

BVA e-news: February 2009

Welcome to monthly news updates from the British Veterinary Association (BVA)



February sees the re-introduction of free CPD for recent graduates and highlights issues you can have your say on. Along with the upcoming BVA events, videos and articles in our publications and on our websites we also bring you other news, including discounts on CPD courses.

Summary of Contents

Free equine CPD for new graduate members

Have your say on slaughter, chicken welfare and dog breeding

Pedigree and puppy welfare

Clarification – Veterinary Times medicines article

London lobbying dinner

BVA Events

The Veterinary Record – technical error and upcoming articles

In Practice – upcoming articles

New on VETS.TV

Improve CPD

Travel grants reminder



Free equine CPD for new graduate members

We've teamed up with the Animal Health Trust in Newmarket again to offer free equine CPD to our recent graduate members. The CPD begins on 26 March with a practical on joint blocks of the hindlimb

All the CPD involves a social element where a light buffet is provided by the BVA, so recent graduate members can meet others from the local area.

[More information](#)

- You can subscribe to the BVA e-news at www.bva.co.uk/newsroom/BVA_e-news.aspx
- For the most up-to-date news please see www.bva.co.uk

Have your say on slaughter, chicken welfare and dog breeding

We would like to hear members' views on

- European Council regulation on the protection of animals at the time of killing
- new regulations and code for meat chicken welfare
- Independent Inquiry into Dog Breeding (Bateson Review)



See the [have your say web page](#) for more information.

Pedigree and puppy welfare



The Federation of Veterinarians of Europe is working with other veterinary bodies in Europe to investigate the extent of illegal trafficking of animals, especially puppies, and is asking vets to [complete a questionnaire](#) to help FVE present the case to European authorities - please return completed questionnaires to rachelw@bva.co.uk by 14 April.

Thank you to all members who submitted their thoughts on the pedigree dog review by the Associate Parliamentary Group for Animal Welfare. Your views have supported the [BVA's submission to APGAW](#) which is now available online.

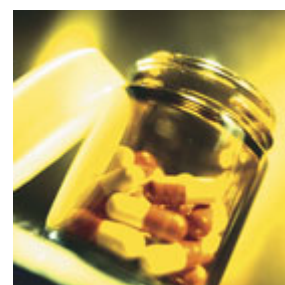
More information on [pedigree animal health and welfare](#)

Clarification - Veterinary Times medicines article

The lead article in the Veterinary Times on 16 February on the Veterinary Medicines Directorate's classification review of veterinary medicinal products did not accurately reflect the position of the BVA on the VMD's proposed changes.

As a general principle the BVA does not support the reclassification of veterinary medicinal products that takes away the veterinarian's role of providing professional advice on the safe and effective use of products to ensure that animal health and welfare and, where appropriate, human health are protected. For the products mentioned in the article – Advantage, Frontline Combo, Program, and Panacur – the BVA responded to the VMD opposing their reclassification and not supporting it as suggested in the article.

The BVA will continue to work with the VMD to ensure the review does not harm the profession's ability to give sound advice on the use of medicines.



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London lobbying dinner



We held the inaugural BVA London Dinner on 10 February at which Defra Secretary of State Hilary Benn responded on behalf of the guests.

BVA President [Nicky Paull's speech](#) covered a range of topics including

- on farm biosecurity and zoonotic diseases
- harmonisation of pet travel across Europe
- responsibility and cost sharing
- TB and badger culling
- the health and welfare of pedigree dogs

Events

- **BVA AWF 2009 Discussion Forum** - the latest in the increasingly popular BVA Animal Welfare Foundation invitation-only discussion forums takes place this year on **12 May** covering sessions headed "[Breed it, see it, fix it?](#)" and "[Global warming - a welfare issue?](#)"
- **BVA Congress 2009** – you can now download a copy of the exhibition and sponsorship brochure for this autumn's Congress by visiting the [BVA Congress 2009 pages](#) or emailing marketing@bva.co.uk
- **BVA at RVC Careers Fair** - we will be at the RVC Careers Fair on **19 March** to talk to students about the support available to them following graduation via our [Young Vet Network](#) (YVN) support scheme and the graduate support meetings



If you are a final year student, be sure to stop by our stand and have a chat and pick up one of our great giveaways.

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Upcoming articles in [The Veterinary Record](#) include

- **Catheter-related diseases in horses** – Feb 21
Study of horses that had had a catheter introduced, to determine the complications and risk factors involved
- **Zoonotic disease in dogs** – March 7
Case study of apparent transmission of verocytotoxigenic Escherichia coli (VTEC) O157 from dogs
- **Pre-anaesthetic sedation of dogs** – March 21
Assessment of the effects of intramuscular injection site, including the degree of sedation

In Practice

Clinical and managements articles in the next issue of [In Practice](#) include

- Current perspectives on **canine leptospirosis**
- Problems in **ewes postpartum**
- Guide to **equine postmortem** examinations
- Treatment of **canine liver disease**
- Keeping **computer systems** safe
- Sharpening your **interviewing skills**

InPractice[®]

There is an extensive listing of [CPD events](#) online



New on VETS.TV

- **Cattle Foot Trimming** - this film from Reaseheath College demonstrates the Dutch 5 step method of cattle foot trimming as well as discussing common foot problems and diseases in cows
- **Safer Horse Rescues** - this film is part of a series of awareness-raising initiatives from BEVA and includes tips on horse behaviour and psychology, equipment recommendations and manual handling techniques
- **Scottish Bluetongue Vaccination Campaign** - the film includes an interview with Professor Charles Milne, Chief Veterinary Officer for Scotland, on why Scotland has chosen a compulsory vaccination strategy and which animals it applies to

To watch these videos visit www.VETS.TV

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Improve CPD

Improve International have launched new once-a-month one-year General Practitioners Certificate courses. Starting soon in Wiltshire, subjects are: Anaesthesia, Cardiology, Dermatology, Diagnostic Imaging, Emergency Medicine and Surgery and Ophthalmology.



Courses will appeal to vets in practice, and prove valuable to vets studying for the relevant 'C' modules of the RCVS certificate in Advanced Veterinary Practice (CertAVP) - find out more at www.improvecpd.co.uk

Our **Young Vet Network members** receive a 30% discount on all of Improve's one-day UK CPD courses - [find out more](#)



Travel grants reminder

Overseas project grants for students are up for grabs, including

- BVA, TAWS and Donkey Sanctuary [Overseas Travel Grants](#) – closing date for applications **20 March**
- [Harry Steele-Bodger Memorial Scholarship](#) – closing date for applications **24 April**

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