

Books

Veterinary pharmacy

An Introduction to Veterinary Medicine

Edited by Steven B. Kayne

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'AN Introduction to Veterinary Medicine' is the updated edition of 'Veterinary Pharmacy', with many chapters having been revised and enlarged, and new chapters on farm health planning and poultry added. The book is aimed at support staff and veterinary nurses who wish to undertake additional qualifications in order to prescribe and dispense specific veterinary medicines, and for pharmacists entering the veterinary pharmacy arena.

The first section comprises chapters that cover public health issues associated with keeping and eating animals; these are comprehensive and cover the syllabus required for the suitably qualified persons (SQP) qualification. The second section, on veterinary pharmacy, includes UK and Irish legislation. These chapters are thorough and include all aspects of the legal requirements relating to veterinary medicinal products, such as wound management materials, veterinary business management,

complementary therapies and management of soft tissue injuries. Coverage of these subjects makes the book an excellent resource for student veterinary nurses.

The third section, on the healthcare of companion animals (including equine and avian species) details basic husbandry, diseases, parasite control, nutrition and the Pet Travel Scheme. For those with limited veterinary knowledge, the text gives a thorough, detailed induction into the knowledge required for veterinary pharmacy.

The final section, on food-producing animals, covers comparative anatomy and physiology, nutrition, husbandry and diseases of these animals. A chapter on bee healthcare and diseases is well written, and contains basic information alongside details on medication and administration. A new and important chapter on farm health plans gives good knowledge to the reader on the importance of integrating all relevant information about the herd in order to create a control strategy for parasite control, and

to improve welfare and production of the animals.

The book covers a vast array of information, in sufficient detail to give, as the title states, an introduction to veterinary medicine, and it would be an ideal source of information for those moving into a SQP role, whether they are support staff, pharmacists or veterinary nurses. Overall healthcare is important when SQPs and pharmacists are prescribing and dispensing medications, and this book provides the information required for them to be able to do so.

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