Trinidad and Tobago Veterinary Association (TTVA)
and the Caribbean Veterinary Medical Association (CbVMA)

Presents
The XXVII Biennial Caribbean Veterinary Conference
Port of Spain, Trinidad
November 6 – 9, 2012

FIRST ANNOUNCEMENT
ABSTRACTS FOR ORAL AND POSTER PRESENTATIONS ARE INVITED

Information

The conference will be held in Port of Spain, Trinidad.

The theme of the Conference is “Building Bridges, Advancing Veterinary Medicine and Animal Welfare in the Caribbean”. One of the main objectives of the Conference is to bring together international and regional veterinarians, animal scientists, animal welfare and behaviour scientists, zoo and wildlife experts, public health professionals, veterinary students, veterinary assistants, agricultural experts and the private sector to share information on promoting science and technology as it relates to these fields and meet the needs of developmental challenges regionally and internationally.

A second objective of the Conference is to provide an opportunity, via parallel scientific sessions, for experts from the region’s Universities, Conservation and Wildlife groups and Welfare professionals to come together to promote and address critical issues facing the region.

A third objective of the Conference is to address topics such as emergency responses to disease threats and food security which may inform regional policies on agriculture.

The scientific programme will consist of plenary lectures by invited experts and short papers of 20 minutes total duration by participants. Short papers may be in any area of veterinary medicine including, but not limited to: Veterinary Medicine, Food Animal Production, Anatomy, Physiology, Biology, Biotechnology, Food Safety, Food Security, Animal Welfare, Animal Behaviour, Equine Practice, Veterinary Education, Conservation Medicine, Aquatic Animal Medicine, Animal Health Economics, Nutrition, Alternative Veterinary Medicine, Veterinary Practice Management, Pharmacology and Therapeutics, Toxicology, Risk Analysis and Historical and Social Aspects of Veterinary Medicine in the Region.
We welcome “Papers on all topics related to animal health and welfare and building communication and showcasing advanced technology in veterinary medicine and related fields”.

The Scientific Programme Committee retains the right to add, remove, or change these subjects, and to move abstracts to different themes, as it sees fit. Authors may submit abstracts of completed work or work in progress. All work submitted for presentation must be original. The onus remains with the primary author to ensure all authors/institutions consent to the material being presented at the conference. Abstracts will be selected through a peer-review process. Authors whose abstracts are accepted for presentation at the conference will be responsible for all costs associated with attending the conference.

**Presentation Type**
Authors are invited to submit abstracts for both oral and poster presentations.

**Oral presentations:**
Research or clinical papers: presentation time will be 20 minutes. Students or student groups of the regional and extra-regional Veterinary Schools are invited to present research papers.

**Student presentation competition**
These presentations would be research papers or clinical cases where the student was the major researcher or played a major role in handling the clinical case. In terms of a clinical case, it should be one with an atypical presentation or a rare occurrence. Entry to the student competition would be restricted to undergraduates of regional Veterinary Schools. Postgraduate students may present at the general sessions.

**Poster presentations:**
Designated times will be determined during the conference for authors to present their posters. 90cm (height) by 90cm (width) of board space will be available for each poster. Normally they will use Velcro fastening. If they require drawing pins, these will be provided.

**Authorization and Consent:**
The submitting author is required to complete an authorization and consent form, on behalf of all co-authors. The onus remains with the submitting author to ensure all authors/institutions consent to the material being presented at the conference. You must agree to the following.

*I warrant that the material used in my presentation will be original and not violate the rights of any third party.*

*I hereby grant Caribbean Veterinary Medical Association permission:*  
1. to reproduce, via any medium whatsoever, my abstract and any poster created therefrom and to distribute copies thereof;  
2. to publish my abstract if accepted, in the CbVMA website; and  
3. to audiotape any oral presentation I may make at the conference. I remain free to publish any material submitted after its presentation at the conference.
Instructions for Abstract Submission
For each oral and poster presentation to be made during the Conference, abstracts must be submitted by **August 1, 2012**.
Abstracts must be submitted by electronic mail
Abstracts must be typed to fit on a single sheet of letter size paper (A4 or 8.5” x 11”) using Times New Roman in Microsoft Word 2000 as a minimum

