
Companion Animal User Views

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“What you see depends on where you stand”

- Clinician
  - General SA practice
  - Internal medicine specialist
- Epidemiologist
  - Infectious diseases
  - Vaccine safety
- Academician, speaker, consultant
- Owner
Companion animal species

- Canine and feline
  - Estimated 70-80M dogs in US
  - Estimated 80-90M cats in US
- Canine – 104 biol. products, 17 pathogens
- Feline – 59 biol. products, 10 pathogens

Data source: Compendium of Veterinary Products, April 2015
Companion animal species

- # animals surpassed by some species
- # biol. products surpassed by some species
- Largest # veterinarians (SA practice)
- Largest # owners/clients/taxpayers/bloggers
Companion animal species

- Longer lived than most vaccinated species
- More repeated vaccinations ("boosters")
- Increasing # or spread of pathogens
- Greatest variation in adult weight (dogs)
- Increased risk of adverse events ??
Companion animal species

- Largest # owners/clients/taxpayers/bloggers
- More “aware” (vs. knowledgeable) of issues
- Increasing challenges for SA practitioners
  - Need
  - Safety
  - Cost
  - Efficacy
Companion animal species

- Priorities:
  - Safety, safety, safety, ....
  - Cost
  - Efficacy
Observations

- Is something broken? LOE? Safety?
- Controlling risk vs. regulating processes?
- Danger in focusing on position, not interests
Conclusions

❖ Progress in the future:
  ❖ Newer vaccines
  ❖ Safer vaccines
  ❖ Role of immunogenetics

❖ Challenges:
  ❖ Increasing or non-diminishing disease threats
  ❖ Public/private safety concerns (cost vs. benefit)
  ❖ Competing “voices”, e.g. social media
Thank you