



Veterinary Community Responds to Ukraine Crisis – How to Help – Animal Impact

BY: SAMANTHA BARTLETT, DVM

As the conflict in Ukraine continues, thousands of pets are arriving at the Polish border with their families. Veterinary teams in Poland are caring for 500-600 animals arriving in the country daily. The International Fund for Animal Welfare (IFAW) reports that veterinary teams have vaccinated and microchipped more than 12000 animals since the Russian invasion began. Small veterinary teams at train stations along the Polish border can see up to 200 pets per day. Many of these pets are suffering from dehydration, hypothermia and stress.

Animals that remain in Ukraine are faring no better. Shelters report that animals are stressed from the noise of bombing and artillery – some having seizures. Others have been injured in bombing raids. Food is in short supply and many animals are left to their own devices foraging to find food. There have been reported deaths of people attempting to deliver food to animal shelters within the Ukraine.

The Dogs of Chernobyl Program that has been providing clean food to the stray dogs living around the Chernobyl nuclear site has not been able to get food to the dogs there. Zoo animals are also suffering within the country as zoo personnel are unable to transport them through the conflict zones and many animals are panicking during bombings. Food has become an issue for these animals as well. The European Association of Zoos and Aquariums has been coordinating efforts to get supplies to the zoos across the Ukraine. Likewise, the Food and Agricultural Organization of the United Nations is working to provide food and supplies to farmers and rural livestock owners.

Monetary aid is the best way to help as there is no guarantee that other forms of aid will make the trip to their intended target. Local humanitarian groups can use the financial aid to fund local efforts. In March, the AVMA's charitable arm American Veterinary Medical Foundation announced it will direct a \$100,000 contribution from the Merck Animal Health along with a matching contribution to groups helping Ukraine and surrounding areas. The World Small Animal Veterinary Association (WSAVA) is gathering food and supplies and developing a network on the ground to deliver the supplies where needed. The website Vets for Ukraine was created in coordination with many European veterinary organizations to provide aid to Ukrainian veterinarians, their families and their animals. In addition, other countries are offering aid to veterinarians, veterinary students and shelter animals from Ukraine in various ways.

To contribute to the Ukrainian relief efforts through the AVMF, go to [AVMF.org/Donate](https://www.avmf.org/Donate).



FDA Releases New Guidance for Compounding Veterinary Drugs Using Bulk Substances

BY: SAMANTHA BARTLETT, DVM

The Federal Drug Administration's (FDA) Center for Veterinary Medicine (CVM) has released new guidance regarding the compounding of drugs from bulk substances for veterinary use. Guidance for Industry (GFI) #256, Compounding Animal Drugs from Bulk Drug Substances, is intended to provide more clarification on using compounded drugs for veterinary use. The FDA CVM recognizes that there are many cases where established drug products will not work for a specific patient or condition and that the ability of veterinarians to obtain drugs compounded from bulk substances is vital to protect animal health.

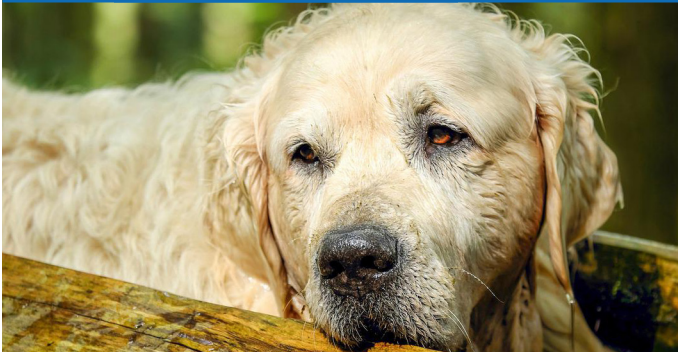
Compounding is the process in which ingredients are combined, mixed or altered in an effort to tailor medication to the needs of an individual or small group of animals to treat a specific health condition. The FDA has already approved compounding of medication using approved drugs, however compounding with bulk substances is not approved by the FDA. These medications have not been evaluated for safety, efficacy or consistency and the label has not been verified as accurate and complete.

Essentially, the new guidance provides flexibility for pharmacists and veterinarians to compound animal drugs for individual patients or as needed for immediate or emergency use to keep as "office stock", identifies safety issues that may arise with compounding medications, indicates types of animal drugs from bulk substances that pose risk to human and animal health and prioritizes these drugs for enforcement action. The guidance also indicates that enforcement action will be conducted for compounded drugs made with poor compounding practices as well as drugs that are copies of FDA-approved or indexed drugs on the market.



