



# AAVPT Newsletter

Volume 28, Number 1 / December 2009

AAVPT

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## **FROM THE PRESIDENT**

*Carol A. Davis, Ph.D.*

Last year was a busy year for programming. We had to plan two major meetings – the antimicrobial workshop and the biennial symposium.

### **AAVPT Antimicrobial Workshop**

The antimicrobial workshop was presented in October 2008. It was held at the U.S. Pharmacopeia (USP) headquarters in Rockville, MD. The workshop ran for two and half days, and I am pleased to report the AAVPT/USP joint workshop on antimicrobials in companion animals was a great success. We had very good attendance (over 100 registrants) and from comments we have received was well received by all attending the meeting. The program committee was co-chaired by Anthony Lucas, Marilyn Martinez and Ian DeVeau. The committee members were Mike Apley, Melanie Berson, Ralph Claxton, Jay Donecker, Sanja Modric, Amy Neal, Mark Papich, Michele Sharkey, Linda Wilmot and myself. Although planning for the meeting started in 2008, the committee met by conference calls on a routine basis (almost every two weeks) throughout the summer and up to the meeting. We had to make arrangements for hotel, food, and handout material. The USP facilities were excellent and the activities during the meeting were skillfully managed by the USP staff. Drs. Ian DeVeau and Amy Neal from USP helped us onsite, and I was totally impressed with how effortlessly the staff handled all our requests, even our last minute request to set up a remote presentation by one of our speakers. All we had to do was ask and it was done.

As part of the workshop, the committee is writing a white paper which will appear in the Journal of Veterinary Pharmacology and Therapeutics. The paper is complete, and we will probably submit it by end of July. It is anticipated it should appear in the journal sometime before the end of the year. It has been a long process getting the white paper done since many of the people working on the paper have also been working with us on the symposium.

### **2009 AAVPT Symposium**

We had a great response to the 16<sup>th</sup> Biennial Symposium. We had about 115 registrants. The program committee included: Carol A. Davis (chair), Mike Apley, Melanie

Berson, Ralph Claxton, Trish Dowling, Virginia Fajt, Anthony Lucas, Marilyn Martinez, Sanja Modric, Mark Papich, Lesley Rausch-Derra, Michele Sharkey, and Linda Wilmot. I want to take this opportunity to thank all the members on the committee for their help in putting together a great meeting. I would also like to acknowledge the on-site help I received from Dr. Sanja Modric and Dr. Michele Sharkey. Sanja was indispensable in dealing with the hotel management on many occasions. Sanja handled all of our face-to-face meetings with the Hilton, and she was our go-to person if we needed to get to someone in the Sales and Catering department and was just a great person who would go down to the hotel and get things done. Michele volunteered to help me get the proceedings published at the local FedEx/Kinko shop. Once we had everything submitted, she took the entire draft copy home and read it from cover to cover. We had a couple of days of back and forth trying to correct the errors in my pdf files and get everything right. She told me afterwards that there were several trips to Kinko's to get this done, and I really appreciate all of her effort. We have used the Kinko's service for the last several meetings, and I am still amazed how I can be in Illinois and get everything published in Washington, DC without printing out one piece of paper and mailing it somewhere.

### **Post-Symposium Workshop**

In addition to our symposium, this year we offered a half day workshop on Good Clinical Practices. The meeting was organized by Linda Wilmot from the Food and Drug Administration and Ralph Claxton from Schafer Veterinary Consultants. Attendance was outstanding. At last count we had 51 people registered for the workshop – some from the symposium and several who had travelled just to attend the workshop. I congratulate Ralph and Linda on a job well done. I anticipate we will have more of these kinds of courses in the future and would like to see something like this associated with our symposium meeting.

