

■ ワークショップV 「アニマルケア・動物病院及び看護職の果たす役割」

日時及び会場：12月13日(日) 9:00～12:00 501会議室

主催：一般社団法人 日本動物看護職協会

座長：太田光明氏(麻布大学動物応用科学科 教授)

司会：松原孝子氏(日本動物看護学会副理事長・動物看護職)

スピーカー：

第1部「動物病院における動物看護職の重要性」

原大二郎氏(獣徳会 動物医療センター 院長) 30分

小嶋佳彦氏(小島動物病院アニマルウェルネスセンター 院長) 10分

杉本恵子氏(みなみこいわペットクリニック医療サポートセンター 院長) 10分

第2部「わが国の動物看護職の養成」

池本卯典氏(日本獣医生命科学大学 学長) 30分

下藺恵子氏(学校法人シモゾノ学園 理事長) 10分

福所秋雄氏(日本獣医生命科学大学 獣医学部 獣医保健看護学科 教授) 10分

第3部「あるべき動物看護職を模索する ～動物看護職の現状と将来～」

坂田光子氏(坂田動物病院 動物看護職・マネージャー) 30分

横田淳子氏(横田動物病院 動物看護職・マネージャー) 10分

森裕司氏(東京大学大学院農学生命科学研究科 教授) 10分

■ Workshop V "Animal Care - Role of Animal Hospitals and Veterinary Nurses"

Dates : Sunday 13th December 9 : 00 ~ 12 : 00

Venue : Meeting Room 501

Organizer : Japanese Veterinary Nursing Association (JVNA)

Chairperson : Prof. Mitsuaki OHTA (Azabu University, School of Veterinary Medicine)

MC : Ms. Takako MATSUBARA

(Vice Director General (Deputy Chairperson), Japan Society of Animal Nursing, Animal Nurse)

Speakers :

Part 1: The Importance of Veterinary Nursing in Veterinary Hospitals

Dr. Daijiro HARA (Director, Jutoku-kai, Animal Medical Center)

Dr. Yoshihiko KOJIMA (Director, Animal Wellness Center, Kojima Animal Hospital)

Dr. Keiko SUGIMOTO (Director, Minami-Koiwai Pet Clinic, Medical Support Center)

Part 2: Cultivating Veterinary Nursing Professionals in Japan'

Prof. Shigenori IKEMOTO (President, Nippon Veterinary and Life Science University)

Ms. Keiko SHIMOZONO

(Board Chairperson, Shimozono Gakuen – International Animal Health & Management Colleges)

Prof. Akio FUKUSHO

(Nippon Veterinary and Life Science University, Faculty of Veterinary Science,
School of Veterinary Nursing and Technology)

Part 3: Exploring How Veterinary Nursing Should Be

～ The Present Situation and Future of the Veterinary Nursing Profession ～

Ms. Mitsuko SAKATA (Animal Nurse, Manager, Sakata Animal Hospital)

Ms. Junko YOKOTA (Animal Nurse, Manager, Yokota Pet Clinic)

Prof. Yuji MORI (University of Tokyo, Graduate School of Agricultural and Life Science)

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座長メッセージ

Chairperson's Message

太田光明 Mitsuaki OHTA

麻布大学 動物応用科学科 教授

Professor, Azabu University, School of Veterinary Medicine



人も動物も健康を維持するためには、専門的な知識と技術のサポートが不可欠であり、例えば人の場合、いわゆる「医療従事者」(医師や看護師など)がその任を負っている。この「医療従事者」の持つ知識と技術は国家によって保証されており、国民は安心して自らの健康管理を委ねることができる。一方、「動物医療」はそのようにはなっていない。動物医療に携わる人々のうち、国が保証しているのは獣医師のみである。この状況が何を意味するのか、本ワークショップで徹底的に明らかにされなければならない。

一般社団法人日本動物看護職協会(森裕司会長)は、動物医療に必須の存在である動物看護職に携わる人々の協会であり、この4月に設立された。本協会が発展し、

Better health can be maintained with professional medical knowledge and techniques. A variety of specialists such as doctors, nurses, physical and occupational therapists all support human health. The State guarantees their quality and ability by controlling the issue of licenses. Animal health care, on the other hand, differs in that the State only accredits veterinarians. In this workshop we need to reveal the real meaning of this situation.

