



World Health Organization

World Health Organization (WHO) Updates List of Medically Important Antimicrobials

BY: SAMANTHA BARTLETT, DVM

The WHO List of Medically Important Antimicrobials is developed to assist in risk-based decisions to reduce the effect of using antimicrobials in animals on antimicrobial resistance in humans. The list is intended to encourage antimicrobial stewardship in veterinary professionals and food animal producers.

The list was first published by WHO in 2005 under the title of Critically Important Antimicrobial List for Human Medicine. Since then, it has undergone multiple revisions, the most recent in 2018. The new list has added categories on the basis of importance of antimicrobials to human medicine, the risk of antimicrobial resistance and the human health implications that can result from inappropriate use in nonhuman sectors. These categories are entitled authorized for use in humans only, medically important and not medically important. Medically important antimicrobials are divided into highest priority critically important antimicrobials (HPCIA), which include third and fourth-generation cephalosporins, quinolones and polymyxins, and critically important antimicrobials (CIA), which include aminoglycosides and macrolides.

The WHO developed the list in cooperation with the Food and Agriculture Organization, The United Nations Environmental Programme and the World Organisation for Animal Health. The list is not without criticism against its focus strictly on the importance of human medicine. Critics feel the WHO is not adequately taking into account the interrelationship between human medicine and veterinary medicine. Many of the recommendations stated by the WHO are counterintuitive to disease mitigation and antimicrobial resistance in food animals.

The WHO List of Medically Important Microbials is not a binding regulation and is meant only as a guidance for regulating agencies. The list can be downloaded at <https://www.who.int/news/item/08-02-2024-who-medically-important-antimicrobial-list-2024>.

New FTC Ruling to Ban Noncompetes Threatened by Suits from Business Groups Including the US Chamber of Commerce

BY: SAMANTHA BARTLETT, DVM

On April 23, 2024, the Federal Trade Commission (FTC) made a final ruling banning noncompete clauses across the country. The ruling was issued after the committee determined noncompetes violate parts of the FTC act which prohibits “unfair or deceptive acts or practices in or affecting commerce.” The ruling will go into effect 120 days after it is published in the Federal Register. The ruling was decided after reviewing the more than 26,000 submissions during the 90-day comment period established by the initial FTC proposal.

The FTC estimates that 30 million Americans are bound by noncompetes currently. In a press release, FTC Chair Lina M. Khan stated, “noncompete clauses keep wages low, suppress new ideas and rob the American economy of dynamism, including from the more than 8,500 new startups that would be created a year once noncompetes are banned.”

The rule will prohibit for-profit employers from subjecting new workers to noncompete agreements. Existing noncompetes for most employees will be unenforceable. Examples of valid noncompetes are those with senior executives and those entered into as part of a sale of business. The FTC offered other alternatives to noncompetes that would allow business to protect their information and investments without having a noncompete. These include trade secret laws and non-disclosure agreements (NDAs).

The U.S. Chamber of Commerce and other business groups sued the FTC Texas federal court after the announcement of the new ruling. The multiple suits are an attempt to block the rule. The U.S. Chamber of Commerce stated in their lawsuit that the FTC does not have the authority to enact rules determining anticompetitive business conduct, only existing antitrust laws. The suit also states that the competitive abilities of startups will be undermined as they will not be able to keep large corporations from luring away their employees and gaining access to confidential information.