### **2010 Workshop on Bioequivalence**

A proposal was submitted to the AAVPT Executive Committee (EC) in February to offer a workshop on bioequivalence. The EC approved the workshop, and Drs. Marilyn Martinez and Rob Hunter have been co-chairing the organization of the workshop. This landmark event will be held at the Bolger Center in Potomac, MD on June 27-

30, 2010. The workshop is designed to address emerging complex scientific and statistical challenges currently impacting the assessment of product bioequivalence for a wide variety of veterinary formulations. Lectures and round table discussions will include such complex bioequivalence issues as evaluating the bioequivalence of highly variable drugs; defining the appropriate analyte; establishing the bioequivalence of non-systemically absorbed formulations (such as intramammary products), extended release formulations, and Type A medicated articles; relationship between generic approvals and antimicrobial resistance; challenges with rolling out bioequivalence concepts in developing countries. This workshop will host lectures from internationally recognized experts, and workshop attendees will have the opportunity to participate in critical interactive discussions with these experts. Ultimately, White Papers will be developed and published on selected bioequivalence topics based on discussions, feedback, and the convening of expert working groups. For more information on the Bioequivalence Workshop, please visit: [http://www.aavpt.org/BE\\_workshop.shtml](http://www.aavpt.org/BE_workshop.shtml).

### **Moving from President-elect to President**

As president-elect, I have met and worked with a wonderful group of people. Planning for our workshops and biennial symposia requires a group of dedicated people, and I have been very fortunate to have had great people working on each of the meetings. The success of our meetings resides with the committees and is due to the behind-the-scenes work of the committee. But, I must take this opportunity to thank one individual who helped me immensely and was indispensable – Anthony Lucas. I cannot thank him enough for all he has done for me and our programs over the last two years. All I can say is that it has been real “hoot” working with him, and we could not have carried off one, let alone, two meetings in two years without his skills. Unless you serve on one of these program committees, you cannot truly comprehend how much “blood, sweat and tears” goes in them. I have learned a lot serving as your president-elect, and I have found the whole thing to be a wonderful experience. But I must say I really do not care if I ever have to handle another 19-page BEO (banquet event order) over the phone again! Seriously, I can’t thank everyone enough for all of their help. In closing, there is one thing I want to say. I will miss – our almost-weekly teleconferences – it was great meeting and getting to know everyone on the committees and working with them on our programs.

As president, I look forward to working with the executive council for the next 2 years. At first the tenure of the office seems long but as I found out from the being president-elect, my term will be over in no time. There are a number of projects I would like to undertake. One in particular I would like to see is ways to improve communication amongst the officers and committees and with our

members. The council meets monthly via conference call which helps to keep everyone informed and projects moving forward. One thing we have implemented as an attempt to improve communication is to include all committee chairs in our monthly meeting. We also added an agenda item to our meetings where one of our committee chairs is asked to join the meeting and give us a report on the activities of their committee. We hope to have all the standing committees and many of the other special committees rotate through within the next few months. It is a way to help the council become better informed as to what is going on within the organization and not just depend on the annual reports to learn what is going in the committees. Another area I would like to see some effort applied is trying to streamline or reduce the workload of the secretary/treasurer office. This is such a critical office. Our current secretary/treasurer, Anthony Lucas handles the job with such skill that we have become spoiled! He says it is nothing, but I know it is not. I hope to work with him to try to identify areas where we might streamline the operation a bit.

The next year is shaping up to be another busy year. We are already well into the planning for the BE workshop. There has been a lot of effort put into the planning of the agenda, and I want to thank everyone who helped. By all indications it is going to be a great meeting. We have also begun planning the 2011 biennial and hope to get some of the early planning done, so we will know where it will be by early this summer. Another program which I am excited about is our first CVM training program. We recently heard that the course has been approved by the CVM, and we are very pleased to have their support for this course. The course will be offered sometime late 2010 or early 2011. We have a full plate, and I look forward to working with everyone on these and other project over the next couple years.

If you have any comments, concerns or suggestion you would like to make about our activities, please do not hesitate to contact me by email or phone. I would love to hear from you. And, if you want to work on these projects our have some ideas of you own, do not hesitate to contact any of us on the executive committee.

### **FROM THE PRESIDENT-ELECT**

*Sanja Modric*

Thank you for the opportunity to serve as president-elect of the AAVPT. It is a great honor for me to work with all of you in advancing the field of veterinary pharmacology. I’m looking forward to working with Carol, the Executive Committee and all of you to continue building strong ties with all our stakeholders. I believe that we can do even better as organization to increase awareness and promote

veterinary pharmacology among veterinary students and young researchers in order to build up our knowledge, expertise and influence within the veterinary profession.