The Japanese Veterinary Nursing Association, headed by Professor Yuji Mori, was established this April. This is an association for people working in animal nursing, an essential role within animal health care. So that our Association can develop, it is essential that animal health care become more organized and that it contributes to a

真にわが国の動物医療に不可欠な存在として豊かな人と動物の共生社会の構築に貢献するには、正しい現状認識が求められる。本ワークショップでは、3つの観点から現状を明らかにし、今後の展望を探る。

1) 動物病院の責任者の立場から、3名の獣医師に「動物病院における動物看護職の重要性について」、2) 同じく3名の学校関係者に「動物看護職の養成」の現状とあるべき体制について講演して頂く。これらを踏まえて、3) 「動物看護職の現状と将来」に関して、3名の演者にそれぞれの立場から解決すべき課題と展望を述べて頂く。そして、本ワークショップに参加されている方々を含めて、わが国の動物医療における動物看護職の役割を徹底的に議論するとともに、動物医療を実践する場である「動物病院」について再評価したい。

better society for both people and animals. To execute our mission we have to clearly assess the present state of animal care and animal nursing. Three topics will be presented.

The first topic and presentation, "The importance of animal nursing in animal hospitals" will be addressed by three veterinarians who are all animal hospital executives. The second, provided by three authorities, will look at "College education for animal nursing". The third topic will be "Perspectives on animal nursing in Japan". Together with the audience we will thoroughly discuss the role of animal nurses in animal health care and within animal hospitals. We look forward, especially, to hearing the opinions of our special guests from outside Japan.

第1部 動物病院における動物看護職の重要性

Part 1: The Importance of Veterinary Nursing in Veterinary Hospitals

原大二郎 獣徳会動物医療センター 院長

Daijiro HARA Director, Jutoku-kai, Animal Medical Center



ここ30年間に大きく変貌を遂げた社会現象の一つに、HAB思想=人と動物の絆(より良い関係)=動物と暮らす新しいライフスタイルが定着し、動物病院はこの国民的生活変化により高度な獣医学の習得、動物看護職の採用、清潔な動物専用施設を持つて対応してきました。

この30年を振り返ってみると、1980年以前の動物病院では、獣医師と飼い主様が、オールインワンの待合室兼診療室で、互いに協力し合って獣医療が成されていました。1980年以降に入って動物病院を始めとした、動物に係るあらゆる分野に近代化が求められるようになってきました。動物看護の分野では動物看護職養成専門学校が全国に次々と開設され、その卒業生達がそれぞれの資格認定団体によって呼称こそ違え、動物看護師、AHT、VTと呼ばれ全国の動物病院で活躍することとなり、急速に普及し始めました。ただ今となって残念なことは、1980年代から2006年まで、動物看護職の求

められる職能・職域やその資格制度について、国や業界によって十分な討議がされないまま、長い時間が経過してしまっていたことでした。当時は、動物病院に高度な医療が求められた時代背景もなく、動物看護職には従来の助手的役割のほか、基礎的な獣医療知識で十分な職業でした。やがて年月とともに近代化要求はいつそう強くなり、2000年代には入ってからは、この分野にも職業意識の高い人や、有能な人達が出現し、動物病院から、動物看護職者による動物病院の人事管理成功例や動物看護技術が有用であったエビデンス(症例報告)などが数多く報告されています。今や社会常識として、動物病院には、動物看護の職域があり、動物看護職者が在席している事は周知の事実となっています。そして動物行動学や獣医臨床学の研究成果が、動物看護学が学問として確立される礎となり、動物看護職のいつそうの普及発展に寄与しています。以上を踏まえ、永年多くの動物看護職と共に動物病院を運営された獣医師からみた、動物病院における動物看護職の重要性を討議します。

One social phenomenon that has developed drastically over the course of the last 30 years in Japan has been the taking root of the idea of HAB (the Human-Animal Bond), which has manifested itself in improved relations between humans and animals as well as in new lifestyles of living with animals. Moreover, veterinary hospitals have responded to this national lifestyle change by mastering higher levels of veterinary science, employing veterinary nursing staff, and providing clean facilities exclusively for the care and treatment of animals.