1. Abstracts must be submitted in English.
2. Abstracts must not contain more than 200/250 words, not counting title and authors. The word count must be placed at the end of the abstract
3. Abstract titles should be brief and reflect the content of the abstract.
4. Only standard abbreviations should be used and kept to a minimum.
5. Single spacing, 12-pitch type, aligned left
6. First line should be the title in upper case
7. Second line should be the author(s)' name(s) in upper and lower case (First name followed by surname)
8. Underline the name of the author presenting the work. Separate each author using commas.
9. Third line should be the full address of the institution(s) where the work was carried out, in upper and lower case. When authors originate from different institutions the authors and the institutions should be numbered using superscripts to the top right of the names and the top left of the institutions. The email address of the corresponding author is placed on the next line
10. There should then be a space of one line before the body of the abstract
11. The body of the abstract should follow the outline described:
    ✷ Background and objective of investigation
    ✷ Methods used (if relevant to assist clarity)
    ✷ Results. Key points should be summarized and statements such as "will be presented" should not be included
    ✷ Conclusion
    ✷ Reference lists should not be included. Be certain to clarify all issues with regard to sponsorship and patenting before submission.
12. There is a limit of two abstract submissions per presenting author.

The submitting author will be notified of the decision of the selection committee by e-mail.
The Conference Secretariat is now open to receive abstracts and the deadline for submission is August 1, 2012. Only online submissions will be accepted
**Abstracts should be submitted to.**
Dr. Karla Georges Chair, Scientific Committee Email: secretary2010@cbvma.org
SAMPLE ABSTRACT
TIME-RELATED RISK FACTORS FOR DOG BITES
Locksley L. McV. Messam, Philip H. Kass, Bruno B. Chomel, and Lynette A. Hart
University of California Davis: School of Veterinary Medicine, Department of Population Health and Reproduction, CA 95616, USA.
Presenting author Email: llmessam@ucdavis.edu

Background: Few studies have investigated the effect of time-related continuous variables on the risk of dog bites. Those estimating the effects of age have assumed a log-linear exposure-outcome relationship leading to the implausible conclusion that the risk of dog bites increases (or decreases) linearly with age.

Methods: We conducted a veterinary clinic-based retrospective cohort study, in Kingston, Jamaica and San Francisco, USA, recruiting owners of 110 play biting, 161 non-play biting and 951 non-biting dogs. Fractional polynomials were used to determine functional forms for continuous exposure variables; age at acquisition, current age and length of ownership of dog. Confounders were selected using directed acyclic graphs and the change-in-estimate procedure and modified Poisson regression employed to estimate relative risks for both play and non-play bites as a function of each exposure variable.

Results: Age at acquisition of dogs at highest risk for play bites (3 to 8 weeks) differed markedly from dogs at highest risk for non-play bites (1 year or older). This was also true for current age as 2.5 to 4 month old and 2 to 6 year old dogs were at highest risk for play and non-play bites respectively. The likelihood of play bites was highest during the first 4 months of ownership while the most likely period for non-play bites was between 2 and 6 years of ownership.

Conclusions: Age at acquisition, current age and length of ownership profiles of dogs most likely to bite differ depending on whether the bite occurs during play or not.
249 words
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Registration</th>
<th>Early Bird 6th March - 5th Aug</th>
<th>Late Registration 6th Oct - On Site</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>CbVMA members</td>
<td>$370.00</td>
<td>$450.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CbVMA members 1-Day*</td>
<td>$120.00</td>
<td>$150.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Non-CbVMA Attendees</td>
<td>$470.00</td>
<td>$550.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Non-CbVMA Attendees 1-Day*</td>
<td>$160.00</td>
<td>$190.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Veterinary Students **</td>
<td>$170.00</td>
<td>$200.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Veterinary Students ** 1-Day*</td>
<td>$60.00</td>
<td>$70.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Technician/Practice Manager/ Support Staff 1-Day*</td>
<td>$70.00</td>
<td>$90.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Guest 1-Day</td>
<td>$70.00</td>
<td>$90.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Guest opening or closing dinners</td>
<td>$60.00</td>
<td>$60.00</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Entitlements of Fee-Paying Participants**

In addition to conference literature, payment of conference fees entitles participants to lunch and snacks served during the refreshment break.

CbVMA Conference Secretariat
TTVA, P.O. Box 1829, Wrightson Road, Port of Spain, Trinidad and Tobago, West Indies.

REF: Call01/2011/12/10