



OPINION ARTICLE



A Study on Veterinary Medicine and Research

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Description

Veterinary medicine is the branch of medicine that deals with the prevention, control, diagnosis, and treatment of animal diseases, disorders, and injuries. Apart from that, it is involved in animal husbandry, breeding, nutrition research, and product development. Veterinary medicine covers a wide range of domesticated and wild animal species, as well as the diseases that they may contract. Veterinary medicine is widely practised, both with and without professional supervision. Professional care is overseen by a veterinary physician (often known as a veterinarian, veterinary surgeon, or “vet”), but paraveterinary personnel such as veterinary nurses and technicians also play a role. Other paraprofessionals with specialised knowledge, such as animal physiotherapy or dentistry, as well as species-specific jobs, like as farriers, can assist.

Monitoring and controlling zoonotic disease (infectious disease transmission from nonhuman animals to humans), guaranteeing food safety, and performing medical research are all examples of how veterinary science contributes to human health. They also help with food security by monitoring and treating livestock, as well as mental health by ensuring that pets are healthy and long-lived. Veterinary scientists frequently collaborate with epidemiologists and other health or natural scientists, depending on the type of work they do. Normally, veterinarians are mandated by law to care for the wellbeing of animals. In order to keep animals safe and healthy, veterinarians diagnose, treat, and care for them.

Veterinary care and management are normally handled by a veterinary physician (usually called a veterinarian, veterinary surgeon or “vet”-doctor of veterinary medicine or veterinary medical doctor). This position is similar to that of a physician or surgeon (medical doctor) in human medicine and it requires postgraduate educa-

tion and certification.

In many countries, a veterinarian’s local nomenclature is a protected term, meaning that anyone without the required qualifications and/or registration cannot use the title, and in many cases, the activities that a veterinarian can perform (such as animal treatment or surgery) are limited to those who are registered as veterinarians. Animal care is limited to certified veterinarians in the United Kingdom, as it is in other jurisdictions (with a few exceptions, such as paraveterinary personnel), and anyone pretending to be a veterinarian without being registered or delivering any treatment is against the law. The majority of veterinarians work in clinics and treat animals on a daily basis. They may work in a general practise, treating all animals; specialise in a specific group of animals, such as companion animals, livestock, laboratory animals, zoo animals, or horses; or specialise in a specific medical discipline, such as veterinary surgery, dermatology, cardiology, neurology, laboratory animal medicine, internal medicine, and other specialties. Veterinarians, like other healthcare professionals, must make ethical decisions about the care of their patients. The ethics of purely cosmetic treatments on animals, such as cat declawing, tail docking, ear clipping, and dog debarking, are currently being contested within the field. A wide range of surgeries and operations are done on various species of animals, albeit not all of them are performed by veterinarians.

Veterinary research includes basic biology, animal welfare, and care, as well as the prevention, control, diagnosis, and treatment of animal illnesses. Veterinary research include the study of naturally occurring and artificially manufactured models of human and animal diseases, as well as studies at the human-animal interface, such as food safety, wildlife and ecosystem health, zoonotic diseases, and public policy.

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