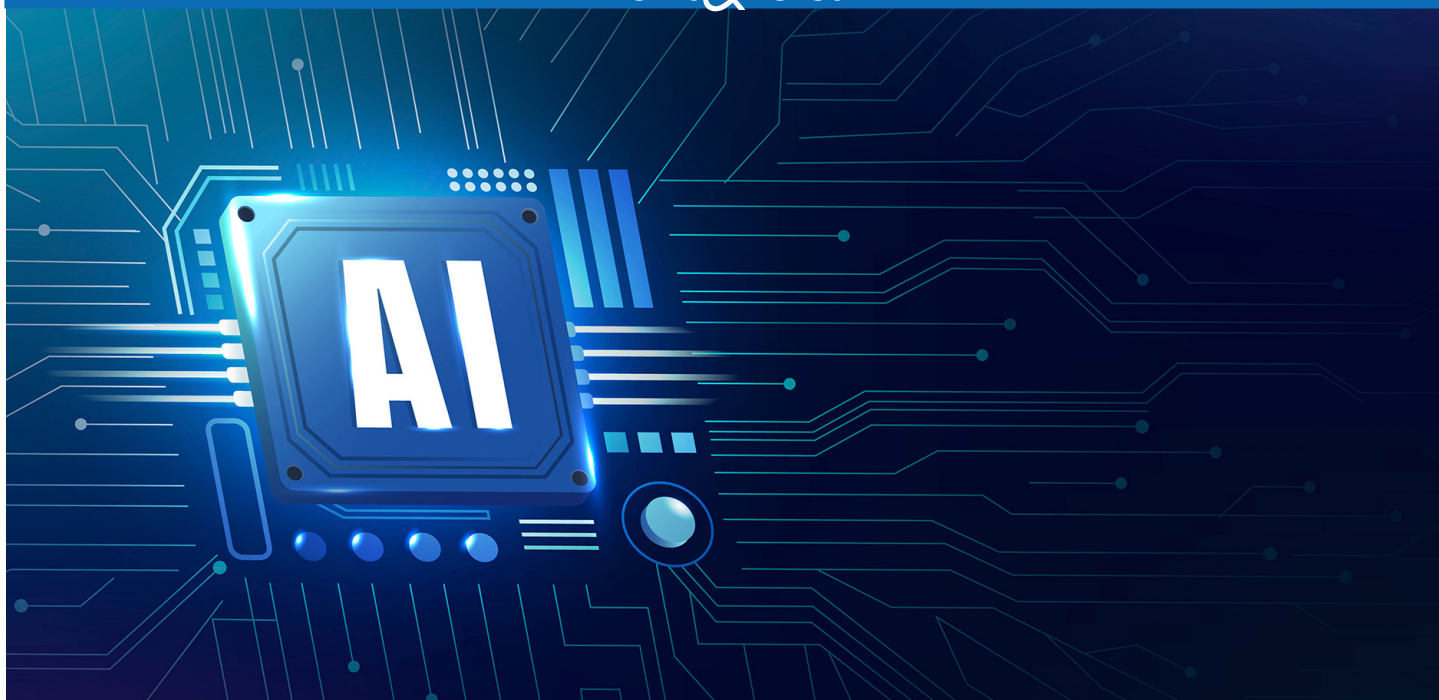
Beware of Jury Duty Scams Targeting Veterinarians!

BY: ALLISON NELSON, DVM

These scams have targeted local veterinarians. The caller may call the veterinary office phone saying they are with the sheriff's department and have a warrant out for their arrest. The callers have very elaborate scripts and may have personal information or details that makes their call seem credible.

Be aware that Missouri courts do not require anyone to provide any confidential information via telephone call or e-mail. Most contact between a Missouri court and a potential juror will be through postal mail. Reach out to local law enforcement directly if you are contacted about jury duty and have concerns.

<https://www.courts.mo.gov/page.jsp?id=1011>



Artificial Intelligence Has Potential Benefits in Veterinary Medicine

BY: SAMANTHA BARTLETT, DVM

Artificial Intelligence (AI) has become a hot topic in the world lately, especially on university campuses. AI technology involves machines simulating human intelligence based on a database of patterns. Despite the relative novelty of the technology, AI is already in use in veterinary medicine.

The AI being used in veterinary medicine is classified as a narrow-use application, meaning it only does one thing. AI is being used to analyze research data and predict outcomes in veterinary research programs. For example, diagnostic x-rays are fed into the system to get an output on disease classification. This program only does one specialty and works with a specific set of parameters to give information. It is attractive because it can increase the efficiency and speed of the veterinary practitioner.

In contrast, general AI can take in multiple information sources and analyze them to produce diagnoses or treatment plans. While this application can be attractive in a clinical setting, it does have

several regulatory and ethical drawbacks. The application of general AI to medical diagnostics involves combining input data, imaging data, and genomic data. Somehow, these programs need to be able to integrate the long-term experience of qualified clinicians for decision making. Currently, these models are not as reliably effective as human veterinary professionals.

While AI applications in healthcare are moving forward at a rapid pace, trust and ethical standards still need to be addressed. Currently there are no regulations for the use of artificial intelligence in medical diagnosis. Frameworks need to be established before widespread AI can be implemented in the veterinary medical field. For example, if AI makes a wrong prognosis resulting in an owner euthanizing their dog, there is no clear liability for the error. For now, it may be best to use AI as a diagnostic reinforcement until adequate testing and regulation have evolved.