When we look back over the last 30 years, we find that at veterinary hospitals prior to 1980, veterinary practice was carried out in an all-in-one waiting room and clinic setting in an atmosphere of mutual cooperation between the veterinarians and the animals' owners. In the 1980s, the need for modernization was being felt across all animal care-related fields including in veterinary hospitals. Specifically, in the veterinary nursing field, a

slew of vocational training schools for veterinary nursing staff were opened across the country. Graduates of these schools then began to work actively at veterinary hospitals nationwide, although their professional titles varied according to the certifying organization concerned, ranging from veterinary nurse to AHT and VT, and their new techniques became popularized rapidly. However, it is regrettable that a long interval passed from the 1980s until 2006 without sufficient discussion being undertaken concerning the occupational ability and fields of competence that should be required of these veterinary staff or about establishing a government and industry-operated certification system for ensuring they meet minimum standards.

At the outset, there was no background for requiring high-level treatment at veterinary hospitals, which meant that basic veterinary knowledge in addition to the

ability to play the conventional assistant's role were sufficient qualifications for a career in veterinary nursing. But with the passing of time, the demands for modernization have risen steadily, and since the turn of the century, capable and highly professionally aware people have begun to appear in this field too. There are numerous reports detailing examples of successful personnel management by veterinary nursing staff in veterinary hospitals as well as evidence that veterinary nursing techniques have proven themselves useful.

Today it is a matter of common knowledge as well as conventional social wisdom that an veterinary nursing job category exists in the veterinary hospital field and

that veterinary nursing professionals are at work at such places. Also, research results in the ethological and veterinary clinical fields have created a foundation for establishing veterinary nursing as a science and this in turn is making a contribution to the further popularization and development of the veterinary nursing profession. Based on the abovementioned considerations, together with many veterinary nursing professionals who are veterans in their respective fields, we will discuss the importance of veterinary nursing as an occupation in veterinary hospitals from the standpoint of veterinarians who run such hospitals.

動物病院における動物看護職の存在

The Presence of Veterinary Nurses in Veterinary Hospitals

小嶋 佳彦 小島動物病院アニマルウェルネスセンター 院長

Yoshihiko KOJIMA Director, Animal Wellness Center, Kojima Animal Hospital



新潟という中型都市で動物病院を開業して30年を迎えました。開業当初は妻を動物看護補助として診療を行っておりました。今から思えばあれが動物看護職の始まりだったと思います。院内の動物看護職が明日からいなくなったことを想像しました。獣医師や飼い主さんが戸惑うことになることは間違いありません。院内での業務は何一つ立ち行かなくなります。受付部門一つをとってもいえます。電話の受け答えでは、専門的知識がないとコミュニケーションが図れません。動物の命が途絶えたときには、飼い主さんの心は悲しみに暮れ、心身ともに元気を失っていきます。どんな場面

Thirty years have now passed since I started up a veterinary hospital in the medium-sized city of Niigata. At the beginning, I ran the practice together with my wife, who acted as a veterinary nursing assistant. Looking back on that time, I can see that it marked the beginning of the veterinary nursing profession in Japan.

Imagine what would happen if all the veterinary nurses were to disappear from the veterinary hospitals

においても動物看護職がいないと動物病院は成り立っていきません。

私の娘は、人も動物も元気にできるいい仕事だということでこの道に進みました。これは先輩動物看護職の働く姿をみて選んだ道だと本人が語っております。今後は動物看護職として、誇りと自信をもって日夜活躍しておられる皆さまが、肌で味わった貴重な経験のもとに、さらにご活躍をされることを望んでおります。また動物看護職に携わる者は、動物はもちろん、人に対しても優しい気持ちと実行力を持って接していくことが、さらに動物看護職の職域の拡大につながるはずだと考えます。

動物病院における動物看護職は大切な存在です。

tomorrow. There is no doubt that veterinarians and pet owners would be unsure of how to cope. The operation of the hospitals could not be kept going at all. Just take the reception department as an example. Communication between owners and veterinarians via telephone cannot be conducted effectively if the receptionist doesn't have professional knowledge, and if an animal's life is lost as a result, owners suffer if the owner is likely to suffer heartache or lose their spirit

both mentally and physically. In any event, a veterinary hospital will not keep going if no veterinary nurses are working there.

