



AAFP Releases Updated Feline Senior Care Guidelines

BY: SAMANTHA BARTLETT, DVM

Updated 2021 AAFP Feline Senior Care Guidelines was published by the American Association of Feline Practitioners (AAFP) in the *Journal of Feline Medicine and Surgery* July issue. The guidelines establish a senior cat as one over 10 years of age and are intended to help the veterinary team in assessing and treating feline medical conditions related to aging. Examinations are recommended at a minimum of every 6 months for senior felines to catch disease early and track the progression of known conditions. Senior cats over 15 years should be examined at least every 4 months. Patients with medical conditions should be seen more frequently depending on the stage of their illness.

The guidelines also address issues in aging cats that include weight loss, pain management, quality of life assessments and end of life decisions. When making plans for end of life, the guidelines urge veterinarians to consider four budgets – financial, time, emotional and physical – as all of these will affect owners and their relationships with their pets.

An End of Life Toolkit has also been created by the AAFP. This toolkit includes resources for veterinarians to discuss quality of life and help owner's come to the decision as well as anesthesia and sedative guidelines and tips for supporting clients through the process. The toolkit can be accessed at <https://catvets.com/end-of-life-toolkit/>.

The guidelines can be referenced at <https://journals.sagepub.com/doi/10.1177/1098612X211021538>.

Michael Ray et al, 2021 AAFP Feline Senior Care Guidelines, Journal of Feline Medicine and Surgery (2021).

Veterinarians on ‘High Alert’ as Reports of Dog Flu Cases Spread

BY: SAMANTHA BARTLETT, DVM

The past few months have seen a rise in canine influenza cases in pockets throughout the United States. As in past outbreaks, affected dogs mostly show signs of coughing, and respiratory issues. Few cases, mostly in older or debilitated dogs, have lead to hospitalization or death.

The virus is highly contagious and almost every dog that has exposure will become infected. Most notably, the virus is easily spread on fomites, making it particularly challenging to handle in a veterinary setting.

There is a vaccine for two strains of canine influenza H3N2 and H3N8. Infected dogs should be isolated from other dogs until after their symptoms have subsided. If a known outbreak is in your area, avoid exposing your dog to other dogs outside of the household. This includes boarding and grooming facilities and dog parks. Summer travel holidays are a big concern as more dogs are boarded during this time leading to a potential for greater exposure and spread.

The CDC has a fact sheet on canine influenza that can be accessed at <https://www.cdc.gov/flu/other/canine-flu/keyfacts.html>.

New Study Focuses on Factors That Make Veterinarians Feel Good at Work

BY: SAMANTHA BARTLETT, DVM

A study by researchers at the University of Adelaide, published by Vet Record, aims to discover factors that make veterinarians feel good at work. The study was created in response to national shortages of veterinarians and in light of risks and challenges posed by the veterinary profession. Researchers hope the study can help to focus on positive aspects of the career field and help with retention and attraction of new veterinarians to the field.

The study involved a questionnaire in which respondents were asked to provide up to 10 responses to finish the statement “I derive pleasure from my work as veterinarian when...” There were 273 respondents, all Australian veterinarians, who provided over 2500 responses. The responses were grouped and categorized. Positive relationships between clients and vets and vets and colleagues were more frequent responses than positive relationship with

animals. Other findings showed that veterinarians feel good when shown trust and respect and when they have opportunities to use special skills. Other factors include positive work culture, opportunities to collaborate with other veterinarians and successful patient outcomes.

This information can be used to improve work environments by introducing recognition systems, increasing opportunities to interact with colleagues, implementing peer mentoring programs. Developing programs for personal development and helping employees further their interests and skillsets can enhance positivity in the workplace.

The study can be accessed at <https://bvajournals.onlinelibrary.wiley.com/doi/10.1002/vetr.54>.

Madeleine H. Clise et al, Sources of pleasure in veterinary work: A qualitative study, Veterinary Record (2021).

