

BVA e-news: January 2009

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



We are starting 2009 with a plea for your thoughts on the Veterinary Poisons Information Service. We also keep you posted on a change to the Canine Health Schemes this month as well as a range of updates on the BVA and VETS.TV websites, available travel grants and more.

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Veterinary Poisons Information Service - help determine its future

The VPIS provides a 24 hour emergency service for veterinary professionals giving information and advice on the management of actual or suspected poisoning in animals.

To ensure the continuation of the VPIS it needs a secure and self-supporting financial footing and investment in the service infrastructure.

VPIS is consulting over the current service, the charging structures and how vets can enhance the VPIS to meet present and future expectations.

Please help by completing a short [online questionnaire](#) before 28 February.

- 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



Membership renewals

Members who have not renewed their membership for 2009 are reminded that they can [renew online](#).

Canine Health Schemes - permanent identification

From January 2010, all dog owners and breeders wishing to participate in the Kennel Club/BVA [Canine Health Schemes](#) (CHS) for eye disease and hip and elbow dysplasia will be required to have their dogs permanently identified with either a microchip or tattoo.

BVA has worked with The Kennel Club on this issue which was announced alongside a [range of Kennel Club changes](#).



Contracts of employment

We are currently updating our guide to contracts of employment and have taken the out of date document off our website. You should see a new guide online in Spring.

Advice updates

We have updated our web advice on

- [bluetongue vaccination](#), including a new FAQ sheet on booster vaccination
- [Official Veterinarians and LVIs](#) - fees for service
- [pedigree animal health and welfare](#)



We've also introduced information on [welfare at slaughter](#) and [pet travel](#) and have added [new consultations](#) and a list of local facilitators for the [graduate support scheme](#).

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In Practice

In Practice

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

- **GDV syndrome in dogs**
- canine **hypothyroidism**
- **identification of tortoises**
- ultrasonographic examination of the **painful equine eye**
- **tick infestation in sheep** in the UK
- managing a successful **surgical list**
- improving **practice management**

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

Veterinary Record

the **VETERINARY**
RECORD

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

- **anthelmintic treatment of horses** – January 24
effects of previous control programmes on the shedding of strongyle-type eggs
- **factors affecting cat neutering** – January 31
survey of a sample of cat-owning households in the UK
- **emerging canine angiostrongylosis** – January 31
case reports of infected dogs in northern England

New on VETS.TV



- **your reception staff** – this video takes a fresh look at your reception team, the hub of your practice and the key to your business success
- **best practice on a dairy farm** – this series of videos offers advice on milking, feeding, stock handling and health issues
- **managing heat detection** – how to spot the bulling cow
- **is your horse the right weight?** - this film shows how to assess, and monitor a horse's weight, how to condition score and use a weighttape and offers advice on dietary management

To watch these videos visit www.VETS.TV

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Bupa competition winner

Congratulations to Gail Robertson who has won the Bupa health assessment competition we ran in the BVA member benefits booklet recently!



All members have access to specially negotiated rates for Bupa private medical cover.

Nothing is more important than the health and well being of you and your family.

So why not discover how you can feel better with Bupa.

Call 0800 600 500 for your special [BVA member discount](#), quoting B171.



Honouring outstanding contributions in the veterinary field

We welcome nominations for

- [Dalrymple-Champneys Award](#) – closing date **17 April**
- [Trevor Blackburn Award](#) – closing date **29 May**

Travel grants

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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