 6:45pm in the Mane Parking Lot. Late-comers will not be accommodated. After all participants have checked in, staff will lead you to a secure parking area within the Zoo. This is a lock-in, so participants should plan on staying for the duration of the program. The overnight will end no later than 8:00am the following morning.

**Accommodations:** Sleeping arrangements will be on the floor in the Zoo Learning Center and may not be gender-specific. Public restrooms are available, but there are no shower facilities.

**Meals: Dinner will NOT be served;** please eat before you arrive. As part of the evening's activities, a late-night snack will be provided. In the morning, a continental breakfast will be provided. Please make arrangements for participants with dietary needs and food allergies.

**Dress:** Dress for the weather! Wear comfortable shorts/pants, socks, and shoes. No Open toe shoes (sandals, flip-flops, crocs).

**Child Supervision:** It is the responsibility of the adults in the group to supervise the children, accompanying children at all times – including restroom visits. One adult chaperone for every ten people under the age of 18 years is required to attend.

**Security:** The Overnight program staff is part of the Education Department and will be staying overnight with you. In addition, Zoo Security patrols the grounds throughout the night.

**Other Policies:** No smoking on zoo grounds. The possession and/or consumption of alcoholic beverages or any illegal substances is strictly prohibited.

**What to bring:** sleeping bag, pillow, one carry-on (include toiletries, pajamas, etc.), air mattress (limited electrical outlets), blankets, camera, flashlight, floor mat.

**What NOT to bring:** valuables, alcohol, coolers, food/drink (you may bring water or food for specific dietary needs and food allergies)

**Classifieds**

Send your classified ads to: Wanda Geis, PO Box 12468, Shawnee Mission, KS 66282-2468, or email them to [classifieds@kcvma.com](mailto:classifieds@kcvma.com). Ads must not be over 100 words in length. Classified ads will be run at the sole discretion of the editor and may be edited for content.

**June 10, 2019**

Turner Animal Hospital has an opening for a part or full-time Vet Tech. We are a busy and growing 2 doctor practice in Kansas City, KS near highways 70, 635, and 69. Duties include but are not limited to: Assisting with surgeries, blood draws, client education, running diagnostic tests, giving vaccines, medical care of hospitalized patients, and answering phones. Requirements: A Highschool Diploma or GED, sense of humor, team player, 1 year experience working at a veterinary clinic as a vet tech or a degree from an accredited Veterinary Technology Program.

To apply, please email Tara at [turneranimalhospital@gmail.com](mailto:turneranimalhospital@gmail.com).

**June 10, 2019**

Do you want an environment where you can grow as a veterinarian? Turner Animal Hospital is a busy 2 doctor small animal practice in the beautiful and affordable Kansas City area. We are currently looking for a full-time (33-40 hours a week) or part-time veterinarian (up to 32 hours a week).

We provide the tools you need to practice best medicine including: Digital X-ray, Idexx In-house lab, In-House Urine Culture, Idexx Sedivue, Cryotherapy, a DentAire dental unit, a Suburban Surgical table, and Cornerstone Practice Management Software.

We value continuing education for all of our staff members and currently have a veterinary technician who is Fear Free Certified and our practice manager is a Certified Veterinary Practice Manager.

Compensation depends on experience with a raise of up to \$7,500 and a bonus for outstanding performance at the end of 12 months. The position also comes with a generous benefit options including:

- \$2,000- \$2,500 Salary Bonus for first year if Fear Free Certified
- Health Insurance Stipend (\$250-\$500 a month)- can also be used for dental, vision, or life
- Reimbursement for: Professional Organization Dues, Licenses, Liability Insurance, and Continuing Education
- Scrub/White Coat Allowance
- 2 weeks PTO.

We value your Work/Life Balance and are closed or close early on the following days:

- Christmas, Thanksgiving, New Year's Day, Memorial Day, 4th of July, and Labor Day, and 2nd Saturday in October  
CLOSED
- Clinic closes early – Halloween (3 PM), day before and after Thanksgiving (1 PM), Christmas Eve and day after Christmas (1 PM), and New Year's Eve (3 PM)

Please Reply to our Practice Manager, Tara at [turneranimalhospital@gmail.com](mailto:turneranimalhospital@gmail.com)

**June 10, 2019**

Farview Veterinary Hospital of Independence, MO is searching for a part-time registered Veterinary Technician. We are a growing 3 doctor practice that has a very busy schedule Monday through Saturday. Our facility has digital radiographs, ultrasound, modern dental machine, therapy laser, and a surgical laser. We are looking for a motivated registered Veterinary Technician that will read fecal directs, run a urinalysis, perform radiographs, anesthetize patients, prep patients for different kinds of surgeries, perform dentals and other daily responsibilities without the. We utilize our surrounding emergency clinics during the weekends and after hours while we are closed. Please contact Dr. Clark at 816-257-5454 or [info@farviewvethospital.com](mailto:info@farviewvethospital.com) for more information or to apply.