My vision for the AAVPT includes narrowing the gap between the three stakeholder groups, which sometimes seem to pull the organization in various directions. I would also like to strengthen the Academy's role and position in the international veterinary pharmacology arena. As we move towards globalization, harmonization and international cooperation in so many aspects of our lives, it is critical that we maintain good communication and working relations with our colleagues around the world. The first step in this globalization and cooperation effort is the upcoming Bioequivalence Workshop, which will bring speakers and participants from all over the world. It is an exciting opportunity for AAVPT to lead this truly international effort in advancing one of the big issues in veterinary pharmacology. I invite you all to join us for this critical workshop!

Another new AAVPT effort, in collaboration with the FDA's Center for Veterinary Medicine (CVM), is a Drug Approval Course that will be offered either in late 2010 or early 2011. The course's objective is to provide a comprehensive resource for regulatory scientists in industry, academia and FDA on the drug approval process and post-approval activities in the US. This multi-day course will be taught by CVM employees and will allow the participants plenty of opportunity for interactions and communications. More information will be provided in the next newsletter.

Of course, as the president-elect, I will be responsible for organizing the next biennial symposium. As soon as the doors of the Rockville Hilton closed in June 2009, we started thinking about the next symposium, which will be held in May 2011. The organizing committee for the 2011 Symposium does not have much detail at this point, but we promise to bring you a lot of new, exciting and relevant topics in the field of veterinary pharmacology and therapeutics!

## **AWARDS COMMITTEE REPORT**

*Anthony Lucas*

Nominations were received for the Lloyd E. Davis and Teaching Awards for 2009. The Awards Committee (Jay Donecker, Sanja Modric, Carol Davis and Anthony Lucas) concluded that the nominations met the criteria for the awards and so both awards were presented during the Awards Banquet at the 16th Biennial Symposium.

The Lloyd E. Davis Award for significant contributions to the advancement and extension of knowledge in veterinary

or comparative pharmacology was awarded to Pierre-Louis Toutain. Unfortunately, Pierre-Louis was unable to attend the 16<sup>th</sup> Biennial Symposia to receive the award personally. As the award covers the cost of attending a Biennial Symposium, the Awards Committee has offered that Pierre-Louis can attend the 17<sup>th</sup> Biennial instead.

The AAVPT Teaching Award is to recognize significant teaching activities in the fields of veterinary or comparative pharmacology, or therapeutics and was presented to Mark Papich.

Congratulations to both of the Awards recipients.

At the Biennial Symposia, the AAVPT Awards committee worked with the awards committee of the American College of Veterinary Clinical Pharmacology (ACVCP) to judge the AAVPT/ACVCP Resident/Graduate Student Award. Three candidates were under consideration for the award, and Mohammed Al-Bataineh received the award.

Thank you to the Awards Committee for their help.

## **AAVPT EDUCATION COMMITTEE REPORT**

*Cory Langston*

The Education Committee has been largely inactive this last year.

- The establishment of a database of pharmacology exam questions for use by AAVPT members in academia remains appealing. The membership involved in education should be surveyed to determine their level of interest and whether they would be willing to actively contribute to such a database. Finding a suitable web-based program for implementation also remains problematic.

- Debbie Kochevar was contacted regarding AAVPT access to a proposed American Veterinary Medical Association (AVMA) knowledge competency exam for veterinary students. At the time of contact, the exam was not yet enacted.

- The collaboration between the education committees of ACVCP and AAVPT is a desirable goal. In initial discussions with the ACVCP Education Committee members it was however felt that the objectives of the two committees were likely too disparate to lend themselves to joint efforts. That is, the efforts of ACVCP are primarily concerned with training of residents in clinical pharmacology rather than professional students, though there might be some overlap for graduate education activities.