My daughter took up the veterinary nursing profession because she feels it is an excellent profession where she has the capacity to invigorate both people and animals. She herself told me that she joined the profession because she had actually seen senior veterinary nurses at work.

In future, veterinary nurses who are active day and

night and have pride and confidence as experts will be displaying their activities on an even broader scale based on their precious first-hand experience. Also, those who are engaged in the veterinary nursing profession should treat with kindness not only animals but also the people they come into contact with. I believe that this will lead to the further expansion of the veterinary nursing profession

To finish, I'd like to emphasize that the veterinary nursing profession is an important presence in veterinary hospitals.

杉本恵子 みなみこいわペットクリニック医療サポートセンター院長
Keiko SUGIMOTO Director, Minami-Koiwa Pet Clinic, Medical Support Center



私たち動物医療従事者は、出会うすべての動物とその家族である飼い主様が健康で元気に、そして幸せな生活をおくれるようにサポートすることが望みです。そしてその実現のためには、一つの方法だけではなく、動物の体にも心にもできるだけ負担をかけないさまざまな治療方法から方針を模索する必要があります。動物病院で、西洋医学と代替医学の組み合わせを実施す

ることや動物福祉の観点からのサポート、そして医療だけでなくグルーミングやしつけ教室、カウンセリングなどトータルケアの実施がニーズとして求められてきています。そうしたさまざまなサポートを実施するために、チーム医療の一員として動物看護職は欠かせない存在であり、当院でも動物と飼い主様と心の絆を深めながら獣医師と力を合わせて活躍してくれています。専門職としての彼女たちの重要性を社会に広めていければと考えています。

We veterinary medical care workers hope to be able to support all the animals we come into contact with during our work as well as the families and owners who keep these animals so that they can live healthily and stay well and happy. In order to realize this, it is essential that we not cling to a single method of therapy, but that we select a suitable treatment policy from the variety available that is as friendly as possible to the animal both physically and mentally. Veterinary hospitals are required not only to conduct treatment combining Western medicine and alternative medicine but also to provide support from an animal welfare standpoint. Also, in addition to providing medical care, their role needs to extend to providing comprehensive care including grooming, discipline classes,

counseling, etc. In order for them to be able to carry out such a wide range of support activities, veterinary nurses are indispensable as members of medical care teams. In our hospital as well, veterinary nurses are displaying their activities in collaboration with veterinarians while at the same time deepening their bonds with the animals in their care and with their owners. As a veterinarian and a worker at a veterinary clinic, I wish to support to maintain our work place to be able to make full use of variety available. And at the same time I believe we should veterinary nurses satisfy and respect for their each interest, talent and their hope. I believe we should try to make the importance of veterinary nurses as professionals more widely known in society.

第2部 わが国の動物看護職の養成

Part 2: Cultivating Veterinary Nursing Professionals in Japan

池本卯典 日本獣医生命科学大学 学長

Shigenori IKEMOTO President, Nippon Veterinary and Life Science University

動物看護職法制度の早期確立を



看護基礎教育は『大学化すべき』厚生労働省懇談会。『看護職における高度専門職教育』（学術の動向：日本学術会議編集）等々。医療人としての看護職の社会的必要性和将来展望、同時にジェンダーステイタスの向上、専門職・教育職・研究職における男女共同