Initiative Provides a Safe Environment for Veterinary Professionals to Connect

BY: SAMANTHA BARTLETT, DVM

The Riptide Project was created by Dr. Vicki Lim, a veterinarian working in New Zealand and a founder member of the World Small Animal Veterinary Association (WSAVA) Professional Wellness Group (PWG). She started the project after developing an interest in mental health and wellbeing issues during vet school. The Riptide Project is meant to provide an encouraging and safe environment that allows veterinary professionals to connect and share experiences.

Dr. Lim established the Riptide Project in 2017. She wanted to bridge the gap between employers voicing their initiatives to protect mental health and employees' (vets and nurses) perspectives of those initiatives upon their day-to-day lives. A subproject, called Riptide Cuppa, connects individuals with one of 200 mentors who can provide guidance and support.

Dr. Lim constantly runs into people all over the world who share stories of how the project has helped them. Dr. Lim finds the individual success stories of the project gratifying and seeks to make the profession as positive for others as it is for her.

More information on the Riptide Project can be found at <https://www.theriptideproject.com/>.

More information on WSAVA PWG can be found at <https://wsava.org/committees/professional-wellness-group/>.





Parasites Carrying Pathogens Continue to Expand Ranges in 2021

BY: SAMANTHA BARTLETT, DVM

The Companion Animal Parasite Council (CAPC) released the 2021 Pet Parasite Forecast in May. The ranges of ticks and mosquitoes have continued to expand across the United States leading to an increased risk of exposure to disease pathogens including heartworm, Lyme, *Ehrlichia* and *Anaplasma spp.* CAPC makes the forecast based on work done by parasitologists and statisticians who analyze positive tests for disease, influence of weather patterns, vegetation indices and the density of human populations.

Heartworm prevalence is forecast to be higher along the Mississippi River, throughout southern Midwest and along the Atlantic Coast. CAPC cautions veterinarians in states with historically low incidence of heartworm to be aware of the increasing risk and to begin having conversations with their clients about the disease. This is particularly true for the interior Midwest and lower Great Lakes regions.

Lyme disease has continued to progress southward and westward. Increases are expected in eastern Kentucky, northeastern Tennessee, western Michigan and Ohio. CAPC recommends that veterinarians in these regions as well as in regions that have historically high prevalence to encourage clients to be vigilant about tick control and prevention.

The prevalence of *Anaplasma* species is expected to remain the same throughout most of the United States. CAPC does warn areas of Virginia, West Virginia, Texas and California to be vigilant to increases in prevalence in these areas. *Ehrlichia* has a variable range due to the many responsible species and prevalence is expected to remain high. Areas expected to see an increase include New Mexico, Arizona, California, Wyoming, Illinois, Wisconsin and Minnesota.

The full report including prevalence maps and scientific methodologies can be found at <https://capcvet.org/articles/risk-of-exposure-to-vector-borne-pathogens-what-to-expect-in-2021/>.

SEPTEMBER CE

TBA

Date: September 16th, 2021 at 7pm

Presenter: X

Location: Online (Link will be provided at a later date)

CE: 1 Hour RACE Approved

Fee: No fee to attend this event, but RSVP is required by September 13th. Current membership dues cover all CE.

Classifieds

Send your classified ads to: Wanda Geis, PO Box 12468, Shawnee Mission, KS 66282-2468, or email them to 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.

August 30, 2021

Are you a looking for a part-time or full-time small-animal veterinarian position with great FLEXIBILITY, in a fun location and with excellent benefits? Then we are looking for YOU! Martin City Animal Hospital is part of a progressive group of four privately-owned veterinary hospitals, with a total of eleven veterinarians, and is growing quickly! Our Martin City location needs a part-time or full-time veterinarian to work three to four days a week – NO WEEKENDS! You will have plenty of mentorship, as our vets meet weekly for lunch and collaborate daily on cases. And the benefits are great – 401K, health/dental/vision insurance paid, long-term disability and life insurance paid, personal pet care allowance, gym membership, vacation days, etc.! This location is in a close-knit suburb of Kansas City, a fun location with a steakhouse, brewery, and small-town feel. We pride ourselves on our cutting-edge technology, equipment, and services – IDEXX Digital Cytology Analyzer for same-day biopsy results, IDEXX CBC/Chemistry/UA machine, ultrasound, animal chiropractic care, cold laser therapy, small animal reproduction, soft tissue and orthopedic surgeries and TPLO's. Come join our work family! Please contact Dr. Aaron Stohs, owner, at stohsdvm@yahoo.com for more information