The agency intends to conduct outreach and guidance prior to implementing and enforcing the new guidance in fiscal year 2023. The FDA has created a reference library that includes information handouts for veterinarians and pharmacists and a webinar explaining the new guidance. Additional questions can be directed to the agency by email at AskCVM@fda.hhs.gov.

The AVMA has also published information to help understand the new guidance at <https://www.avma.org/resources-tools/animal-health-and-welfare/animal-health/compounding/compounding-bulk-drug-substances>.



New Study Analyzes Life Expectancy in Dogs

BY: SAMANTHA BARTLETT, DVM

A Study conducted by Dr. Dan O'Neill, associate professor of companion animal epidemiology at the Royal Veterinary College, published in Scientific Reports analyzed the records of all dogs under veterinary care in the Vet Compass Programme in 2016. This report broke down dogs by sex and purebred or crossbred. Breeds were broken down into Kennel Club breed groups (Gundog, Hound, Pastoral, Toy, Terrier, Utility and Working).

The EPRs were scanned for evidence of death whether euthanized or unassisted between 2016 and 2020. Records without information about sex were not included. The analysis ultimately included 30,563 confirmed deceased dogs. There were 18 breeds in the analysis, which accounted for 50% of the total subjects. The rest were cross-bred dogs.

Female dogs had a longer life expectancy than male dogs (11.41 vs. 11.07). Neutered pets had a substantially higher life expectancy than intact pets. Jack Russell (12.7 yrs.) and Yorkshire terriers (12.5 yrs.) had the longest life expectancy among the breeds analyzed. French Bulldogs had the shortest life expectancy (4.5yr).

This study represents one of the first life tables developed for companion animals in the UK and sets the basis for expansion and further understanding of factors affecting life expectancy. The researchers view this study as a proof of concept for undertaking more in-depth analyses.

Grass Eating in Dogs Can Be Normal, but May Indicate Need for Diet Change

BY: SAMANTHA BARTLETT, DVM

The question of why dogs eat grass may be one of the most common inquiries made to veterinarians and the answer is not so straight forward. Drs. Gary Richter and Sara Ochoa recently weighed in on the reasons behind this behavior.

The most common reason dogs eat grass is simply grazing. They may like the taste of a specific grass or they may simply be bored. Usually, grass is most appealing when it is newly grown in the spring or after being mowed when the scent is strongest. Dr. Richter notes that if your dog is eating grass as a sign of boredom, he may need more exercise or mental stimulation. An important consideration if you do have a dog that habitually eats grass is to avoid spraying toxic chemicals on the lawn.

On the other hand, some dogs eat grass as a form of self-medication for gastrointestinal issues. Because grass is high in fiber, it can help improve digestion. Grass can also be used as a form of emesis, which is sometimes all that is needed for an upset stomach. However, a dog that is constantly eating grass, especially if vomiting, should be evaluated by a veterinarian. This could indicate many things including gastrointestinal disease, parasites, or dietary deficiency. A case report published in the Journal of Veterinary Medical Science in 2007 describes a poodle with a 7-year history of eating grass every day on its walk and then vomiting. The presenter recommended the owner discontinue the current diet and feed a high fiber diet. The owner reported 3 days later that the dog had stopped eating grass and vomiting. The dog was still symptom free 13 months later.