New Guidance Issued on Canine Leptospirosis

BY: SAMANTHA BARTLETT, DVM

The American College of Veterinary Internal Medicine (ACVIM) published an updated consensus statement on leptospirosis last year. The update recommended that all dogs be vaccinated for leptospirosis once yearly.

The lead author on the consensus, Dr. Jane Sykes, gave an overview of the updated recommendations at the 2024 Veterinary Meeting Expo (VMX) in Orlando, FL. The guidance states that all dogs are at risk of contracting leptospirosis regardless of age, breed, gender, or geographic location. Rats and other rodents are a common reservoir for *Leptospira*. *Leptospira* stay viable in the soil or water for months and can cause infection when they are ingested or come into contact with wounds in the skin or through mucous membranes. Areas with increased rainfall can have a build up of *Leptospira* in muddy or wet areas, much like a biofilm. The bacteria can also tolerate freezing.

Unlike human cases of leptospirosis, which most often occur in subtropical climates, canine leptospirosis outbreaks have occurred in a variety of climates including Arizona, Los Angeles, Chicago and Wyoming. There are also documented outbreaks associated with boarding facilities. The disease is seen year-round in the southern states, but most often seen in the fall in the northeastern states and in winter and early spring in California.

Leptospirosis is a multisystemic disease that affects multiple organs and can present varying clinical symptoms. The most common presentation of canine infection is hepatopathy and tubulointerstitial nephritis. Other symptoms include pulmonary hemorrhage, ocular inflammation, cardiac arrhythmias and pancreatitis. The new guidance recommends considering leptospirosis in dogs that present with acute febrile illness. If no improvement

is seen within 24 hours, the dog should be tested. Because the disease can rapidly progress in severity, diagnosis should be based on clinical suspicion in addition to specific laboratory testing. If running nucleic acid amplification test (NAATs), blood and urine specimens should be collected before the patient is started on antibiotics. The guidelines also cover potential antibiotic treatment with doxycycline along with nutritional management, supportive care and monitoring. Hydration status should be closely monitored to prevent fluid overload or dehydration.

The disease affects a large number of mammal species including cats. Infection of cats has found to be widespread based on serologic evidence. However, cats appear to be disease resistant for the most part. It is possible that cats are reservoir hosts.

Leptospirosis in humans mostly presents as flu-like symptoms and is identified in over 1 million cases per year. Because of the non-specific symptoms, this number is likely to be much higher. The risk of contracting infection from an infected dog, however, is low as there aren't many organisms shed in the urine. The Centers for Disease Control (CDC) found that people who were heavily exposed to dogs in Arizona during an outbreak found no evidence of seroconversion.

Dr. Jane Sykes wrote a paper on the One Health aspect of leptospirosis, published in the Journal of American Veterinary Medical Association (JAVMA) that can be accessed at <https://avmajournals.avma.org/view/journals/javma/260/13/javma.22.06.0258.xml>. The AVMA has also created resources for pet owners on the subject of leptospirosis. The consensus statement as published in the Journal of the American College of Veterinary Internal Medicine can be found at <https://onlinelibrary.wiley.com/doi/10.1111/jvim.16903>.

Older Dogs Benefit from Cognitive and Physical Therapy

BY: SAMANTHA BARTLETT, DVM

Eotvos Lornd University sought to study different therapies on aging in humans using dogs. It is projected that 30% of people will be over the age of 65 by the year 2050. Exercise and mental stimulation are proven to improve and lengthen quality of life. To answer the question of whether the physical or mental is more effective, the ethologists developed a program to study the effects of mental, physical or combined therapy on older dogs.

Dogs are a useful population to study the effects of aging on humans as they age in much the same way only faster. In humans, cognitive activities only direct improvement in certain specified areas, but physical activity helps more generally. Researchers invited owners with dogs aged 8 or older to participate in the study. Dogs with other health conditions were not qualified for the study. There was a total of 84 participants in the study.

The researchers divided the study participants into 4 groups. One group was given a set of mentally challenging tasks and interactive games. The second group was led by a physiotherapist and challenged the dogs' motor skills. A third group underwent a combination of mental and physical challenges. The fourth group was not subjected to any training other than the initial and final evaluations.

Dogs undergoing physical exercises regularly were more flexible and outgoing. Dogs that were challenged cognitively were more likely to seek new experiences and were less afraid. The younger dogs around 8 years of age seemed to respond more strongly to therapy than older dogs.

