# OVERVIEW OF COMPANION ANIMAL VETERINARY PRACTICE 

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## AVMA Membership

o> 82,500 veterinarians


- Companion

■ Equine

- Food Animal

■ Mixed
■ Other/None/ None listed

## Number of Pets Owned

Two-thirds (62.4\%) of households owned one or more pets in 2011


## Companion Animal Practices

- Approximately 25-27,000 in the U.S.



## Diverse Practices

- Size of practice
- Number of veterinarians
- Single species to multiple species
- Rural/suburban/urban
- Mobile clinics to multi-site facilities
- Primary care to specialty care
- Routine care to emergency care
- Private to corporate to NFP to university


## Companion Animal Practice



## Total Veterinary Visits

Dogs \& Cats


AVMA U.S. Pet Ownership \& Demographic Sourcebook, 2012

## Total Veterinary Visits



## Mean Veterinary Visit Per Year

## All Peus



## Veterinary Pharmacology Education

- Veterinary education: 4y of post-Baccalaureate education
-DVM or VMD degree granted
- Programs accredited by the AVMA Council on Education under USDE
- Standards for Accreditation

- Must meet or exceed Standards
- Standards include curriculum


## Veterinarian-Client-PatientRelationship (VCPR)

- Sufficient knowledge of patient (examination)
- Veterinarian advises client (diagnose/prescribe)
- Client has elected to follow the veterinarian's advice
- Written records are kept
- Information/options for emergency care are provided


## Pharmacy Revenues as a \% of Business Revenues

|  | Rx | Non-Rx |
| :--- | :---: | :---: |
|  | $\%$ | $\%$ |
| Companion Animal <br> (exclusive) | 17.1 | 5.5 |

## Services at Most Recent Visit (dogs)



## Services at Most Recent Visit (cats)



## Services at Most Recent Visit (birds)



## Supply Chain to Veterinary Practices

## Manufacturer

## Veterinarian

## Regulation and Oversight

oState veterinary practice acts
oState veterinary medical boards

- Enforce state veterinary practice act
- Examine prospective licensees
- Set requirements
- Grant/revoke licenses
- Define unprofessional conduct
- Investigate breaches
- Discipline violators


## Receiving Complaints

oState veterinary licensing board
oState veterinary medical association
oState attorney general
oState department of consumer affairs
oLocal or state courts

## Governing Statutes and Regulation

- State pharmacy acts and boards
- Licensure, control, and regulation of pharmacy sites and professional practices
- State laws give licensed veterinarians authority to dispense drugs to their patients with VCPR
-U.S. Food \& Drug Administration
- Drug Enforcement Administration


## Primum Non Nocere



- Veterinarians dispense drugs to ensure the health and welfare of their animal patients.