参画を唱える時代の鐘は連打され続けている。明治32年に産婆（助産師）規則、大正14年に看護婦規則、昭和16年に保健婦規則、昭和22年に保健婦・助産婦・看護婦令、昭和23年に現行の保健婦・助産婦・看護婦法は医療法・医師法・歯科医師法等と同時に制定された。平成13年性別により別称していた職名を、保健師・助産師・看護師・准看護師に統一した。この改正は、社会的地位を大きく飛躍させた。現在（2008年）、看護師の養成機関は1,034施設、そのうち看護系大学158校、総定員177,185名と報告されている。また、准看護師10年以上経験者には2年制の通信制教育を用意し、資格の取得を容易にしている。なお、看護師不足は声高に叫ばれ、中東途上国からの移民で賄おうとしているが、政策の貧困ではあるまいか。

翻って、獣医療領域における看護職の現実を俯瞰したとき、慄然と立ち竦む。時代の針は明治の昔に逆回転する思いだ。さて、明治以前の状況に置かれている獣医看護職（師）制度の近代化を如何に展開するか、独善的

と誇られることを承知で、私見を述べさせて頂きたい。この問題は未だ啐啄とはいえ、手を拱いていたわけではない。日本獣医師会では昭和40年頃から検討を始め、平成18年には本格的な構想を提示し、日本獣医師会主導のもとに、一般社団法人動物看護職協会が今春誕生した。

教育施設は、昭和28年東京大学医学部に誕生した衛生看護学科に遅れること53年。平成17年本学獣医学部に日本最初の獣医保健看護学科は呱呱の声を上げた。また、学科名は異なるが、志を共にする大学も後続し、さらに新設も予定され喜ばしい限りである。以前から専門学校・各種学校・短期大学等で動物看護教育は続けられてきたが、栄枯盛衰の感は免れない。その理由は、動物看護職法制度の未達による不安定な身分、低給与、社会的認知度の低さ等が挙げられよう。これを解決し、陽の当たる職種として格上げするには、動物看護職（師）の法制度を構築する以外に戦略はない。究極の目的は動物看護師法の制定であるが、まずは看護師制度、獣医師制度等の経験した、規則・省令からの出発もあろう。方法論としては、獣医療法に《獣医療の円滑の推進を図るため動物看護師を置くことができる。動物看護師制度は規則に定める》と法定し、その委任を受け動物看護師規則を定め、動物看護師の目的・定義・免許・試験・業務・罰則等で構成する。これが最速の方略ではなかろうか。ここでは、その戦略概要を提案したい。

In Anticipation of the Early Establishment of a Legal System for the Veterinary Nursing Profession

“Basic nursing education should be learned at university” says a council of the Health, Labour and Welfare Ministry. Another pertinent text is “High-level professional education in the nursing profession” from Forum of Japan Science Support Foundation, etc. Official statements such as these indicate that we are living in an era in which alarm continues to ring out about the social necessity and future development of the nursing profession as a medical profession as well as about the

need to improve gender status (including gender equality for many other professional careers), in the educational profession, and in the research profession.

In 1899, the Obstetric Nurse Regulation was established. In 1925, the Nurse Regulation was established. In 1941, the Health Nurse Regulation was established. In 1947, the Health Nurse and Nurse Law was established. And in 1948, the present Health Nurse, Obstetric Nurse and Nurse Law was established simultaneously with the Medical Practitioners Act, the Medical Service Act, the Dentist Act, etc. In 2001, job

titles that had up to that time differed according to the gender of the person doing the job were unified as public health nurse, obstetric nurse, nurse, and practicing nurse. This revision prompted a great leap forward in the social status of nurses.

It is reported that at present there are 1,034 nurse-training organizations in Japan including 158 nursing colleges, and that the total number of students attending these organizations is 177,185. Also, for practicing nurses with over ten years of experience, a two-year correspondence course education is available that makes it easy to obtain certification. At present, the shortage of nurses is being highly publicized and Japan is trying to cover the shortage by hiring nurses from countries in the developing world such as the Middle East.

And now, turning to the present state of affairs surrounding the nursing profession in the veterinary medical care field, I find myself standing frozen in place and filled with horror. Indeed I have a sense that the clock is being put back to the Meiji era. How do we proceed with the modernization of the veterinarian nursing profession, which is positioned in a pre-Meiji era situation? I will try to express my point of view fully aware that I may be criticized for being self-righteous. Although this problem has just begun to be considered, it doesn't mean we have been standing around idly. The Japan Veterinarian Medical Association began studying this matter from about 1965, and set out a full-scale vision in 2006. Then, under the Japan Veterinarian Medical Association's leadership, the Japanese Veterinary Nursing Association was established this spring.

