

MARKET SURVEY CONCERNING ORGANIZATIONAL CONDITIONS OF VETERINARY PHARMACIES IN BUCHAREST

Valentin NICORESCU, Maria CRIVINEANU, Camelia PAPUC,
Nicoleta Corina PREDESCU, Elena ROTARU

University of Agronomic Sciences and Veterinary Medicine of Bucharest, Faculty of Veterinary Medicine, 105 Splaiul Independentei, 050097, Bucharest, Romania, Phone: +40213180469, Fax: +40213180498, Email: valinicorescu@yahoo.com, maria_crivineanu@yahoo.com, cami_papuc@yahoo.com, durduncorina@yahoo.com, elenrotaru@yahoo.com

Corresponding author Email: valinicorescu@yahoo.com

Abstract

Currently, in Romania, retailing medicinal and other veterinary products is an important part of veterinarians' activity. The study was conducted from March to September 2013 in 20 veterinary pharmacies in Bucharest. The analyzed issues were related to: location, size, connection to mandatory utilities, drugs regime, arrangement of medicinal products on the shelf, conditions of microclimate, holding the required documents, filing records, employed personnel. Of the 20 veterinary pharmacies analyzed, 15 were located at the basement of residential buildings and had separate access than the one of tenants, while the remaining 5 pharmacies were located in separate buildings. All veterinary pharmacies were connected to sewer, water and electricity, and 13 pharmacies were secured with anti-theft systems. None of the analyzed veterinary pharmacies had laboratory, which means that none of these pharmacies prepared medicines. Veterinary pharmacy's warehouse was equipped with temperature and humidity insurance systems in 12 pharmacies. In 8 pharmacies, microclimate parameters were recorded in special registers. Veterinarians were employed in all studied pharmacies, while in 7 units the personnel includes also veterinary technicians. Lockers for the storage of substances included in Separanda and Venena lists were present in 16 pharmacies. The study of 20 veterinary pharmaceutical units in Bucharest showed that they largely respect the organizational conditions specified by law; however, there is a relatively small number of units fully complying with legislative requirements.

Key words: *veterinary pharmacy, veterinary pharmaceutical units, organizational conditions, market survey*

INTRODUCTION

Nowadays, the veterinarian should be a good practitioner and, in addition, a good businessman, a good organizer and leader in order to develop a successful business which can survive in an increasingly competitive environment. In this context, veterinary pharmacists have a particularly challenging task, the decisions that they need to take in organizing the work being the key point of development, survival or bankruptcy of their pharmaceutical unit.

According to ANSVSA Order nr. 41/2012, veterinary pharmacy is the sanitary-veterinary unit which holds and sells veterinary medicinal products, cosmetic and hygiene products for animals, instruments, herbal products, feed, medicated feed, complementary feed and other products for animals, in compliance with legal provisions in force.

The aim of this study was the analysis of

compliance with the organizational conditions of veterinary pharmacies in Bucharest, according to regulations specified by national legislation in force (ANSVSA. Order nr. 41/2012, ANSVSA Order nr. 64/2012, ANSVSA Order nr. 11/2013, ANSVSA Order nr. 4/2004).

MATERIALS AND METHODS

The study was carried out between March and September 2013 in 20 veterinary pharmacies in Bucharest. We tried to get accurate data by talking to each veterinary pharmacist and by analyzing factual conditions of the pharmacies. We evaluated veterinary pharmacies in terms of organizational conditions and noted in tables if they fulfill or not legal requirements in relation to certain criteria: location, number of rooms, size, connection to mandatory utilities, drugs regimen, conditions of microclimate, required documents, employed personnel, etc. (Table 1).

