

Wildlife animal veterinary medicine is a special discipline in our profession requiring knowledge and skill in a number of fields ranging from comparative medicine, behavior, nutrition, welfare, husbandry, conservation and ethics just to mention a few. In Israel we are blessed with a number of establishments providing services for the care and protection of wildlife, from the National Parks Authority, zoos, game parks to an Israeli Wildlife Hospital. Providing support for these institutions there are a body of enthusiastic Israeli veterinarians doing excellent work in this field, many of them specialists. These veterinarians provide high quality medical care for these non-domestic animals and many are actively involved in the research and the dissemination of this knowledge to the veterinary profession and public.

Over the years the journal has published a number of articles on wildlife veterinary medicine and in this issue add a further three publications to this body of knowledge. The journal welcomes their contribution to the Israel Journal of Veterinary Medicine.

The article by Dr. Nili Avni Magen *et al.* offers insight into a using the technique of thermography in order to secure a diagnosis in elephants without subjecting them by restriction or sedation and thus reducing the stress involved in the diagnostic process. A fatal case of herpes simplex virus in a group of new world White-Faced Saki monkeys is described by Drs. Roi Lapid and David Esher, a first report in zoo kept monkeys of this species. Prof. Itamar Aroch and his colleagues provides an interesting and comprehensive study of the hematology and serum chemistry of the Five-Stripes Palm Squirrel and in so doing widening our medical knowledge of the species.

Reading articles in the field of wildlife animal veterinary medicine should also remind us of the role played by these veterinarians in benefitting our human health. This aspect is well documented by Prof. Barbara Natterson-Horowitz and Kathryn Bowers in their comprehensively documented and fascinating book "Zoobiquity" which I highly recommend (1). The book provides excellent examples of how human medicine can benefit from what is known in veterinary medicine and in so doing advance us humans, in aspects such as diagnosis and treatment.

I look forward to more articles from this body of veterinarians.

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REFERENCE

1. Natterson-Horowitz, B. and Bowers, K.: Zoobiquity. The Astonishing Connection Between Human and Animal Health. Vintage Books, New York, 2013.