**June 10, 2019**

We are looking for an associate to join our team! We are an AAHA hospital located in Topeka, KS – the growing capital city of Kansas. Under new ownership since 2017 we are one of the premier veterinary practices serving the Topeka area. Fear Free medicine is a core value of our hospital; making sure that pets and their corresponding owners are

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comfortable is a top priority. Preventative medicine, client education and customer service are also core values we take seriously. We are an extension of our clients families, so we need someone that can communicate well with clients while practicing high quality medicine. We are a fast paced, fun work environment that has multiple licenced veterinary technicians and a knowledgeable teamwork environment. Our practice has a strong interest in rehabilitation, dentistry, medicine, preventative medicine and senior care. Interest in Surgery is a plus. We have digital radiology, digital dental radiology, a therapeutic laser, and a full service in house Idexx lab. We offer an allowance for CE, liability insurance, license fees, due fees, paid vacation and sick time, and after one year of employment – a Simple IRA. We will also pay for your Fear Free Certification and offer a great mentoring environment! Please send us a cover letter and resume to [dr.weisshaar@wrahc.com](mailto:dr.weisshaar@wrahc.com)

**June 6, 2019**

Live and work in beautiful Lawrence, KS. Animal Hospital of Lawrence, an AAHA-accredited, busy small animal practice in the vibrant college town of Lawrence, KS, is seeking to add 1 full- or part-time veterinarian to keep up with our continued growth. Lawrence is a great community with outdoor activities, great schools and the ability to walk or bike to the office. We offer competitive salary with yearly profit sharing; benefits package, including matching retirement plan, healthcare, paid vacation and paid CE. Future ownership potential. Starting salary commensurate with experience. For more information or to submit CV, contact [ahlawrence1@yahoo.com](mailto:ahlawrence1@yahoo.com).

**May 28, 2019**

The Humane Society of Greater Kansas City is currently seeking a veterinarian to join our team three days per week. This doctor would work in our public services veterinary clinic which targets under-served and low-income populations. We offer a wide range of services, including wellness care, management of acute and chronic disease, dentistry, radiology and HVHQS surgical services. Our clinic also provides veterinary care for KCK Animal Services and our own HSGKC shelter pets.

We offer our staff doctors competitive wages, and appreciate a healthy work-life balance. We are also a qualifying 501 c3 non-profit organization for doctors interested in the Federal Public Service Loan Forgiveness program. Mentorship for new graduates is available. Come help us save and improve the lives of animals in the Greater Kansas City area! Please send resume and/or CV submissions to [walker@hsgkc.org](mailto:walker@hsgkc.org).

**May 22, 2019**

Crest Animal Hospital is looking for a full time veterinary associate for our growing 3 doctor practice. We are a full service veterinary hospital that provides high quality surgical and medical care. We provide paid time off, paid continuing education, paid insurance, dues, etc. We offer a competitive compensation package. This is an opportunity to strengthen your medical and surgical skills in a relaxed environment. Contact John Lyle at [Crest1313@outlook.com](mailto:Crest1313@outlook.com). Or call or text 816-588-5953.

**May 16, 2019**

Oxford Animal Hospital seeks an experienced veterinarian for a part time position that has the potential for full time in the future. Our hospital is in Overland Park in a family-friendly community with great clientele.

We are a medical facility that provides a full range of ancillary services such as grooming, boarding, and daycare. We focus on preventive medicine, surgery and dental care for dogs and cats. Come work in a friendly, supportive atmosphere with other dedicated professionals.

We are looking for someone who abides by our core values. We want a team player that is respectful and wants to work together to create success for all. We need a strong communicator that believes in education for themselves, for staff and for clients.

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We offer a great working environment, a fully equipped facility, and amazing support staff. Excellent salary and benefits.

If Oxford Animal Hospital is what you are looking for, we would love to discuss the opportunity for you to join our team!

[https://app.jobvite.com/j?cj=o61O9fwO&s=OxfordDVM\\_KVMA](https://app.jobvite.com/j?cj=o61O9fwO&s=OxfordDVM_KVMA)

**May 13, 2019**

Urgent Pet Care in Overland Park, KS is seeking dedicated, professional veterinarians to join our team. Founded by a core group of local, practicing, veterinarians, we seek to bridge the gap between general practice and emergency hospital. Our mission is to provide excellent, compassionate, and affordable urgent care to every pet that comes through our doors. Ideal candidates must be enthusiastic, personable, and a team player. Applicant must be highly motivated to perform exceptional care and be able to work independently as well as with others. New grads are welcome to apply! Full time, part time, and relief shifts are available. Please submit your CV to [topeturgentcarekc@gmail.com](mailto:topeturgentcarekc@gmail.com)

**May 10, 2019**

Johnson County Animal Clinic is an AAHA accredited, full service, small animal veterinary practice in Johnson County, Kansas looking for a full time energetic, enthusiastic associate who will mirror our commitment to progressive, quality medicine through client education and patient care. Our busy 2 location practice has served this community for over 50 years with its great facilities, team approach and terrific support staff. Skills in alternative medicine and ultrasound would be welcomed. If you are a veterinarian that can provide an exceptional work ethic, positive attitude, great communication skills and a commitment to learn and grow, then we'd like to hear from you. We serve a clientele that deserves passion and commitment and we want members of our staff to reflect that. If you are committed to that excellence then please apply. Send a cover letter and resume or curriculum vitae to [vetdocs2@gmail.com](mailto:vetdocs2@gmail.com)

**May 8, 2019**

Gage Animal Hospital, a premier, well-established, two veterinarian small animal practice in Topeka, Kansas, is rapidly growing and is seeking to add one full-time associate veterinarian and one half-time associate veterinarian. Half-time associate veterinarian position offers extremely flexible hours (88 hours per month, but no weekly minimum hours). Gage Animal Hospital is a collegial fast-paced environment in a spacious, well-equipped facility. Generous benefits, including 401k, vacation and other leave, and paid continuing education. Live in Topeka, or an easy 30 minute commute from Lawrence. Candidates with two plus years of experience with basic surgical skills and willingness to learn additional surgery as well as new graduates with a desire to learn surgical skills will be considered. GAH offers a very competitive starting salary (\$85,000-\$95,000), commensurate with experience, and a \$10,000 signing bonus!

Call us to schedule a visit, tour our hospital, learn about our unique practice model and our contributions to our community, as well as career opportunities. Phone: 785-272-8876 | Email: [gageanimalhosp@aol.com](mailto:gageanimalhosp@aol.com).