Table 1. Organizational conditions of the veterinary pharmacies analyzed in the study

No.	Specification	Yes	No
1	Veterinary pharmacy has sanitary-veterinary authorization		
2	The firm respects all the instructions provided by the College of Veterinarians		
3	The rooms of veterinary pharmacy are functionally linked together, without being spread inside the building		
4	The access in the veterinary pharmacy is by using a different entrance from the tenants of the building - in the case of pharmacies located on the ground floor of residential buildings		
5	Veterinary pharmacy	is secured with anti-theft systems	
		is connected to a source of water	
		is connected to sewerage	
		is connected to electricity	
6	Oficina is equipped with appropriate furniture		
7	Veterinary pharmacy has laboratory		
8	In the veterinary pharmacy are made divisions of veterinary medicinal products		
9	The veterinary pharmacy prepares magistral and officinal recipes		
10	Veterinary pharmacy warehouse is equipped with temperature and humidity insurance systems		
11	In veterinary pharmacy warehouse, microclimate parameters are recorded in special registers		
12	Veterinary pharmacy warehouse is equipped with shelves, cabinets and pallets made of easily washable materials, fire- and corrosion-resistant		
13	In the warehouse, veterinary products are placed on shelves by groups of substances		
14	In the warehouse, the groups of products are labeled with name, batch, validity and marketing / manufacturing authorization number		
15	Veterinary pharmacy warehouse is equipped with fridges with thermometers metrological checked and with temperature recording sheets		
16	Veterinary pharmacy opening hours is displayed in a visible place		
17	In the veterinary pharmacy operates personnel consisting of:	staff with specialty higher education studies - veterinarians	
		staff with higher education studies - other than veterinarians	
		staff with secondary studies – veterinary technicians	
18	Veterinary pharmacy has a useful area sufficient and appropriate for the specific activity		
19	Veterinary medicinal products sold in the veterinary pharmacy have marketing authorization		
20	In the veterinary pharmacy there are metal cabinets with locking systems, for the storage of toxic substances, narcotics, psychotropic substances and their precursors and for substances and pharmaceutical preparations listed in Separanda and Venena tables		
21	There is a numbered, stamped and sealed register for toxic substances, narcotics, psychotropic and other therapeutic groups that are issued based on a prescription which is retained in the veterinary pharmacy		
22	Veterinary medicinal products in the pharmacy are accompanied by official documents stating:	product name	
		series and batch of manufacturing	
		validity period	
		manufacturer	
23	Veterinary pharmacy keeps track of prescriptions for magistral and officinal preparations	quality certificate	
		a register recording magistral and officinal preparations	
		a register recording veterinary medicinal products used for making magistral and officinal formulas	
		a register recording prescriptions not retained in the pharmacy	
		documents evidencing the release of toxic substances, narcotic drugs and psychotropic on prescription only	
24	In the veterinary pharmacy exists:	list of suppliers	
25	Medical prescriptions which are retained in veterinary pharmacy are properly archived and kept throughout the period provided by law		
26	Veterinary medicinal products are placed on shelves by action groups, allowing separation of batches and stock rotation		
27	Veterinary pharmacy's technical library contains, on paper or electronically:	Romanian Pharmacopoeia, current edition, if magistral and officinal formulas are prepared	
		Nomenclature of veterinary medicinal products in force	
		Sanitary/veterinary legislation in force and, in particular, that relating to veterinary medicinal products	

RESULTS AND DISCUSSIONS

All analyzed veterinary pharmacy had sanitary-veterinary authorization (20 out of 20, 100%).

Of all the pharmacies surveyed, a total of 11 (55%) had on the company firm all the elements specified by the College of Veterinarians, while the firm of the remaining 9 pharmacies (45%) contained only some elements.

The rooms of veterinary pharmacies were functionally linked together, not being spread inside the building in case of 14 pharmacies (70%).

Of the 20 veterinary pharmacies analyzed, 15 (75%) were located at the basement of residential buildings and had separate access than the one of tenants, while the remaining 5 pharmacies (25%) were located in separate buildings.

All veterinary pharmacies studied (100%) were connected to sewerage, water and electricity, while 13 pharmacies (65%) were secured with anti-theft systems.

Oficina was equipped with appropriate furniture in case of 18 veterinary pharmacies (90%).

None of the analyzed veterinary pharmacies had laboratory (0%), which means that none of these pharmacies prepared magistral and officinal medicines. As a consequence, analyzed veterinary pharmacies didn't keep track of prescriptions for magistral and officinal preparations and didn't have registers recording magistral and officinal preparations or veterinary medicinal products used for making magistral and officinal formulas.