Japan's first such veterinary nursing training facility, the

School of Veterinary Nursing and Technology was established at Nippon Veterinary and Life Science University in 2006, which was 53 years after the birth of the School of Health Science and Nursing at the Faculty of Medicine of Tokyo University in 1953. Also, although the faculty names are different, the new universities share the same aims, and I am very pleased by the establishment of the School of Veterinary Nursing and Technology. Veterinary nursing education has continued to be conducted at vocational schools, miscellaneous schools and two-year colleges, but the profession has been unable to shed the image of being uneven. The list of reason for that includes unstable positions, low salaries, and a low social recognition.

In order to resolve these points and to elevate veterinary nursing to a position in the limelight, there is no alternative to pursuing a strategy of establishing a legal system for veterinary nursing profession. Our ultimate aim must be the establishment of a Veterinary Nurse Law, but prior to that, we can make a start by establishing regulations and ministerial ordinances in the same way as was done in the past with regard to nurses and veterinarians. As to the methodology, it should be legally determined in the Veterinary Practice Act that "veterinary nurses can be installed in order to smooth the promotion of veterinary medical care" and that "the veterinary nursing system is to be determined according to a Regulation". Then, in receipt of the powers delegated under the Act, the Regulation should be constructed to include licensing, examinations, work duties, penalties, etc. This, I believe, is the quickest way. I would like to propose a strategic outline for accomplishing this.

下 蘭 恵 子 学 校 法 人 シ モ ゾ ノ 学 園 理 事 長
Keiko SHIMOZONO Board Chairperson, Shimozono Gakuen
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我が国では犬・猫を中心とするペットの飼育数が急増しており、昨年度の飼育頭数が2,684万頭と報告されている。飼育環境も屋外から家屋内に移り、ペットの存在が飼育者にとって、愛玩動物から家族の一員へと変化したことにより、動物医療が人の医療と同

様にきめ細かな対応と、質の高い医療を求められるようになってきた。動物医療は人の医療と異なり、医師をサポートするパラメディカル専門職（レントゲン技師、理学療法士等）が存在せず、獣医師が病気を診る補助をする力を持つと共に、動物を見る力を養い、飼い主と獣医師、動物と獣医師のかけ橋となれる心ある動物看護職の養成を目指している。

The number of pets being kept in Japan is rising rapidly with the latest figure of 26,840,000 animals, centered on dogs and cats, being reported for last year. In recent years the keeping environment for pets has moved from mainly outside to mainly inside the home. There is also a tendency for these animals to be regarded as family members rather than pets. Accordingly, in medical care too, a demand is growing for minute response and high quality care equivalent to those provided to people.

Veterinary medical care differs from human medical care in that there are currently no veterinary paramedical professionals such as radiographers, physiotherapists, etc. In this situation, our aim is to cultivate sensible veterinary nursing experts who can act as bridges between veterinarians and owners and between animals and veterinarians by nurturing the ability to nurse animals.

動物看護職養成教育の現状と将来

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

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現在、日本では小動物（家庭動物）医療分野における動物看護職の存在はなくてはならないものとなっている。しかしながら、人の医療における看護師とは異なり、法律に基づく業務を行う技術者として認められておらず、たとえ獣医師の指示があっても獣医師法

動物看護短期大学（1短期大学）、動物保健看護系大学（3大学）等があり、その教育レベルもさまざまであり、動物看護教育の平準化は行われていないのが現状である。現在、これらの教育機関で養成されたものは、大方、民間団体の行う動物看護師（士）認定試験を受験し、動物看護師（士）の民間資格を得ているが、当該資格は動物診療において法的には全く意味をなさない。

第17条で規定する診療業務に携わることができない。一般社団法人動物看護職協会や社団法人日本獣医師会等が動物看護職の国家資格化に向けた運動を推進している所以である。