August 29, 2021

Balance Work and Family! Part-Time or Full-Time Veterinarian for AAHA Accredited Hospital in beautiful, residential lake community in Lee's Summit, MO

Join a collaborative team of 26 with 4 DVMs and 6 RVTs. Veterinarians work from 25 to 40 hours with no after-hour emergencies. Our remarkable support staff lead the way in championing exceptional care! We leave no stone unturned for our patients including thorough work ups with advanced diagnostic equipment including digital and dental radiography and ultrasound. 30 to 40 minute appointments are standard. Referrals are encouraged and welcomed by our pet owners. We have wonderful clients who allow us to go above and beyond for their pets.

Our practice culture is protected by living out our core values, scheduled department meetings and building team rapport. We utilize interoffice communication tools to keep everyone in the loop. We value people over procedures!

Our hospital has been recognized twice as Small Business of the Year in Lee's Summit! We are privately owned and reside in Lee's Summit. We are proud to be a part of this growing, suburban community! Two excellent school districts support this area.

Candidate must be dedicated to the highest quality care, continued learning, and building long-lasting

continued on next page

Classifieds

Send your classified ads to: Wanda Geis, PO Box 12468, Shawnee Mission, KS 66282-2468, or email them to 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.

relationships with clients. In order to be effective at work you need to be recharged in your personal life. Experience is valued but exceptional new graduate would be considered.

Get a glimpse of who we are at www.lakewoodanimal.com or visit our Facebook page!

Submit resumes to lakewoodanimal@sbcglobal.net or mail to Lakewood Animal Health Center 5001 NE Lakewood Way, Lee's Summit, MO 64064, Attn: Julie Dyer

About Lakewood Animal Health Center

We opened our doors in 1994 with 2 doctors, 1 team member, and no clients. Our goal was to balance our veterinary careers and commitment to excellence with family life. Our team continues to reflect this balance between work and family. We have an equal number of part-time and full-time team members who are committed to the profession and their families. Our mission includes treating each pet as if they were our own. Our entire team exemplifies that goal. #devotionismutual

August 23, 2021

Title: Veterinary Assistant

Reports To: Veterinary Clinic Manager Updated

on: June 2020

Status: Full-Time Non-Exempt Approved

By: VP, Animal Welfare & Operations

POSITION SUMMARY The Veterinary Assistant (VA) provides direct daily care to all types of animals within the shelter. A synopsis of duties includes adoption discharge rounds, assistance with universal vet clinic tasks, surgery preparation, surgery monitoring, venipuncture, kennel cleaning and other related duties. The position requires excellent animal handling skills. The VA will need to work closely with the vet clinic staff/volunteers and staff/volunteers in other departments.

Accountabilities:

- Ensure high level of care, compassion, and support to all animals.
- Ensure efficient operations of all animal care by completing tasks in a timely fashion.
- Ensure compliance with all regulatory, safety, security, and operational standards.
- Ensure disease control protocols are followed.
- Establish and demonstrate effective working relationships with all staff and volunteers, as well as the public. Effective customer relations is vital to Wayside Waifs.
- Attend required training to enhance knowledge and skills.
- Comply with all of Wayside Waifs policies and best practices.
- Demonstrate the ability to work within the vet clinic, but assist other departments to help achieve overall shelter efficiency.
- Demonstrate the ability to problem solve and offer options for improvement if there are areas to better serve the animals and organization.

continued on next page

Classifieds

Send your classified ads to: Wanda Geis, PO Box 12468, Shawnee Mission, KS 66282-2468, or email them to 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.

- Demonstrate the ability to work efficiently as a team member in a fast paced, high stress environment.