## AAVPT MEMBERSHIP/BYLAWS COMMITTEE REPORT

**Committee members: Cindy Cole (chair),** Carol Davis, Anthony Lucas, Virginia Fajt, Sanja Modric, Rainer Muser, Jane Owens, and Kirby Pasloske.

### Membership Activities:

All membership forms (student, regular, fellow, and distinguished fellow) have been updated and revised. The new forms have been posted on the website and have been used since February/March of 2009.

The Committee proposed to the EC a promotion of the following fellows to the distinguished fellow status: Bernadette Dunham, Bill Jenkins, Jim Riviere, and Steve Sundlof. The EC accepted the proposal for all four new distinguished fellows, who were announced at the June Symposium.

Distinguished fellows, in order to remain active and be able to vote, need to continue paying the membership dues. If they stop paying dues, their distinguished fellow category remains, but they are not able to vote in the Academy. This new information has been added to the website and will be included in the revised bylaws.

The committee is working on a process to evaluate on a regular basis membership status in terms of promoting regular members to fellows. Currently, there are 7 members identified as potential fellow candidates. The membership committee is in the process of contacting the candidates.

Carol Davis and Rainer Muser are working on a project to include a History of AAVPT page on the website in order to capture the beginnings and developments of the AAVPT over time.

Instead of extending the AAVPT officers' term at this time, the Membership Committee recommends that the officer transfer process be more organized and efficient, possibly including a brief handbook and a separate web page on how to facilitate the transfer.

A position statement will be included on the AAVPT web site (and in the newsletter) stating that the FAVPT status cannot be used as a professional degree indicating a credential.

### Bylaws Changes – proposed to EC:

Revise the bylaws, Article V, Section 3.b. to include the following sentence for clarification: "The candidate should submit the application form. The sponsor (AAVPT fellow) should submit the Recommendation Form for Fellow."

Revise the bylaws, Article V, Section 3.e. to change the term "sponsorship" to "nomination." (Currently, the bylaws state that: "Candidates for Student Member will be admitted to the Academy on the basis of written application to the Secretary-Treasurer, sponsorship by one (1) Member or Fellow and receipt by the Secretary/Treasurer of the candidate's Student Membership application and dues for the current year.")

## JOURNAL OF VETERINARY PHARMACOLOGY AND THERAPEUTICS (JVPT)

*Jim E. Riviere*

The state of JVPT is sound. With most of the kinks now worked out of web-based manuscript submission and processing, paper flow is now essentially constant and settling in to a rate of about 250 / year. I have calculated a 2% rate of "web-errors" that we probably are never going to eliminate. Please have patience when the system doesn't work as our publishers are located in Singapore and the United Kingdom, making "instant" correction of such problems impossible. Please have patience!

Although our impact factor did slightly decrease in 2007, JVPT's 2008 impact factor and ranking in the Veterinary Sciences category has increased this year to 1.581 in 2008, ranking it 23rd out of 134 journals in the area (up about 10 notches). These data are based on 2006-2007 citations. Our rejection rate hovers at 40-50% which maintains the quality of the papers. I want to personally thank my co-editor Prof. Johanna Finks-Gremmels, all authors, reviewers and editorial staff for helping us keep JVPT competitive and viable. Review Articles increase Impact factors and thus I encourage you to contact our Reviews Editor Dr. Mark Papich if you have any ideas on such a contribution.

My co-editor Dr. Johanna Fink-Gremmels and I have split the world fairly evenly relative to manuscript submissions and have good agreement on those papers that we triage without further review based on content and grammatical construction. The resulting manuscripts that get sent to reviewers keep our Editorial Board members very busy! Despite this workload, average first review turnaround is about 6 weeks which for a society journal run by volunteers, is excellent. When submitting over the holidays (December and summer months), authors should realize that folks may not be at work and should have patience. We try our best, and I do not feel I have the moral authority to push too hard. We presently have a healthy back-log of manuscripts which allows us to maintain quality coupled to a reasonable throughput. Finally, the web-based system that manages JVPT manuscripts loves to send out e-mails at every stage of processing and reminders when authors need

revision and reviewers are late. These are automatic and cannot be stopped. Should you as an author need more time for revision, please contact me before the due date as I can easily extend it.

