

BVA e-news: November 2008

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



Could you save money on your membership fee? This month we introduce a new membership scheme, update you on pedigree, medicines and bluetongue issues. We also invite nominations and applications for awards and grants and offer you the chance to win a Bupa health assessment.

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Organisational membership

With the launch of a new organisational membership scheme we give members the opportunity to save up to 60% off the normal cost of their 2009 membership fee whilst continuing to receive all of the usual individual benefits and services.

[See detailed information](#) and relevant application forms for the scheme or email the [membership department](#).

- 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

Health and welfare of dogs

We have called for an independent review of the breeding of dogs as well as the permanent identification of all registered pedigree dogs.

Read our [full statement](#) and see our pedigree health and welfare [pages](#). Members can feedback via the member discussion forum or by emailing us.



Medicines prescription charge and registration of premises

- As of 1 November veterinary surgeons can charge for providing prescriptions
- From April 2009 vets will be required by law to register their premises if used for supply or storage of medicines

[More about these changes](#)

New on VETS.TV

New videos are now available on [VETS.TV](#) including

- **Bovine Viral Diarrhoea** control and prevention
A resource produced by the Royal Veterinary College. The video series is supported by a [dedicated website](#) which includes podcasts and powerpoints, research papers and stakeholder specific advice.
- **Pig Health Scheme**
The BPEX scheme uses specialist pig vets to assess a range of health conditions in pig carcasses at specialist pig abattoirs in England. [See the videos](#)

VETS.TV is an online television site and we are encouraging everyone to have a look and give us their feedback.



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Warning – hygiene supplier cold calling

It has come to our attention that there is a hygiene supplies company cold calling veterinary practices offering trials of disinfectant.

We understand that several days after the trial products are delivered an invoice arrives for payment. When the invoice is queried the company claims a verbal contract has been agreed.

They then claim they have an audio recording of the agreement and offer to take the product back for a fee.

The BVA urges all practice staff to be careful when dealing with such companies. If your practice has had any such dealings we suggest you contact the [BVA legal advice line](#) (have your BVA membership number to hand).

Bluetongue – Scottish vaccination

The Scottish compulsory mass vaccination programme started in early November.

As in England and Wales a veterinary surgeon will only be required to vaccinate and certify if the animals are leaving the Protection Zone and going into free areas, such as those animals being exported to bluetongue-free countries.

[Further information](#) on the Scottish programme, including the upcoming information road shows.



Coming up in *The Veterinary Record*

THE
Veterinary
Record

- **Dog feeding practices** – November 22
Evaluation of the use of nutritional supplements for dogs by dog owners
- **Prevalence of Salmonella species** – November 29
Results of a survey of commercial broiler flocks in the UK
- **BSE** – December 13
Study of the characteristics of 24 cases diagnosed in Hokkaido, Japan

Members and subscribers can [find the articles online](#)

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***In Practice* articles**

Clinical and management articles in the November/December issue of *In Practice* include

- **MRSA** in small animal practice – an update
- **Dyspnoea** in dogs
- **Traumatic reticuloperitonitis** in cattle
- **Pregnant farm animal vets** - health and safety considerations
- **Medicines records** - ensuring accuracy



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



Prestigious BVA awards – nominations welcome

BVA invites nominations for

- **Work of outstanding merit**
We present the [Dalrymple-Champneys](#) Cup and Medal to a member of the BVA to mark and recognise work of outstanding merit which we consider will encourage the advancement of veterinary science
- **Contributions in a developing country**
We make the [Trevor Blackburn](#) Award to members of the BVA in recognition of contributions to animal health and welfare in a developing country

Student travel grants available

We invite applications for a range of travel grants for veterinary students including

- **BVA Overseas Travel Grants**
- **BVA TAWS Overseas Travel Grants**
- **Donkey Sanctuary Overseas Travel Grants**
- **Harry Steele-Bodger Memorial Travel Scholarship**



Find out more about these and other [travel grants](#)

Students may also be interested in our [guidance notes](#) on working overseas

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Win a Bupa health assessment

BVA members can win a Bupa Key Health Assessment in a free prize draw.

These health MOTs, worth up to £290, are carried out in a relaxed environment and are designed to put your mind at rest. It provides you with a detailed picture of how healthy you are and enables you to take control of your health for the future.

[Enter now](#)

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