



# NARCH

National Association of Registered Canine Hydrotherapists

## SPRING 2018 NEWSLETTER



With the March snowfalls firmly behind us, let us turn our sights to the warmer spring weather and the prospect of blue skies, sunshine and yellow daffodils. We hope you enjoy reading this newsletter and please do contact us if there is a subject that you would like us to cover in future editions.

### ARE YOU GDPR READY?

The General Data Protection Regulation (GDPR) will come into force on 25 May



2018 and will build upon the Data Protection Act 1998 (DPA 1998).

GDPR governs the collection, storage and use of personal information. It aims to ensure that personal data about individuals is only collected when it is needed and when collected, that it is used and stored in a way that provides

protection, security and control to the individual that the data concerns.

Regulated by the Information Commissioner's Office (ICO), the new law gives people more control about how their data is used, shared and stored and requires organisations to be more accountable and transparent about how they use it.

It is important for businesses, including canine hydrotherapy businesses both large and small, to consider the main provisions of the GDPR and whether any changes to business practices and procedures should be made. Businesses should therefore carry out an assessment of what information they hold and what changes, if any, should be made to ensure compliance with the GDPR.

The ICO has the power to impose sanctions and fines. It is therefore important to consider the necessary steps to ensure compliance.

Where can I obtain further information and advice on GDPR compliance?

For further information and advice on GDPR compliance, go to the Information Commissioner's Office (ICO) website: <https://ico.org.uk/for-organisations/guide-to-data-protection>

NOTE: It is important to state here that NARCH is not a data security or GDPR consultancy and is therefore unable to provide RCHs with formal or legal advice in this context.

## DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

Our 2018 AGM followed by an Education Seminar will be held on **Sunday 7th October 2018** at the Holiday Inn, Guildford. Please put this date in your diary, speaker details will be released soon.



## VET FESTIVAL 8-9 JUNE 2018

NARCH will again be an associated partner for the Vet Festival which is being held at Loseley Park, near Guildford, on the 8th and 9th June 2018.

Please go to the [NARCH](#) website and see the [Events](#) page, where there is a code for RCHs to purchase tickets at a discount of 15% off full price tickets.

The [Vet Festival](#) offers a great opportunity to gain CPD points and those



# VET

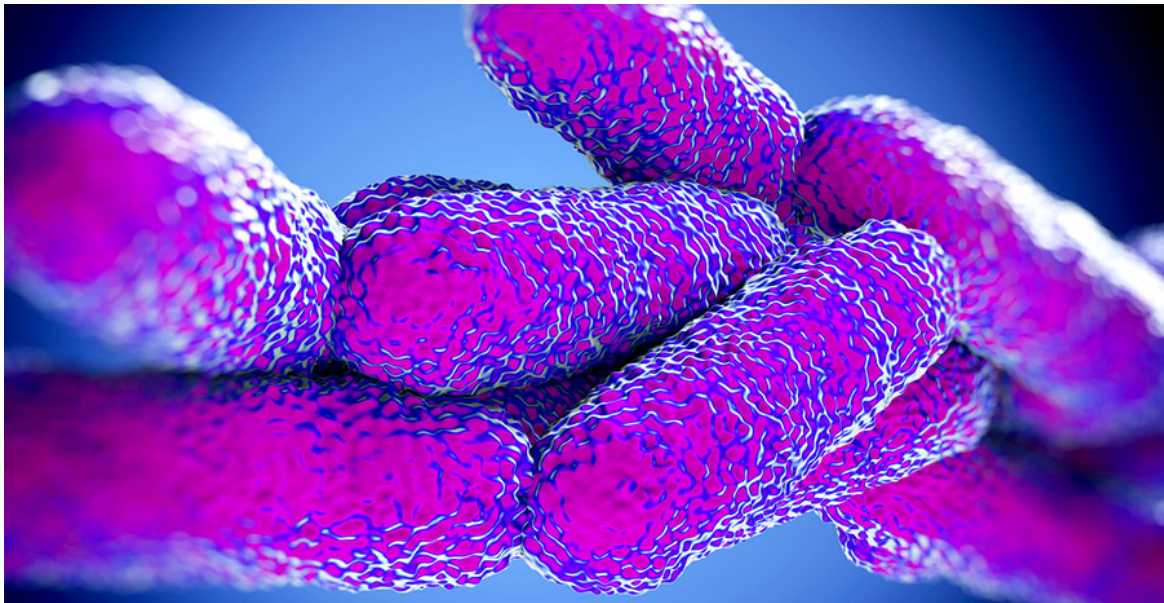
# FESTIVAL

VETERINARY EDUCATION TOMORROW

**8-9 June 2018**

**Loseley Park, Surrey**

who attended last year found the event both educational and very enjoyable. Buy your ticket now!