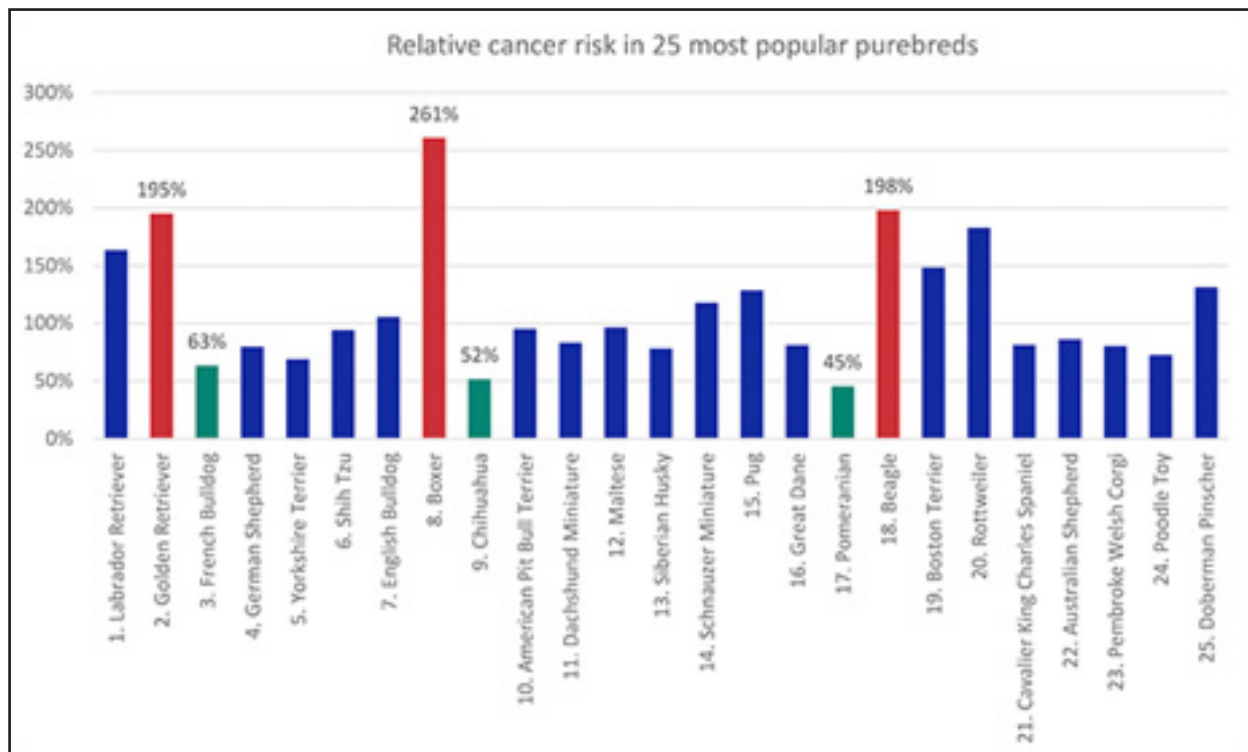
Nationwide Report on Cancer in Dogs

BY: SAMANTHA BARTLETT, DVM

In 2021, Nationwide insurance company released a white paper showing analysis of 1.6 million claims relating to cancer over a 6-year period. Within these claims they analyzed breed statistics as well as prevalence of specific body systems within breeds. Generally, the study found that purebred dogs were 1.9 times more likely to develop cancer than non-purebred dogs. For purebreds, Nationwide focused on the top 25 insured breeds by the company, which accounted for a sample size of at least 10,000 dogs per breed during the sample period. Of the top 25 breeds insured by Nationwide, boxers, beagles and golden retrievers were at highest risk. Boxers were at highest risk for neurologic, cardiac and skin cancer. Beagles had the highest risk for bladder, endocrine and liver cancer. Golden retrievers were at highest risk for cardiac, splenic and liver cancers. The breeds with the fewest cancer-related claims were Pomeranians, Chihuahuas and French Bulldogs.

The lowest average age at first cancer claim belongs to the Great Dane at 6.2 years of age, followed by the French bulldog at 6.8 years. The oldest average age was the Maltese at 10.8 years followed by the miniature dachshund at 10.7 years. The youngest average age for cancer by body system belongs to skin cancer at 8.11 with the oldest average age of cancer onset by body system is Liver at 10.56.

More analysis of this study as well as previous and future studies can be found at www.petinsurance.com/petdata.



Relative cancer risk in the 25 most popular purebreds (https://www.avma.org/news/nationwide-releases-findings-cancer-dogs?utm_source=delivra&utm_medium=email&utm_campaign=AVMA%20News%20-%2004-08-22&utm_id=3590629&dlv-emuid=25f42e1c-0d64-4dce-abec-e6f1c25b7287&dlv-mlid=3590629)

Classifieds

Send your classified ads to: Wanda Geis, PO Box 12468, Shawnee Mission, KS 66282-2468, or email them to classifieds@kcvma.com. Classified ads will be run at the sole discretion of the editor and may be edited for content.

June 29, 2022

Quivira Crossing Veterinary Clinic- Overland Park, KS

Feeling worn out and worn down from a high volume, high-pressure practice? We may be just the practice you have been waiting for!