In conclusion, being editor of JVPT shows me how active you are in moving the field of veterinary pharmacology forward. Keep up the great work and please send your best to JVPT. Thank you again for giving me the honor to serve AAVPT as your Editor.

## LIAISON REPORTS

### American College of Veterinary Clinical Pharmacology (ACVCP) Report

*Jane G. Owens*

Recently, ACVCP and AAVPT have made significant efforts to coordinate activities and improve communication between the two groups. In 2008, Dr. Carol Davis attended the ACVCP Board of Regents Meeting at the American College of Veterinary Internal Medicine (ACVIM) Forum in San Antonio. Additionally, Drs. Carol Davis and Mike Apley led a joint ACVCP/AAVPT leadership meeting at the AAVPT Biennial Meeting on June 14, 2009 where areas of shared interest were discussed. The agenda included topics such as the future plans for USP Veterinary Monographs, the Veterinary Pharmacology Research Foundation, opportunities to enhance communication between the groups, and joint programming of upcoming meetings.

AAVPT and ACVCP co-sponsored 7 hours of programming devoted to antimicrobial drug therapy at the ACVIM Forum on June 4, 2009 in Montreal. Speakers included Drs. Ted Whittem, Lauren Trepanier, Dawn Boothe, Mark Papich and Tomas Martin-Jimenez. AAVPT and ACVCP will again co-sponsor programming for the 2010 ACVIM Forum in Anaheim, CA from June 9 to 12. Dr. Lauren Trepanier is soliciting clinically relevant pharmacology topics for the 7 hour session. So far, one topic has been proposed: Interpreting data (PK, Efficacy, Safety, MICs) from drug company brochures. If you have input on this topic or others, please contact Lauren at [latrepanier@svm.vetmed.wisc.edu](mailto:latrepanier@svm.vetmed.wisc.edu).

### Veterinary Pharmacology Research Foundation

The Foundation was formed in 2007 to provide grant funding to support research into new and currently approved medications for combating diseases of companion and food animals, projects that ensure the safety of food products from treated livestock, and training programs for

veterinary pharmacologists. These areas have been unmet needs in veterinary medicine for over 30 years.

In December of 2008, the Executive Council of AAVPT unanimously agreed to contribute the start-up funds for VPRF. AAVPT provided an initial installment of \$10,000 into the Foundation fund and pledged another 10% of its cash reserves for each of the next five years. Additional funding for the Foundation is expected to come from related associations, individual veterinarians, pharmaceutical companies, other interested organizations, and members of the public. These funds will be made available through a competitive grant process and VPRF will issue its first call for research grant proposals as early as fall 2009.

Current board members of the Foundation are Drs. Jane Owens (President), Dan Gingerich (Secretary / Treasurer), Anthony Lucas, Mark Papich, and Joe Gloyd. Importantly, the board contains members of both ACVCP (Papich, Owens) and AAVPT (Owens, Gloyd, Lucas, Gingerich). These board members completed the necessary steps to achieve tax exempt 501 (c)(3) status in 2008.

Members of AAVPT received a request for tax-deductible contributions to the VPRF in their 2009 dues notice. Over \$4,000 in donations were raised in this mailing. VPRF hosted its Inaugural Fundraising Event at the 16th Biennial AAVPT Symposium during the Annual Banquet on the evening of Tuesday, June 16, 2009. A Silent Auction was held using items donated by AAVPT and ACVCP members.

In order in to increase the immediate impact of VPRF, the board is pursuing a partnership with the ACVIM Foundation as this group has similar research/training interests. This partnership proposal was put forward to the ACVIM Foundation Board in early June and was received positively. Both groups are currently working out the details of this partnership.

If you would like to make a donation, forms are available on the AAVPT web site  
<http://www.aavpt.org/documents/VPRFDonationForm.doc>.

Donations may be sent to VPRF Secretary / Treasurer: Dr. Dan Gingerich, 2219 Wilmington Road, Lebanon OH 45036.