Vet Clinic Universal Tasks:

- Upkeep of surgical and general laundry with restock in needed areas.
- Stocking depleted items within the vet clinic and isolation areas.
- Medicating dogs, cats, and small mammals.
- Animal movement into and out of the vet clinic for surgery and exams.
- Adoption discharging and basic common disease explanation.
- Entering surgery and medication information in the current computer system.
- Medication preparation.
- Cleaning of all areas within the vet clinic

Veterinary Assistant Tasks:

- Assistance with animal surgery preparation and anesthesia monitoring. This includes intubation and appropriate masking, preparation of surgical margins and field sanitizing, appropriate movement of surgical animals.
- Preparation for surgery: ability to make surgical packs, appropriate laundering of surgical cloths, sanitation and sterilization of surgical instruments.
- Surgical recovery of animals.
- Basic exam/surgical animal restraint for dogs, cats, and small mammals.
- Assistance with safe and appropriate radiographs.
- Basic knowledge of common and less common diseases to assist staff/volunteers and the public.
- Primary management of adoption discharges.
- The ability to learn, perform, and interpret fecal floats and ear cytology.
- Venipuncture of intake testing and ability to collect enough for laboratory blood work.
- Assistance to veterinarian for exams.
- Logging of controlled substances with RVT or manager oversight.
- Basic supportive care treatment and medicating of hospitalized/critical patients.
- The ability to learn and perform dental prophylaxis and radiographs.
- Clinic, kennel and isolation area cleaning.
- Assistance with Universal Vet Clinic Tasks.
- Any other reasonable tasks assigned by a Veterinarian or Veterinary Clinic Manager.

Position Requirements:

- Education = High school diploma or GED.
- Six month's veterinary assistant experience required.

continued on next page

Classifieds

Send your classified ads to: Wanda Geis, PO Box 12468, Shawnee Mission, KS 66282-2468, or email them to 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.

- Demonstrates experience working effectively with people and animals in a variety of high-stress situations.
- Physical:
 - Must be able to lift 50 pounds to waist height in order to move animals from kennels, move bags, and a push-pull situations.
 - Repetitive bending, kneeling, stopping, and similar movements required.
 - Must be able to physically restrain animals weighing up to and including 125 pounds.
 - Able to work with exposure to wet and/or humid condition and outside weather conditions.
 - Must be able to perform a significant amount of standing during a typical day, exposure to fumes, airborne particles, and possible zoonotic diseases.
 - Noise level is moderate too high.

Exposure to animal waste. To apply for this position, please submit your application and resume via our website at www.waysidewaifs.org.

August 13, 2021

REGISTERED VETERINARY TECHNICIAN GREAT JOB OPPORTUNITY IN KC METRO AREA (KS SUBURBS)

\$2500 signing bonus! Wages start at \$20 – \$22/hour.

Mill Creek Animal Hospital (www.millcreekah.com) is a proudly family-owned and locally operated small animal veterinary facility of excellence. Founded in 1990, we are highly regarded and respected in the community, and have an enviably large, diverse, and growing client and patient roster. We are seeking a registered veterinary technician to join our growing team. Full-time position is preferred, but we will entertain PT roles as well. We are adding new doctors and new equipment and must have additional technicians to implement our high standard of care, particularly as we move into our new, state-of-the-art facility in early 2022! We are an AAHA-accredited small animal hospital in Shawnee, KS. Mill Creek offers full digital radiology both whole body and dental, complete in-house lab equipment, doppler ultrasound, tonometry, cryosurgery, and therapy laser. Mill Creek boasts an enviable doctor to staff ratio that allows a RVT to fully utilize their diverse and valuable skill sets. Applicant must be a Registered and/or Licensed Veterinary Technician eligible to be licensed in Kansas. Job seekers currently in an accredited RVT program set to graduate in 2022 are also encouraged to apply. We offer a progressive wage (starting salary ranges \$20 to \$22/hour) and benefits package that includes: health care, vision, dental, matching 401k paid CE, Uniform Allowance, 2 weeks Paid Vacation/PTO, and steep professional service discounts. Interested applicants may call (913) 268-0900 (and ask for Drs. Church or Schumacher).