このような状況から、国家資格認定制度の導入に向け、動物看護職の業務領域を考慮した上、動物看護教育の平準化（動物看護専門学校・大学が共有するコアカリキュラムの確立等）を推進し、獣医療の高度化に対応した動物看護専門職を養成する必要がある。

日本における現在の動物看護職養成教育の現状をみると、動物専門学校・動物看護専門学校（50校以上）、

In today's Japan in the small animal medical care field, the presence of veterinary nursing professionals is indispensable. However, unlike in the case of nurses in human medical care, veterinary nurses are not recognized as technical experts under law, and they are not permitted to take part in the administering of medical care (including medical examinations and treatment) as stipulated under Article 17 of the Veterinary License Law, even if instructed to do so by a veterinarian.

When we look at the present state of training and education in the veterinary nursing profession, we find there are over 50 veterinary training college and veterinary nursing training college, one two-year veterinary nursing college, and three veterinary and health nursing universities. Moreover, the level of education provided by these institutions varies and no

efforts are being made towards the equalization of the veterinary education level. At present, most of those who are trained in these institutions take veterinary nurse certification examinations conducted by private bodies and obtain private veterinary nurse qualifications, but these qualifications have no legal standing in terms of veterinary practice.

Given these circumstances, in the interests of introducing a national certification recognition system, it is necessary to cultivate a veterinary nursing profession that meets the requirements of today's highly developed veterinary medical care by considering the working range of the veterinary profession and promoting the equalization of veterinary nursing education (such as by establishing a curriculum common to all veterinary training colleges and universities, etc.)

第3部 あるべき動物看護職を模索する ～動物看護職の現状と将来～

Part 3: Exploring How Veterinary Nursing Should Be

～ The Present Situation and Future of the Veterinary Nursing Profession ～

坂田光子 坂田動物病院 動物看護職・マネージャー

Mitsuko SAKATA Animal Nurse, Manager, Sakata Animal Hospital



今春、日本動物看護職協会が設立いたしました。私は相談役に就任し、今までの経験のなかで尽力できることがないかと思っております。現在、現役の動物看護職を退き、動物看護職を育成する学校教育と動物病院のマネージャーをしております。私自身、20年前、日本小動物獣医師会の第一期の動物看護士試験を受験し、認定していただいています。全国組織の職能団体の誕生にやっとここまで来たのかという感慨深い思いがあります。

若い皆様には、生まれた頃から動物病院があり、家族の一員であるペットが病気になれば、動物病院に連れていくのが当然のことでしょう。しかしながら、獣医療の歴史をみると、畜産動物の医療として存在が主である時代から家庭動物の診療へと発展してきました。そのころの動物病院では、獣医師一人で家庭動物医療を提供していく上では、十分な時代でありました。そのなかで少し

ずつ診療において受付をしたり掃除をしたり動物を持つ（保定といいます）、助手の存在が出てきました。「獣医師のお手伝いさん」とか「お姉ちゃん」とか「受付の人」などと呼ばれる時代がやってきました。しかし、社会の変化としては、動物の存在が人と共生という時代になり、愛玩動物から家族の一員として、動物愛護法においても家庭動物は、命あるものとして存在が認められるものになりました。家庭動物医療においても高度化・専門化され、発展し、飼い主のニーズも病気になって診療を受けるということより病気にしたくない、ならないために動物病院を利用したいという思いに変化してきました。そのなかで動物看護職は、単に獣医師の手伝いから専門的知識を持った動物看護のエキスパートとし、動物を直接ケアしながら家族である飼い主さんも支えるという、高度な内容の技術職に変化していると感じています。その証明をするために動物医療にかかわる皆様に動物看護職を社会的に認められる職業として存在するように応援していただきたいと考えています。そして、動物

看護職には自信と誇りを持って、自分自身のワーク・ライフ・バランスを考え、一生の職業にしてほしいと感じ

This spring, the Japan Veterinary Nursing Association was established. I have taken the post of adviser to this organization and I am willing to do all I can to help it flourish based on my professional experience. Currently I am retired from active work in the veterinary nursing field and I am engaged in education at a school for raising veterinary nursing professionals in addition to working as an animal hospital manager. Twenty years ago, I was among the first batch of students to take the veterinary nurse examination given by the Japan Small Animal Veterinary Association and I went on to become an certified veterinary nurse. Now that I have witnessed the birth of a national vocational organization for veterinary nurses, I feel deeply moved.

