

The Present State of Training and Education in the Veterinary Nursing Profession

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[Slide 1] My name is Akio Fukusho and I work for Nippon Veterinary and Life Science University. Thank you for your attendance today. Today, I would like to speak on the theme of “The Present State of Training and Education in the Veterinary Nursing Profession” [Slide 2]. As Dr. Ikemoto mentioned earlier, there is a highly developed medical system in human medicine with doctors at the center and more than 20 kinds of paramedical professions and more than 30 professions specializing in related fields. These are nationally certified and the professionals take part in treatment under the instructions of doctors.

In veterinary medicine, on the other hand, the veterinarian is the only professional that is nationally certified. Today, many veterinary nurses are working at animal hospitals, especially at animal hospitals for small animals (household animals). However they only hold licenses as ‘veterinary nurses’, licenses issued by private organizations since there is no national qualification system for veterinary nurses. They have no legal standing and are not allowed to assist veterinarians in treatment and examination, such as blood drawing, transfusion, and vital function tests, etc. This is not allowed even if under the direct supervision and instructions of veterinarians. The only jobs they are allowed to perform are those similar to what nursing aids are allowed to perform in human medicine. In other words, veterinary nurses cannot do what they are expected to do as veterinary nurses. [Slide 3]

As such, it is absolutely necessary to introduce a national qualification (licensing) system for veterinary nurses as professionals who can assume responsibility for part of the treatment performed in veterinary medicine, (tasks which they can carry out exclusively under the

instructions of a veterinarian). [Slide 4]

In 2005, a study committee for small-animal medicine at the Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry, and Fisheries addressed the issue of the veterinary nursing profession and recommended that it would be necessary for related organizations to cooperate to equalize veterinary nursing education and to unify licensing requirements among private organizations, [Slide 5].

Again in 2008, the Minister of Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries made a similar answer to the question asked in the Budget Committee of the House of Councilors (a question that addressed the introducing of a national qualification / license system for the veterinary nursing profession). As such, we do need to promote the equalization of veterinary nursing education and the unification of licensing requirements among private organizations. Therefore a detailed study of these issues, and how the veterinary nursing profession should be, has just been started by a study committee. This has been established within the Small- Animals Committee of the Japan Veterinary Medical Association. [Slide 6~8].

Currently, training and education for the veterinary nursing profession is offered at more than 50 vocational schools, one junior college, and three universities. When we think of the future of veterinary nursing education we, the educational institutions, need to promote cooperation with one another. As for cooperation among universities, ‘The Japan University Association of Veterinary Nursing and Technology’ to teach Veterinary Health and Veterinary Nursing was established in April, 2008 between Nippon Veterinary and Life Science University, Teikyo University of Science, Kurashiki University of Science and the Arts, and Yamazaki College of Animal Health Technology. As for cooperation among

vocational schools, The Japanese Association of Animal Education has been established. Also a vocational organization of veterinary nurses, the Japanese Veterinary Nursing Association, was founded in May 2009. This has been working to improve the knowledge and skills of veterinary nurses and to introduce a national qualification system. [Slide 9 and 10].

The working range of the veterinary nursing profession (tasks that are legally approved to be performed exclusively by veterinary nurses) should mainly cover clinical nursing tasks (general nursing tasks plus blood drawing, injection, transfusion, and anesthetic management, etc.) and clinical examination (general examination plus vital function tests and radiographic examination, etc.). Animals they are allowed to deal with should be the same as those that veterinarians can deal with (i.e. household animals and industrial animals as stipulated under Article 17 of the Veterinary License Law).

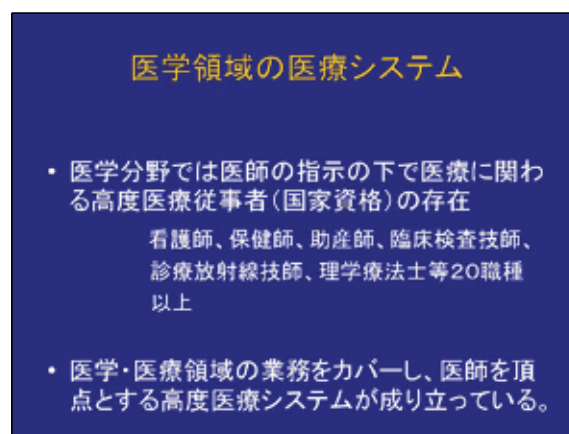
[Slide 11] Currently, the veterinary nursing education is not uniform. It is being provided by vocational schools, junior colleges, and universities, each of which offers a different type of curriculum. With a view to introducing the national qualification (licensing) system, it is necessary to establish a core curriculum for veterinary nursing education that will be commonly taught at universities and vocational schools. It is also important that people who have received veterinary nursing education should be teaching it, although it is currently taught by veterinarians. Graduate school education will also be imperative in order to develop veterinary nursing teachers. [Slides 12~14].

As veterinary medical care becomes more diversified and more sophisticated, I suppose that veterinarians are having difficulties in providing veterinary medical care alone. It is expected for the future that an advanced veterinary medical system will be established with veterinary medicine and veterinary nursing being two wheels of a vehicle.