August 9, 2021

Well established Miami county clinic hiring for full time technician. We serve both small animal, equine and large animal. Some Saturdays required, excellent benefits package. If you're a team player with excellent customer service skills, Please email your resume to jen@paolavetclinic.com

August 9, 2021

Vintage Veterinary Hospital is looking to bring on an associate veterinarian who is looking for an ownership opportunity. We are currently a one doctor practice but easily have the clients and volume to be two doctor practice and continue to grow. We are celebrating our 15 year anniversary this September. I am looking to

continued on next page

Classifieds

Send your classified ads to: Wanda Geis, PO Box 12468, Shawnee Mission, KS 66282-2468, or email them to 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.

transition out of ownership. This is a golden opportunity to buy an established practice with excellent growth and cash flow. Please contact Dr Clint Watkins at drwatkins@vintagevet.com or 816-630-3960

July 28, 2021

Job Title: \$60k Bonus and Great Work/Life Balance!

Jackson County Animal Hospital has a new opportunity to join our growing two doctor practice in Independence, MO. This small animal practice is looking for a dynamic full time Veterinarian to be part of a collaborative team. This role has a \$60k bonus connected to it!

Jackson County Animal Hospital is a full-service veterinary facility that also offers urgent and emergency care as needed basis. Their newly renovated building features three exam rooms, convenient hydraulic exam tables with scales incorporated, in-house IDEXX ProCyte and catalyst blood diagnostics, digital radiology and an iM3 GS Deluxe high-speed dental unit. The tenured support staff team make this an excellent place to practice medicine. The ideal candidate will be an experienced surgeon and possess leadership skills, but new graduates will be considered. This practice is led by a medical director with a continual growth and improvement mentality with a special interest in practice management methods that promote staff resilience and wellbeing. Increased use of Fear Free techniques and cutting-edge technology and equipment is part of the plan to improve the wellbeing of staff and patients.

Located just a 20 minute drive from Kansas City, Independence living gives you the small town feel with the big city just minutes away. Downtown is home to local boutiques, unique restaurants (featuring famous Kansas City BBQ!), and charming bed and breakfast spots. Enjoy family friendly outdoor adventures such as: nationally recognized golf courses, fishing, water parks, tennis courts, and hiking and biking trails. Independence has something for everyone and activities to keep you and your family moving!

We offer mentorship within other CareVet training hospital locations and relocation opportunities to other hospitals after training is completed!

Our partnership with CareVet provides our veterinarians with benefits such as:

Competitive Compensation packages including Base Salaries with % Production

Signing and Relocation Bonuses

A Robust Benefits Package including Medical Dental & Vision Insurance & 401k with match

Employee Assistance Program with a focus on compassion fatigue & stress support

We offer a veterinarian-focused culture, schedule flexibility, mentorship, and a strong focus on skill development and CE opportunities

CareVet offers a strong, veterinarian-focused culture at our practices. All our practices are long established in their communities. Some have leadership looking to transition, providing medical director opportunities and open to new visions, while others have solid continuing leadership in place and looking for strong veterinarians to join in and continue driving excellent patient care and service.

Apply today! [CLICK HERE TO APPLY](#)

July 26, 2021

Licensed Veterinary Technician to Join our Team:

We are a AAHA accredited, multi-doctor, small animal hospital located in Kansas City, MO. We offer a professional fast paced environment. Successful candidates can expect a compatible salary, paid time off, health insurance,

continued on next page

Classifieds

Send your classified ads to: Wanda Geis, PO Box 12468, Shawnee Mission, KS 66282-2468, or email them to 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.

continuing education, and retirement. Sign on bonus and moving expenses are possible with the right candidate. Please send resume to PWAHhiring@gmail.com

July 26, 2021

Veterinary Technician/ RVT Wanted:

Platte Woods Animal Hospital is seeking 2 RVT to join our team.

We offer a professional, fast paced environment. Successful candidates can expect a very competitive salary, employee discounts for personal pets, PTO, Health Insurance, Retirement and continuing education. Signing Bonus and Moving expenses are possible for the right candidate.