## NEWS

### **Bruce Martin Receives 2009 Majon Huff Award**

Dr. Bruce W. Martin received the Animal Health Institute's 2009 Majon Huff Award, the institute's highest honor. The award is presented annually to an AHI member in recognition of outstanding commitment, leadership and service to the AHI and the industry.

Dr. Bruce is director of regulatory affairs in the Animal Health Division at Bayer HealthCare. One of his major accomplishments was helping negotiate the Animal Drug User Fee agreements with the Food and Drug Administration.

### **Veterinary Clinical Drug Monographs Transferred to AAVPT**

The American Academy of Veterinary Pharmacology and Therapeutics has become the owner of the former U.S. Pharmacopeia Veterinary Clinical Drug Monographs. The current monographs are now publicly available at no cost on the AAVPT website at <http://www.aavpt.org>. These monographs provide consensus-based veterinary pharmaceutical information including approved product label information and research data, along with evidence-ranked, species-specific use recommendations.

Development of the monographs started in 1985 as a project of the U.S. Pharmacopeia in conjunction with Veterinary Medicine Information Expert Committees. These committees included veterinary pharmacologists, clinical pharmacologists, pharmacists, and species experts. Monographs on anti-inflammatory drugs and antibiotics were published in special issues of the Journal of Veterinary Pharmacology and Therapeutics in 2003 and 2004. Other monographs on anthelmintics and certain compounded medications were made available on the U.S. Pharmacopeia website. All the monographs as well as unpublished evidence tables and monographs in progress have been transferred to the AAVPT. Development of new monographs and revision of previous monographs is being discussed within the AAVPT and the American College of Veterinary Clinical Pharmacology.

The AAVPT is dedicated to the promotion of the science of veterinary pharmacology and therapeutics, and its members include private practitioners, educators, researchers, and regulators. AAVPT's objectives are to support and promote education and research in comparative pharmacology, clinical veterinary pharmacology and other aspects of pharmacology of interest to the veterinary profession; to sponsor and conduct workshops, symposia or

other scientific and educational meetings pertaining to veterinary pharmacology and therapeutics; to enhance the exchange of educational materials and ideas among veterinary pharmacologists; and to organize committees of experts to research and make recommendations to the profession on current problems in veterinary therapeutics.

### **Conference on Drug Discovery and Therapy**

The "2nd International Conference on Drug Discovery and Therapy" (2nd ICDDT 2010) will be held in Dubai, UAE, from February 1st-4th, 2010. The 2nd ICDDT 2010 will highlight cutting-edge advances in all major disciplines of Drug Discovery and Drug Therapy. This four-day event will feature recent findings from leading industrial, clinical and academic experts in the field, in the form of lectures and posters. The 2nd ICDDT 2010 will be unique in promoting the translational nature of modern biomedical research, with an equal number of speakers/participants those who are basic scientists in drug discovery and those who are medical doctors associated with direct patient care and research. Several Nobel laureates have also shown a keen interest in attending the conference and plan to deliver keynote lectures.

For more details and to register, please visit the conference Web site at <http://www.icddt-cp.com>

## **Drug and Biologic Approvals**

### **Toceranib (Palladia)**

Palladia (toceranib phosphate) tablets by Pharmacia & Upjohn Co., a Division of Pfizer, Inc. are approved for the treatment of Patnaik grade II or III, recurrent, cutaneous mast cell tumors with or without regional lymph node involvement.

### AAVPT Newsletter

Editor: Maya M. Scott

The Newsletter is published twice yearly by the American Academy of Veterinary Pharmacology and Therapeutics. Please kindly address all correspondence to:

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## Newsletter Moving to Electronic-only Format

In an effort to keep AAVPT a cost-effective and eco-friendly organization, the AAVPT Newsletter is moving to an electronic-only format. This means that you will receive the newsletter via e-mail as always, but you will not receive a printed copy of the newsletter. Newsletters are always posted on the AAVPT website. The electronic-only format will facilitate timely delivery and reduce the time and cost of producing the newsletter.

To continue to receive the electronic newsletter, you do not need to do anything.

In order to keep receiving a hardcopy, please fill out the form below. You only need to return the form if you want a hardcopy of the newsletter.

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