# **Veterinary Surgeons' Board of WA**

From: Veterinary Surgeons' Board <admin@vsbwa.org.au>

**Sent:** Tuesday, 23 March 2021 9:10 AM **To:** Veterinary Surgeons' Board of WA

**Subject:** Newsletter March 2021



## Veterinary Surgeons' Board



## FROM THE REGISTRAR

This edition of the Board newsletter contains a number of "must know" articles for those in practice.

Ehrlichia canis was detected for the first time in local nonimported dogs in Western Australia and the Northern Territory during the middle of 2020. Find out more about the impact of this disease at the ASAV webinar on 7 April 2021.

Are you completely clear about when and under what circumstances a veterinary nurse is permitted to administer scheduled drugs? Have a look at the "Did you know" section for clarification of an area that is often misunderstood.



Have you had incidences of rodenticide poisonings in domestic animals? if so, the APVMA would like to hear from you.

I hope you enjoy reading further about these issues as well as the other articles in this edition of the Board newsletter.

As always, feedback, suggestions and comments are very welcome.

Stay safe

Dr Sue Godkin Registrar



## **WEBINAR ON EHRLICHIA CANIS**

The AVA Australian Small Animal Veterinarians (ASAV) special interest group is inviting all veterinarians to attend a webinar presented by Professor Peter Irwin on Ehrlichia canis on Wednesday 7 April 2021 at 6.00pm WST.

With *E. canis* now established in the north of Western Australia and in the Northern Territory and the recent detection of ticks infected with *E. canis* in northern South

Australia, Australian veterinarians are encouraged to attend this free webinar.

For further information and a link to register for the webinar click here.

# VETERINARY PROFESSIONALS REPORTING OF RODENTICIDE POISONINGS

As parts of Australia are experiencing the worst mouse plague in decades, the Australian Pesticides and Veterinary Medicines Authority (APVMA) is seeking information regarding suspected poisoning of companion animals with rodenticides.



There have been a number of reports in the media recently involving veterinary clinics observing cases of rodenticide poisoning in domestic animals.

The APVMA wishes to encourage veterinarians to submit reports (including both primary and secondary poisoning incidents) through the Adverse Experience Reporting Program (AERP).

For further information click here



#### **DID YOU KNOW?**

- that veterinary nurses can only administer scheduled drugs under the direction of a veterinary surgeon. This means that a veterinary nurse must be given specific instructions such as 1/2 tablet twice daily. Veterinary nurses cannot be directed to give a scheduled drug 'as needed'.
- applications for authorisation as a trainee veterinary nurse cannot be approved until
  the nominated supervising veterinary surgeon has given written confirmation that they are
  willing to perform this duty. Lack of the written confirmation is the number one reason for
  delays in the approval process for trainee veternary nurses.

# INVITATION FOR VETERINARIANS WHO WORK WITH DAIRY CATTLE TO TAKE PART IN A QUESTIONNAIRE ON ANTIMICROBIALS

Production animal veterinarians who work with dairy cattle are invited to participate in a short 8 to 10 minute questionnaire investigating perception and attitude towards antimicrobials.



This questionnaire is being conducted by Murdoch University PhD student Michele Tree under the supervision of Murdoch's Dr. Joshua Aleri and Prof. Ian Robertson, Dr. David Beggs (The University of Melbourne) and international researchers Prof. Scott McDougall (Massey University) and Prof. Theo Lam (Utrecht University). The questionnaire forms an essential part of a larger study investigating antibiotic resistance in animals and humans. Plus, all completed questionnaires

provide an entry to win an iPad.

Murdoch University Human Research Ethics Committee has approved the questionnaire (# 2021/004).

We greatly appreciate your time and thank you in advance for your valued responses to this anonymous questionnaire. For more information please contact Michele by emailing <a href="mailto:m.tree@murdoch.edu.au">m.tree@murdoch.edu.au</a> or click on the following link to access and complete the questionnaire <a href="https://tinyurl.com/ft7t7jyp">https://tinyurl.com/ft7t7jyp</a>.

### **UPDATED GUIDELINES FOR VETERINARY PREMISES**

The Board has updated its guidelines for veterinary premises. The updates provide clarification about:

- the standard of plans that are acceptable as part of an application (section 3)
- the types of businesses that may provide services to the clients of a veterinary premises (Part 1.3)
- multiple veterinary practice businesses operating from one veterinary premises (Part 1.3).

The <u>guidelines</u> for veterinary premises can be found on the Board's website.

It is strongly recommended that the floor plans for any new veterinary premises or renovation are submitted to the Board for feedback before any building commences.

The Board's premise inspectors are happy to discuss any concerns or questions you have about premises. They can be contacted on <a href="mailto:admin@vsbwa.org.au">admin@vsbwa.org.au</a> or by phone 9317 2353.



## **NEW SPECIALISTS**

Congratulations to:

Dr Takanori Sugiyama who was granted specialist registration in Small Animal Surgery at the Board's 9 March 2021 meeting.

Dr Carla Appelgrein who was granted specialist registration in Small Animal Surgery at the Board's 9 February 2021 meeting.

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