Platte Woods Animal Hospital is a 4 doctor; AAHA accredited, family-owned small animal hospital in Kansas City Northland. We are well equipped with digital radiography, Sx suite, in-house abaxis labs, ultrasound, endoscopy, laser therapy and more.

21-26/hr

Please apply at: PWAHHiring@gmail.com

July 25, 2021

Gladstone Animal Clinic, LLC is a busy 6 doctor small animal and exotic practice in Gladstone, Missouri. We have a proud heritage and long tradition of providing excellent veterinary care in the Kansas City Metropolitan area since the mid 1960's. We have built our reputation on delivering the best medicine for our patients and service for our clients. Our hospital has continued to grow and we are in need of additional veterinarians. Gladstone Animal Clinic, LLC offers: Generous and competitive compensation package, additional production-based bonus compensation, flexible work schedule, paid holidays and vacation, paid continuing education with paid time off and expenses, no emergency or after hours, In-house IDEXX laboratory equipment, In-house pharmacy, digital radiology, ultrasound, echocardiogram, dental unit, dental radiology, therapy laser, well equipped surgical suite, and boarding facility. Easy referral to multiple emergency and specialty facilities in the area. We have a strong, caring and supportive staff; you will work side-by-side with other veterinarians daily. We foster a strong collaborative work environment. We are flexible and would welcome full or part time applicants of any experience level. New graduates are encouraged to apply; we will mentor you.

Please email your resume to gladvets@gmail.com or contact Teresa Schlager at 816-914-6351

July 16, 2021

The Veterinary Health Center at Kansas City is seeking a full time veterinarian for our emergency hospital. This practice is part of the University of Missouri-Columbia Veterinary Health Center (VHC). The emergency clinic provides night and weekend patient care for animals that are critically ill, that are subject to change or deteriorate rapidly, and that require technically complex and time-consuming treatment and monitoring. The Veterinarian on duty will ensure proper patient care is provided, referring veterinarian and client communications meet expectations, and business protocols are followed. Responsibilities include but are not limited to the following:

Examine and treat emergency patients

Explain treatment protocols, including treatment risks, and estimated cost to clients

Supervise staff employees, and lead them in being responsive and compassionate in providing emergency

continued on next page

Classifieds

Send your classified ads to: Wanda Geis, PO Box 12468, Shawnee Mission, KS 66282-2468, or email them to 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.

services to beloved pets

Work with VHC administrators regarding systems for payroll, hospital information, etc

Work with VHC administrators and marketing staff to engage local practitioners to promote the hospital

Address business and facility concerns to ensure practice is well run, safe and presentable

Provide efficient service while not compromising the level of care offered

Salary

Commensurate with education and experience.

Shift to be discussed but will include nights, weekends and holidays.

40 hours per week.

Minimum Qualifications

A Doctor of Veterinary Medicine (DVM) degree and professional licensure (or eligibility to be licensed) within the State of Missouri.

Benefit Eligibility

This position is eligible for University benefits. The University offers a comprehensive benefits package, including medical, dental and vision plans, retirement, paid time off, and educational fee discounts. For additional information on University benefits, please visit the Faculty & Staff Benefits website at <http://www.umsystem.edu/totalrewards/benefits>

How to Apply/Contact

To apply please go to <https://hrs.missouri.edu/find-a-job/staff> Job ID number 36612

If you have any questions or would like more information about the position please contact LeAnne Stewart at stewartle@missouri.edu.

July 15, 2021

Westwood Animal Hospital is seeking a full-time or part-time veterinary receptionist to join our team. Full-time benefits include discounted services and products for employee's pet(s), paid personal, sick, and vacation time, and an employer contribution towards employee's individual health insurance plan. The right candidate is trustworthy and dependable, has a friendly personality, and has a sincere interest in helping people and their pets. Some previous experience in the companion animal field is preferred.

*We would also consider a candidate who would work reception part-time and vet assistant part-time.

Interested job-seekers can fill out the application for employment on our website, <http://westwoodanimalhospital.com/front-page/forms-2/job-application-form/>

Please e-mail or fax the completed application to the attention of Emily Sandberg.