The initial and final test consisted of twelve tasks that measured memory, learning and problem-solving. Dogs that received therapy were more engaged in their environment. Those that underwent physical or a combination of physical and mental challenges



were more resilient and friendlier. Dogs that had lower baseline performance scores on the initial test improved with therapy.

Researchers concluded that combined therapy was not more effective than mental or physical therapies alone. However, dogs in general responded much better with therapy than without any intervention.

According to one researcher, “our results confirm that older dogs also need to work.” Exercise, whether physical or mental can slow the aging process and improve overall wellbeing. The act of exercising the dogs also improved the bond between dog and owner.

According to the findings, performing just one hour of therapy weekly can improve mental performance. Daily exercise (mentally and physically) can be even more helpful and, if started at a younger age, can dramatically improve the aging process.

More information: Zsófia Bognár et al, The behavioral effect of short-term cognitive and physical intervention therapies in old dogs, *GeroScience* (2024). DOI: 10.1007/s11357-024-01122-2

JULY CE EVENT

Speaker: Sam Franklin, MS, DVM, PhD, DACVS, DACVSMR

Topic: Comprehensive Canine Hip Care: From Librella to Total Hip Replacement

Date: July 18th, 2024

Time: Dinner/Registration: 6:30 | Presentation: 7:00

CE: 1 Hour

Location: Yaya's Euro Bistro

Fee: No fee to attend this event, but RSVP is required by **July 15th**. Current membership dues cover all CE..

Sponsor: Kansas City Canine Orthopedics

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 18, 2024

Seeking Veterinary assistant or Veterinary Technician at modern, family owned, three doctor practice in Waldo just south of downtown Kansas City.

We offer on the job training, competitive pay, AFLAC disability packages, insurance option, 401k match, Paid time off and possibly tuition reimbursement for the right candidate.

We provide set schedules with rotating weekends and zero on call hours or overnights.

Please email drmegk@hotmail.com for more information and to apply

June 18, 2024

We are proud to offer a \$60,000 sign-on bonus!

Barry Road Animal Hospital in Kansas City, MO is seeking an Associate Veterinarian to join our community-based practice. We would also consider a doctor seeking a leadership position. We are a full-service hospital that provides quality veterinary care for companion animals. The experienced and long-tenured team, which includes two RVTs, are dedicated to our patients, clients, and community.

This is a perfect opportunity for an experienced veterinarian interested in joining a motivated team or a doctor seeking leadership potential. Providing outstanding service to our clients and pets in the community is our top priority.

Our hospital offers:

- In-clinic diagnostics
- Digital radiography
- Ultrasound
- Cold therapeutic laser
- Surgical suite
- Paperlite
- No on-call or after-hour requirements

Check us out: <https://barryroadanimalhospital.com/>

Kansas City is a fantastic place to live and work. It is the largest city in Missouri, bordering Kansas, and is known for its

barbecue, jazz heritage, and fountains. The area provides plenty of amenities to explore, such as shopping, dining, and entertainment. This community offers something special for everyone.

Benefits

- Competitive compensation
- Medical benefits (health, dental, and vision)
- Paid dues, licensure, and annual CE allowance
- Liability coverage
- PTO/vacation time
- Matching 401k
- Employee assistance program (EAP)
- And so much more!

We are so proud of our practice and would love to tell you about our community-based approach to veterinary care.

About Barry Road Animal Hospital

Established in 1997, Vetcor is a fast-growing network of community-centric veterinary hospitals supporting over 850 practices across the US and Canada. Vetcor is an organization devoted to active learning and elevating wellbeing, in fact, employee experience is at the heart of what we do. Joining Team Vetcor means you are part of a stable, larger network that provides well-rounded employee health and wellness benefits and employee engagement programs, including mentorship and collaboration circles. With paid vacation, career development support, and wellness initiatives, our team members follow their passion for pet care without sacrificing their work-life balance. Join an unmatched community and network where employees feel welcome and play a key part in making a difference.

Apply online at the AVMA Career Center or contact Oliver the practice manager by calling (816) 436-6700 or by email at obrunhoeber@vetcor.com.

May 21, 2024

Looking for a fulfilling opportunity as a Veterinarian in a non-corporate owned small animal clinic?

We're excited to announce that we are seeking both new graduates or seasoned veterinarians to join our dedicated team as an Associate Veterinarian.