Located in affluent Overland Park, KS we focus on the quality of our client experience by maintaining 30-minute appointments and having value-building conversations. We enjoy forming strong client bonds and working alongside our clients to form individualized diagnostic and treatment plans. Our patient demographics are 99% canine and feline with 1% pocket pet/exotics.

Being a privately owned and operated practice, we place more attention on associate concerns and strive to address them more quickly than is typical for corporate-managed practices. We intend to maintain this family-style culture even as we continue to rapidly grow.

We moved into our new facility in August of 2020 and it has been a fantastic transition! Modern finishes, copious amount of natural light, and spacious exam rooms contribute not only to our client experience but also our staff morale. We currently have 3 full time veterinarians and appropriate amount of support staff, however, there is enough room to comfortably grow to 5!

Position Details:

- \$100,000 Minimum salary (higher salary negotiable and based on skills)
- 4-day (8am-5:30pm) work week with Saturday morning (9am-noon) rotation
- paid vacation
- paid sick leave
- Up to \$1,000 in CE
- Up to \$500 in membership dues (of associate's choosing)
- Professional Liability Insurance
- Reimbursement of license renewals (DEA and KS)
- 3% match in SIMPLE IRA
- NO ON-CALL

If you are interested in trying our brand of private veterinary medicine, we would love to start a conversation! 816-807-5744

June 29, 2022

Lionsgate Pet Hospital is seeking an experienced full-time registered or experienced Veterinary Technician and/or assistant. Here at Lionsgate, our four doctor practice continues to grow and we strive to maintain a team-oriented, enjoyable work environment that nurtures professional development. We thrive on great customer and patient care, long-term clientele and a great staff that is more like a family.

We are a state-of-the-art hospital complete with digital x-ray, digital dental x-ray, full in-house laboratory and ultrasound. The perfect candidate should be highly motivated and enthusiastic with a strong skill set and a professional, positive attitude.

Veterinary experience is highly preferred. Some essential functions of this position include:

- Preventative care knowledge

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- Medication dispensing and administering
- Obtaining patient history and vital signs
- Surgical experience (prep, monitoring, recovery, etc.)
- Performing blood draws, injections and placing IV catheters

We are proud to offer our full-time employees the following benefit:

- Medical and Dental Insurance
- Paid vacation
- Paid sick leave
- Healthcare savings account
- 401(k) with match
- Personal pet care discount
- CE allowance (for registered techs)
- Must have the ability to lift patients and carry equipment up to 25 pounds. Must also have the ability to lift patients or carry equipment over 25 pounds with assistance.
- This position will work 7:30am – 5pm, four days a week. No weekend hours.

Contact Rachel at 913-402-8300 to inquire about this position.

Lionsgate Pet Hospital
14327 Metcalf Ave.

June 6, 2022**Shelter Veterinarian – Wayside Waifs**

The Shelter Veterinarian is primarily responsible for managing all aspects of healthcare and disease control for the animals under the care of Wayside Waifs. Primary responsibilities include general examinations, alteration surgeries, soft tissue surgeries, dentistry, animal public health, student teaching, and teamwork. The shelter veterinarian will work up and/or direct internal medicine, emergency, and surgical cases based on existing resources. The Shelter Veterinarian at Wayside Waifs reports to the Chief Veterinarian and is expected to demonstrate leadership and teamwork in all organizational interactions.

What makes Wayside special?

Stable Organization. We've been here since 1944 and continue to grow, expand, and thrive as the needs of the community have changed.

Low Employee Turnover. Many Waysiders have worked at the shelter for 5, 10, or more years! If you're looking for a place to call home, consider Wayside!

Strong Financials. Yes, Wayside is a non-profit that relies on donations to operate – but we have an incredibly loyal, generous, and large donor base.

Competitive Benefits. Benefits include paid time off, and 6.5 holidays, group health plan (100% paid after 2 years), dental plan, vision plan, group life insurance, 401(k) plan with Wayside contribution, long term disability insurance, employee assistance program, supplemental insurance options, and pet care and adoption discounts. Paid license fees and generous continuing education allowance.

Managed Animal Shelter. Wayside is not an open admission shelter. This management philosophy allows Wayside

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to provide a very high quality of medical and behavioral care, support high employee morale, and responsibly manage the shelter's resources to serve the needs of the community.

