AVMA

- **Committee on International Veterinary Affairs (CIVA)**
  - **Global Food Security Summit – Washington DC in February 2017**
    - Objectives were to:
      - Explore and define the role of animal source foods in enhancing global food security
      - Describe and define ways that improved animal health and well-being contribute to a more secure, sustainable, safe, and nutritious food supply
      - Identify and promote pathways to integrate veterinary expertise into current and future global food security programs
  - **Educational and cultural tours to Association Congresses**
    - WSAVA – Copenhagen, Denmark in September 2017 ([http://www.wsava.org/events/wsava-congress](http://www.wsava.org/events/wsava-congress))
    - PANVET – Uruguay in October 2018 (dates not available yet)

**Advocacy** [https://www.avma.org/Advocacy/Pages/default.aspx](https://www.avma.org/Advocacy/Pages/default.aspx)

- **Compounding** - Manipulation might include mixing, diluting, concentrating, flavoring, or changing a drug's dosage form to accommodate a specific patient's needs.
  - Examples of compounding include:
    - Mixing two injectable drugs
    - Creating an oral suspension from crushed tablets or an injectable solution
    - Adding flavoring to a commercially available drug
  - Discussion of compounding rules often centers on two issues:
    - Compounding from FDA-approved drug products which is legal as long as FDA Extralabel Drug Use Rules and all state rules are followed; and
    - Compounding from bulk drug substances.

**What Is AVMA’s Role?**

- **Ensure that veterinary concerns are heard** in regulatory rule-making and in Congress, and that veterinarians are kept informed of the rules and compounding best practices.
- **Communicate frequently with the FDA** to safeguard veterinary access to compounded medications and ensure that the needs of veterinarians and our animal patients are protected.
- **Educate Congress and regulatory agencies** that compounding for animals is a complex issue, and that AVMA and our member veterinarians are available for consultation should other parties seek legislative changes.
- **Educate veterinarians** about the finer points of using compounded medications to prescribe medications conscientiously for patients and avoid inappropriate compounding practices. Learn more in the recorded webinar on compounding rules, regulations, and recommendations.
- **Cultivate collaborative working relationships with pharmacy organizations, the animal drug manufacturing industry, and other affected stakeholders**, building coalitions that advance and protect the interests of veterinarians and animals.
- **Monitor the courts on issues of regulatory jurisdiction.**

**Fairness to Pet Owners Act** – the mandate for writing prescriptions – still needs your continued communication with both our congressional representatives and senators.

**Veterinary Medicine Loan Repayment Program** – Since first passed in 2003, 388 awards have been made to veterinarians in 45 states, Puerto Rico and on U.S. federal lands. The program provides
selected food animal and public health veterinarians up to $75,000 in loan repayment for a three-year commitment to practice in an area of the country where they are needed the most. Unfortunately, when Congress created the VMLRP it tacked on a 39 percent withholding tax per award. The VMLRP Enhancement Act would remove the withholding tax on the program awards, giving the U.S. Department of Agriculture the ability to give more veterinarians the opportunity to practice in these designated shortage areas without Congress having to increase the program’s annual federal appropriation. More info at USDA and the National Institute of Food and Agriculture. [https://nifa.usda.gov/program/veterinary-medicine-loan-repayment-program](https://nifa.usda.gov/program/veterinary-medicine-loan-repayment-program)

Ways to get involved:
- AVMA Members: Sign in to support the AVMA PAC
- Get updates on federal laws affecting veterinary medicine > Sign up to receive the AVMA Advocate newsletter.

### Economics
(Reports, Practice Management tools, Client Materials, and Insurance)

**Reports** – available free under Economic Reports as a PDF download at [https://www.avma.org/practicemanagement/businessissues/pages/default.aspx](https://www.avma.org/practicemanagement/businessissues/pages/default.aspx)

- Veterinary Markets
- **Market for Veterinary Education** - employment, unemployment and underemployment in the profession
- **Market for Veterinarians** – where 100,000 plus veterinarians are located, what type of work they do, how much they are compensated, or what factors contribute to explaining differences in incomes, and demographics
- **Market for Veterinary Services** – explanation and sources of excess capacity (vs. oversupply) from rising prices to the increasing numbers of new veterinarians

### Professional Development

- Professional wellness
- Early career online community
- Veterinary Career Transitions
- Veterinary Career Center
- Resources for managing Cyberbullying [https://www.avma.org/practicemanagement/administration/reputation/pages/default.aspx](https://www.avma.org/practicemanagement/administration/reputation/pages/default.aspx)

### AVMA Convention
– July 21-25, 2017 in Indianapolis, IN
[https://www.avma.org/Events/Convention/Pages/default.aspx](https://www.avma.org/Events/Convention/Pages/default.aspx)

### World Veterinary Association
[www.worldvet.org](http://www.worldvet.org)

Represents AVMA (and our interests) globally. Priority issues are:

- World Veterinary Congress
- Animal Welfare
- Availability and Use of animal medicines
- Zoonotic diseases (cytocercosis from pork tapeworms, rabies)
- Veterinary Education
- Partnerships – OIE, FAO, WHO, HealthforAnimals (the global animal medicines industry), World Medical Association, etc.
  - Animal Health Matters website