Key responsibilities:

- Performing physical exams, diagnostic tests, and medical treatments for small animals
- Assisting with and conducting surgical procedures
- Developing personalized treatment plans and discussing them with pet owners
- Collaborating with a compassionate team to provide exceptional care
- Contributing to a positive and supportive clinic environment

Requirements:

- DVM/VMD degree from an accredited veterinary school
- State veterinary license in good standing
- Passion for small animal care and well-being
- Strong communication and interpersonal skills
- Willingness to learn and collaborate with peers

Benefits:

- Competitive salary and benefits package
- Mentorship opportunities for new graduates
- Continuing education support for professional development
- Opportunity to work alongside experienced veterinarians
- A welcoming and inclusive clinic culture

If you are a new graduate eager to begin your veterinary career or a seasoned veterinarian looking for a dynamic and supportive environment, we invite you to apply! Join us in providing top-quality care to our furry friends and making a difference in the lives of our beloved animal companions. To apply, please submit your resume and cover letter to RAINTREEANIMAL@YAHOO.COM. We look forward to welcoming you to our team!

May 15, 2024

Noah's Ark Animal Clinic, located in the heart of Brookside in Kansas City, Missouri, is looking for a compassionate and engaging full or part-time veterinarian to work with our team, connect with our clients, and provide exceptional care to our patients. Noah's Ark, a three-doctor full service small animal clinic, has been serving the Brookside neighborhood and surrounding areas since 1970, and we are fortunate to work with such a loyal and trusting community.

We believe the best care for our patients comes from a combination of strong medical knowledge and familiarity with the pets and the people that love them. We pride ourselves on our time spent listening, communicating, and building lasting connections with our clients. Our relationships within the clinic are just as important. Noah's Ark's staff members are well-trained, eager to help, and fun. We are passionate about working together as a team to ensure staff, clients, and patients are happy to be at our clinic. Appointments are an average of 30 minutes and each doctor has an assigned room technician to allow those relationships plenty of opportunity to develop.

Our clinic is located in an almost 100-year-old house that was recently renovated and offers a bright, welcoming, and homey environment. We have four exam rooms, digital radiology, a new surgical suite, dental digital radiology, a complete patient monitoring system, and Abaxis in-house diagnostic equipment. In addition, we would be excited to add ultrasound and cold laser machines to our repertoire to better serve our patients.

As a veterinarian at Noah's Ark, you can expect a set schedule without any weekend or on-call shifts. You'll receive health and dental benefits, a 401(k) with employer match, licensure reimbursement, PTO, CE allowance, and a signing bonus. If Noah's Ark seems like it may be a good fit for you, please contact our Practice Manager at jessica@noahsarkanimalclinic.com or call at 816-361-6822

May 13, 2024

Nevada Veterinary Clinic is a multi-doctor, mixed animal practice looking for a veterinarian to join our growing team. Nevada Veterinary Clinic has been providing quality veterinary care to the Nevada area since 1984. We are able to offer a broad range of services like digital x-ray, dental x-ray and ultrasound to our clients. We have a dedicated and hard working staff to support the veterinarians. We are a long-tenured and close-knit team that is proud to offer bovine, equine, and companion animal care.

This is an ideal opportunity for a veterinarian that is interested in both large and small animal medicine. Nevada is a rural community that is perfect for raising a family and having that perfect life work balance. Experienced veterinarians and new graduates alike are encouraged to apply! Our new doctor will enjoy working with tenured veterinarians and have great opportunities for collaboration among colleagues.

About The Hospital

- Hydraulic chute on site
- Farm calls
- Digital x-rays – standard, dental, and portable
- Small animal ultrasound
- EasiScan ultrasound
- In-house lab
- Therapeutic laser
- Orthopedic and advanced soft tissue surgeries
- Approximately 25% cattle and 5% equine and small ruminants seen

Location

Nevada, set in a beautiful, small-town community, is located near Kansas City and Joplin. Nevada is a progressive, family-friendly community offering top notch schools and very affordable housing. Home to Cottey College, an independent women's liberal arts and science college, Nevada is a growing small town with industry, agriculture, and outdoor recreation opportunities like hunting and fishing, all located within driving distance to several metropolitan areas. This quaint town and its nearby communities provide something unique for everyone.

Benefits

- Competitive compensation including a signing bonus
- Medical benefits (health, dental, and vision)
- Paid dues, licensure, and annual CE allowance
- Liability coverage
- PTO/vacation time
- Matching 401k
- Mentorship
- Growth opportunities
- Employee assistance program (EAP)
- And so much more!