## LEGIONELLA TESTING

Advice on legionella testing varies and is dependant on your specific risk factors.

You should carry out a risk assessment of your premises and equipment and don't forget to include anything that can potentially create an aerosol. For example, the shower heads in the dog washing areas of a canine hydrotherapy centre will be a particular area of concern.

A sensible approach would normally be to undertake quarterly testing. The highest risk areas will be where there are higher temperatures, together with agitated water, as you find in spas.

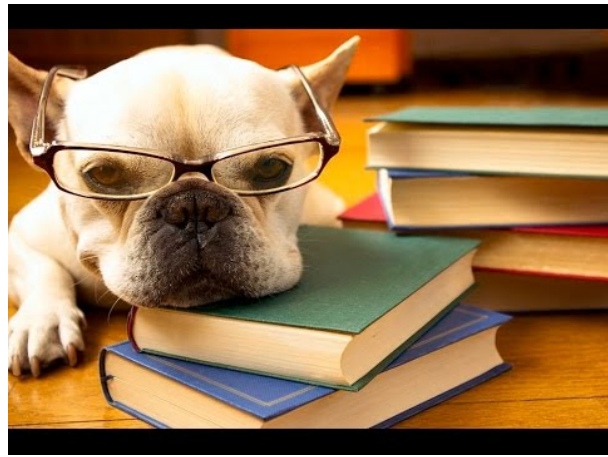
For more information see the HSE site where there is a booklet available to download – <http://www.hse.gov.uk/pubns/books/hsg282.htm>

## ANIMAL JOBS DIRECT NEW COURSE LAUNCHED DECEMBER 2017

Animal Jobs Direct have received formal approval for a Level 4 Hydrotherapy Qualification which is now on the Ofqual register.

This Aim Awards Level 4 Small Animal Hydrotherapy Diploma Qualification has been developed for working hydrotherapists who have completed the ABC Awards Level 3 Diploma course in Hydrotherapy for Small Animals.

Contact Animal Jobs Direct for more information: [www.animaljobsdirect.com](http://www.animaljobsdirect.com)



## Would you like to be considered as a Practical Hydrotherapy Assessor for NARCH?

Increasingly we find the need for new NARCH applicants to undergo additional practical hydrotherapy assessment. This is usually to supplement the number of hours practical training that the applicant has already undergone when attending a training centre for their ABC Level 3 certificate qualification. To be considered, we require assessors to be trained and qualified to diploma level and to have been running their own centre full time for between 3 to 5 years. A NARCH audit of your centre would also need to take place. If interested, please send your details by e-mail to Nicky Kohn, NARCH Administrator, [enquiries@narch.org.uk](mailto:enquiries@narch.org.uk) for consideration.

## AUDIT FOCUS – Hydrotherapy Treatment Records



It is vital that hydrotherapists maintain clear, easy to understand treatment notes, whether it relates to treatment in the pool or treadmill. The notes should include information that would enable any canine hydrotherapist (not just

yourself or one of your staff) to be able to treat the patient at the next session, thus maintaining the same level of treatment, repetitions etc to provide a seamless transition from one hydrotherapist to another.

The following list is not exhaustive, but your records should include the following information:

- why the patient is having hydrotherapy
- the date, time and duration of each session
- how many hydrotherapists are required to handle the patient
- any specific habits/behaviour issues that are relevant to the patient
- the size and specific details of floatation jacket/harness worn
- number of laps, straight lines, carry outs undertaken at each session
- name of the hydrotherapist who carried out each treatment session
- if treadmill treatment – the water level, duration, speed etc.

Your notes are not just for your own benefit, they have several vital functions:

- If a client moves away from your area and therefore needs to use another hydrotherapy centre, you will be asked to send a copy of your treatment notes to the new hydrotherapist to assist them in correctly taking over the treatment of the patient. This request may come from the new hydrotherapist or from your client. Please review the

[NARCH Guide to Professional Conduct](#) found on the NARCH Website, Resource Library, specifically Sections 6.1.e and 6.1.h and 11.0 and 11.g.

- Should you suddenly be taken ill, your staff and/or a locum hydrotherapist need to be able to understand the details of exactly what treatment has been provided to your patients in your absence. This will ensure a seamless approach to patient care with the welfare of the animal being the primary objective.
- In the event of a client bringing a claim against you alleging your Professional Negligence, your treatment records may be required by your Insurers to evidence the actions and treatment you have provided in order to defend your position. If your records are unclear or incomplete, this is unlikely to benefit your defence.
- Your records will be reviewed during a NARCH audit and failure to maintain clear, accurate patient records could result in a failed audit and possible suspension from the NARCH Register.

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