State-of-the-art Facilities. Whatever the shelter animals need, Wayside's Team makes it happen. Our state-of-the-art facilities provide high quality medical, behavioral, and training care for the animals. Our Canine Behavior Center is the second of its kind in the nation.

Work-Life Balance. We know working in animal welfare can take an emotional toll. It's important work, but it can be hard when you care so deeply for the animals you are serving. Wayside is committed to providing a positive work-life balance. This includes ensuring you have the resources you need to do your work and investing in your continuing education to grow your career.

Commitment to Diversity, Equity and Inclusion. Wayside is committed to being a diverse, equitable, and inclusive workplace for staff and volunteers. We value and respect everyone, no matter their race, color, creed, sexual orientation or identity, disability, national origin, or age. All employees will be given equal consideration with respect to compensation, benefits, and opportunities for advancement (except where sex, age or physical capabilities are a bona fide occupational requirement).

Apply now at <https://waysidewaifs.org/contact-us/job-openings/>

For questions, contact Melissa Crites, HR Manager at 816-986-4412 or mcrites@waysidewaifs.org

May 23, 2022

Hill's Pet Nutrition in Topeka, Kansas is seeking an experienced and innovative Clinical Research Veterinarian to contribute towards delivering an exceptional animal care program as well as partnering with our scientist researchers to produce high quality feeding trial data. Primary responsibility is to provide all aspects of veterinary medical, surgical, dental and behavioral health care services for our dog and cat pet partners at the Hill's Global Pet Nutrition Center in Topeka. Apply online at: [Hill's Clinical Research Veterinarian](#)

May 12, 2022

Veterinary Technology Instructor

Who we are:

Metropolitan Community Colleges has been providing a quality education for the veterinary technician profession and animal health industry with full accreditation by the AVMA since 1975. MCC is Kansas City's oldest public institution of higher education; 2021-22 marks our 107th academic year. We were founded in 1915 as the Kansas City Polytechnic Institute, changed our name to the Junior College of Kansas City in 1919, and became "Metropolitan" in 1964. Our campuses — MCC-Blue River, MCC-Longview, MCC-Maple Woods, MCC-Online and MCC-Penn Valley — educate about 20,000 students annually through credit and noncredit courses and business services.

Position Summary:

–Provide veterinary duties, (anesthesia, surgery, primary care) and coordinate care for 12 different species of animals housed on campus (canine, feline, food animal, equine, lab animals)

–Deliver effective instruction to the Veterinary Technician program– Provide quality instruction, which is reflective of current discipline standards and is accurate, relevant, and engaging using college – approved curriculum and resources.

–Assess student learning

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- Manage classes and learning environments
- Promote continual improvement as part of the cycle of teaching and learning.
- Support learning through student engagement
- Provide student guidance
- Pursue professional development
- Actively participate collegially in department, campus, cross-college, discipline-specific, district, and community service activities.

Qualifications:

- Doctor of Veterinary Medicine from an American Veterinary Medical Association Accredited Program
- At least five (5) years of practice in the field of Veterinary science.
- Licensed in the state of Missouri, or eligible for licensure
- Drug Enforcement Administration (DEA) and Bureau of Narcotics and Dangerous Drugs (BNDD) licensed
- Knowledgeable of USDA Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service (APHIS) regulatory requirements

What we offer:

We offer all full-time employees a competitive salary commensurate with their education and experience. We also provide medical, dental, vision, and life insurance plans, as well as retirement, 403b (both include contributions by employee and employer), employee assistance, and flexible spending and health savings account.

For additional information and to apply, use the following link:

<https://jobs.mcckc.edu/postings/28577>

May 5, 2022

NKC Animal Clinic & Daycare is seeking a full time veterinarian to join our team. We are a new hospital located in North Kansas City Missouri that is privately owned NOT corporate with a 1:1 Vet to tech ratio, our 3 doctor sister hospital is only 5 miles down the road therefore giving us plenty of opportunity for collaborative medicine. We have in hours Idexx lab equipment, a brand new surgical suite, digital radiography and much more. The schedule is 4 days per week 8am-5pm and rotating Saturdays at our sister clinic (8am-noon). We highly value a work/life balance as the owner is a working mother of 2 young children. We offer competitive salary, health insurance stipend, Simple IRA with match, CE allowance, personal/vacation time, dues, liability coverage, discounted care mentorship and so much more. Please email questions or resumes to LLRMRB@gmail.com