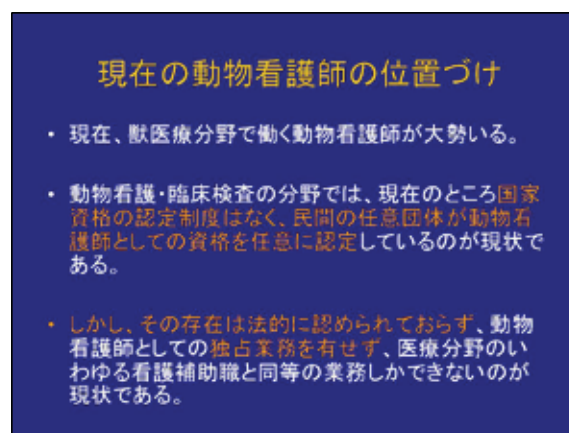
I rushed some parts, [Slides 15~16], but that concludes my presentation. [Slide 17] Thank you very much.



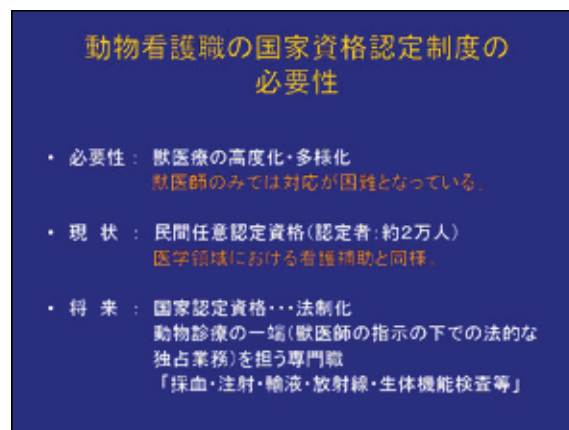
【Slide 1】



【Slide 2】



【Slide 3】



【Slide 4】

農林水産省の検討会報告書

小動物獣医療に関する検討会
平成17年7月に報告書

【提言】

- ・ 公的資格化について、現状では困難。
- ・ 認定団体・教育機関・獣医師団体・獣医療補助者の団体が協力して教育と資格認定の平準化に向けて取り組むことが必要。

【Slide 5】

動物看護職養成機関の連携

・ 大学の連携

全国動物保健看護系大学協会 (H20. 4設立)

日本獣医生命科学大学

帝京科学大学

倉敷芸術科学大学

ヤマザキ学園大学

・ 専門学校の連携

全国動物教育協議会 (H21. 11設立)

【スライド 9】

国会参議院予算委員会での 農林水産大臣の答弁 (平成20年2月)

- ・ 小動物獣医療に関する検討会での提言と同様な答弁
- ・ 国として動物看護師の資格制度化について措置、対応していきたい。

【スライド 6】

動物看護職の職能団体の設立

平成21年5月に設立

一般社団法人

日本動物看護職協会 (JVNA)

(Japanese Veterinary Nursing Association)

- 主な活動:
- ・ 国家資格認定制度化の推進
 - ・ 倫理・知識・技術レベルの向上
 - ・ 社会的身分の改善
 - ・ 処遇・待遇の改善
 - ・ 学術振興
 - ・ その他

【スライド 10】

早急を実施すべき事項

- ・ 民間資格認定の統一化(平準化)
統一試験を実施し、民間資格を平準化
- ・ 教育水準の平準化
動物看護教育に携わる教育機関の連携強化

【スライド 7】

動物看護師の業務

国家資格の対象となる業務 (法制化が必要)

- ・ 獣医師の指示の下で実施可能な診療補助行為の範囲(日本獣医師会の意見を聞いて国が調整)
臨床看護(一般看護に加えて採血、注射、輸液、麻酔管理等)
臨床検査(一般検査に加えて生体機能検査・放射線検査等)
- ・ 対象動物・・・獣医療の対象動物の全て。
(コンパニオンアニマル、産業動物等)

【スライド 11】

民間認定資格の統一化

- ・ 日本獣医師会小動物臨床部会に設置された「動物看護職制度在り方検討委員会」において検討中

【スライド 8】

動物看護教育の現状

- ・ 動物専門学校・動物看護専門学校等(約100校)
1年～2年(+専攻化1年)教育
- ・ 動物看護短期大学(1校)
3年教育
- ・ 動物保健看護系大学(3校)
4年教育

(教育内容は各教育機関で異なる。)

【スライド 12】

動物看護職の養成教育の将来

国家資格化に向け:

動物保健看護系大学と動物看護専門学校における共通のコアカリキュラム(専門3年教育)に基づく動物看護教育

(共通の講義シラバス・実習シラバスの作成)

【スライド 13】

ご静聴ありがとうございました。



H19. 7 Photo by Takuro

【スライド 17】

動物看護領域の教育・研究者の育成

- 動物保健看護学に関する**専門教員**を育成
- 動物保健看護学に特化した大学院における動物看護学の**教育・研究者**の育成

【スライド 14】



国家資格化後の動物看護職の業務(将来的展望)



【スライド 15】

獣医療領域の改革

- 現在、獣医学・獣医療分野の高度化・拡大化に伴い、動物看護・各種検査技術の高度化が必要不可欠となり、適正な教育を受けた**動物保健看護分野の高度技術専門家の養成**が求められている。
- 将来的には、獣医学と動物看護学が両輪となる**高度獣医療システム(制度)**が構築されることが期待される。

【スライド 16】