
**American Pharmacists Association
House of Delegates – March 24-27, 2023**

NEW BUSINESS

(To be submitted and introduced by Delegates only)

Introduced by: Brenda Jensen, Gigi Davidson, and Natalie Young
(Name)

Jan 22, 2023 **American College of Veterinary Pharmacists**
(Date) **(Organization)**

Subject: Development of veterinary pharmacy curricula in schools and colleges of pharmacy and pharmacy technology.

Motion: Adopt the following policy statement:

APhA encourages schools and colleges of pharmacy and pharmacy technology to develop curriculums that educate pharmacists, student pharmacists, and pharmacy technicians in the principles of veterinary pharmacotherapy.

Background:

On March 15, 2021, APhA HOD approved ACVP's proposal to expand the definition of a "patient" to include both human and non-human species. While this expansion highlights the wide scope of care provided by pharmacists, a paucity in veterinary pharmacotherapy education remains. In two independent surveys^{1,2}, 77% of pharmacists reported that they routinely filled prescriptions for animals. In a 2021, only 26.7% of colleges and schools of pharmacy surveyed responded that veterinary pharmacotherapy training was provided in their curricula³, implying that almost three-quarters of pharmacy graduates are not trained to care for non-human patients during pharmacy school. Surveys of veterinarians indicate that they have a low confidence in pharmacists' ability to fill their prescriptions correctly⁴. Both NABP⁵ and the American Veterinary Medical Association⁶ have expressed resolutions emphasizing the need for pharmacist education in veterinary pharmacotherapy.

Thus, APhA encourages schools and colleges of pharmacy and pharmacy technology to develop curriculums that provide pharmacists, pharmacy students, and pharmacy technicians with training adequate to provide safer and more meaningful care to all patients regardless of species.

References

1. Sorah, E. and Davidson, G., 2015, June. Royal K. Dispensing errors for non-human patients in the community pharmacy setting: A survey of pharmacists and veterinarians. In Poster presented at: Society of Veterinary Hospital Pharmacists, 34th Annual Meeting.
2. Mingura, M., 2017, June. Community pharmacists and veterinary prescriptions: An analysis of prevalence, type, training, and knowledge retention. In Poster presented at: Society of Veterinary Hospital Pharmacists 36th Annual Meeting.
3. Elaimy, C., Melton, B., Davidson, G., Persky, A. and Meyer, E., 2022. Availability of Didactic and Experiential Learning Opportunities in Veterinary Practice at US Pharmacy Programs. American Journal of Pharmaceutical Education, 86(4).
4. American Veterinary Medical Association. Surveys describe harm from differences between prescriptions and drugs dispensed. Available at: <https://www.avma.org/javma-news/2014-09-01/substitution-errors>. Accessed on Jan 22, 2023.
5. National Association of Boards of Pharmacy. Veterinary pharmacy education (Resolution 110-5-14). Available at: <https://nabp.pharmacy/news/news-releases/veterinary-pharmacy-education-resolution-110-5-14/>. Accessed Jan 22, 2023.
6. American Veterinary Medical Association. Resolution #8 guidance to pharmacy stakeholders. Available at: <https://www.avma.org/javma-news/2012-09-15/hod-wants-better-communication-nonveterinary-pharmacies>. Accessed Jan 22, 2023.

Current APhA Policy & Bylaws:

2022, 2004, 1988 Pharmacists' Relationship to Veterinarians (p. 74, 2022 APhA Policy Manual)

- I. APhA encourages pharmacists and student pharmacists to become more knowledgeable about veterinary drugs and their usage.

(Am Pharm. NS28(6):395; June 1988) (JPhA. NS44(5):551; September/October 2004) (Reviewed 2010) (Reviewed 2015)

2021 Definition of Patient (p. 74, 2022 APhA Policy Manual)

- I. APhA calls for the adoption, by pharmacy organizations and regulatory and professional entities, of the expanded definition for patient to include human or non-human species.

(JPhA. 61(4):e16; July/August 2021)

****Phone numbers will only be used by the New Business Review Committee in case there are questions for the delegate who submitted the New Business Item content.**

New Business Items are due to the Speaker of the House by **January 23, 2023** (60 days prior to the start of the first House session). Consideration of urgent items can be presented with a suspension of the House Rules at the session where New Business will be acted upon. Please submit New Business Items to the Speaker of the House via email at hod@aphanet.org.