None of the studied veterinary pharmacies (0%) made divisions of veterinary medicinal products.

Veterinary pharmacy warehouse was equipped with temperature and humidity insurance systems in case 12 pharmacies (60%). In 8 pharmacies (40%), these microclimate parameters were recorded in special registers.

Veterinary pharmacy warehouse was equipped with shelves, cabinets and pallets made of easily washable materials, fire- and corrosion-resistant in case of 13 pharmacies (65%).

In the warehouse, veterinary products were placed on shelves, by groups of substances in 14 pharmacies (70%). Also, veterinary

products in the warehouse were labeled with name, batch, validity and marketing / manufacturing authorization number in care of all pharmacies (100%).

Fridges and thermometers metrological checked were found in the warehouses of 15 pharmacies (75%).

19 veterinary pharmacies (95%) displayed opening hours in a visible place.

Veterinarians were employed in all studied pharmacies (100%), while in 7 units (35%) the personnel included also veterinary technicians. Staff with higher education studies - other than veterinarians was not identified in the analyzed veterinary pharmacies.

Veterinary pharmacies had a useful area sufficient and appropriate for the specific activity in 15 cases (75%); for the remaining 5 pharmacies (25%), useful space was considered too small.

Veterinary medicinal products sold in all studied veterinary pharmacies (100%) had marketing authorization.

Metal cabinets with locking systems, for the storage of toxic substances, narcotics, psychotropic substances and their precursors and for substances and pharmaceutical preparations listed in *Separanda* and *Venena* tables were present in 16 pharmacies (80%).

In all the 20 analyzed pharmacies (100%), veterinary medicinal products were accompanied by official documents stating product name, series and batch of manufacturing, validity period, manufacturer and quality certificate.

All veterinary pharmacies had the register recording prescriptions which are not retained in the pharmacy, documents evidencing the release of toxic substances, narcotic drugs and psychotropic on prescription only and list of suppliers.

Medical prescriptions which are retained in veterinary pharmacy were properly archived and kept throughout the period provided by law in case of 17 pharmacies (85%).

Veterinary medicinal products were placed on shelves by action groups, allowing separation of batches and stock rotation in 14 pharmacies (70%).

Veterinary pharmacy's technical library contained, on paper or electronically, the following documents: Romanian

Pharmacopoeia, current edition – 7 pharmacies (35%), nomenclature of veterinary medicinal products in force – 17 pharmacies (85%) and sanitary/veterinary legislation in force and, in particular, that relating to veterinary medicinal products – 18 pharmacies (90%).

CONCLUSIONS

The study of 20 veterinary pharmaceutical units in Bucharest showed that they largely respect the organizational conditions specified by law; however, there is a relatively small number of units fully complying with legislative requirements.

None of the analyzed veterinary pharmacies prepared magistral and officinal medicines, aspect sustained by the absence of the special room for this purpose, namely the laboratory.

All the studied pharmaceutical units have in the staff list employees with specialty higher education studies, namely veterinarians.

REFERENCES

A.N.S.V.S.A. Order nr. 41 from 3 May 2012 approving the sanitary veterinary norm regarding the organization and functioning conditions of veterinary pharmaceutical units, marketing conditions of veterinary medicinal products and other products for pets in pet shops, operating conditions of transport vehicles for veterinary medicinal products and veterinary authorization of these units, activities and vehicles.

A.N.S.V.S.A. Order nr. 64 from 16 October 2012 approving the sanitary veterinary norm regarding medical prescription forms with special regime and methodological norms relating their use.

A.N.S.V.S.A. Order nr. 11 from 31 January 2013 approving the sanitary veterinary norm establishing the list of intended uses of animal feedingstuffs for particular nutritional purposes

A.N.S.V.S.A. Order nr. 4 from 30 April 2004 for approval of veterinary norm regarding the production, processing, storage, transportation, sale and use of veterinary medicinal products and other veterinary products, modified by A.N.S.V.S.A. Order nr. 82 from 29 September 2004.

CLINICAL SCIENCES

