



Local Pharmacy Technician Attends PCCA's Veterinary Symposium

Hickory, NC (6/7-6/9): Mark Williams of The Compounding Pharmacy in Hickory, NC recently attended a Continuing Education Symposium regarding veterinary compounding sponsored by Professional Compounding Centers of America. Veterinarians, pharmacists, and pharmacy technicians attended the symposium held at the Columbus Zoo and Aquarium in Columbus, Ohio on June 7-9, 2007.

Director Emeritus of the Columbus Zoo and conservationist, author, and television personality Jack Hanna lead discussions on how compounding pharmacists and technicians can help solve problems in a veterinarian's practice for treating domestic, exotic, and zoo animals; the use of transdermal drugs for animals; legal requirements that must be met for veterinary compounding; and how to flavor medications in order to appeal to various animals.

There are several reasons why physicians prescribe and pharmacists compound medication for both human and animals, yet the most important one is patient non-compliance. Many patients are allergic to preservatives or dyes, or are sensitive to standard drug strengths. With a physician's prescription, a compounding pharmacist can change the strength of a medication, alter its form to make it easier for the patient to ingest, or add flavor to it to make it more palatable. Compounding pharmacists also can prepare medications using unique delivery systems, such as troches or lozenges, lollipops, or transdermal gels.