For those of you who are young, veterinary hospitals have existed since before you were born, and it is natural for you take your pets, who you regard as members of the family, to such a hospital for treatment if they become ill. However, if we look back on the history of veterinary practice, we can see that it has developed from an era when it existed mainly to provide medical care for livestock to the present era when it also encompasses the medical care of household animals. In the old days, in veterinary hospitals, a single vet was considered sufficient to provide medical care for household animals. In that situation, little by little, assistants appeared who carried out reception work, cleaning and the immobilization of animals under medical care. Nowadays these assistants have become

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known as vet's assistants, sisters, receptionists, etc. In terms of social change, this is an era in which animals are considered to coexist with people. Under the Animal Protection Law as well, the status of household animals has changed from that of pets to family members. The medical care of household animals has also become more sophisticated, specialized and developed. Owners' needs have also changed as evidenced by a stronger desire not to allow their pets to contract diseases, and a wish to use a veterinary hospital to prevent their pets from developing diseases rather than to provide treatment when their pets become ill.

Under these circumstances, I feel that the profession of the veterinary nurse has changed from one of being a mere veterinarian's assistant to being a sophisticated technician who takes care of animals directly and also deals with the owners and families of animals as an expert with a professional knowledge of veterinary nursing. In order to prove my contention true, I ask all of you who are concerned with veterinary medical care to support the veterinary nursing profession so that it will become socially recognized as a real profession. And to those of you who are veterinary nursing professionals, it is my hope that you will make it a lifetime profession and that you will pursue it with confidence and pride and in consideration of your own work-life balance.



私は、動物看護職であると同時に、青森県で夫とともに動物病院を開業する経営者としてマネージャーも務めています。地方に暮らしていても、動物看護職という職業の発展のためにできることを共に考えて行動しようと、当協会の立ち上げに関わりました。長年、動物看護職は「獣医師の助手」というイメージから脱することができず、指示通りに動き、病院全体の雑務をこなす仕事という認識が特に地方は強かったように思います。しかし、現在、動物医療が高度化・専門化しており、

I work as a veterinary nurse while at the same time doubling as a manager running a veterinary hospital together with my husband in Aomori Prefecture. I took part in the start up of this association with the intention of thinking and taking action together with others in order to further the development of the veterinary nursing profession, despite the fact that I live and work in the provinces.

I think that for a long time the veterinary nursing profession was unable to cast off the conventional image of its practitioners as being veterinarian's assistants, which went hand in hand with the understanding that we operate under the instructions of vets and handle odd jobs all over the hospital. Today, however, as veterinary medical care has become more sophisticated and specialized, and with relationships between animals and their owners taking the form of family ties or even

動物と飼い主さんの関係は家族もしくはそれ以上の結び付きをみせ、飼い主さんが求める動物医療の質も大きく変化していきました。動物医療も獣医師と共にチーム医療の一員となる動物看護職の必要性が高まりつつあります。これからの動物看護職は獣医師の助手ではなく、自主性を持った動物看護の専門職となっていくべきと考えます。今後は、動物看護職が専門職として自立できるように自ら学び自らの力で社会に存在をアピールしていかなければいけません。これからも動物と飼い主さんの幸せのために私たちは努力し続けていきます。

stronger bonds, there has been a significant change in the quality of medical care demanded by owners for their pets. Within the field of veterinary medical care too, the need for veterinary nursing professionals to become members of medical care teams together with veterinarians is growing more acute. I believe that in future, veterinary nursing staff should play the role not of assistants to veterinarians but as independent experts in veterinary nursing.

From now on, the veterinarian nursing profession must appeal its own existence to society by itself while at the same time learning by itself so that it can be a truly independent profession. In addition, we will continue to make every effort towards ensuring the happiness of the animals in our care and their owners.