

Dear Readers of the IJVM,

The March edition of the IJVM has a number of very exciting articles relevant to a variety of fields in our profession. I am sure that you, our readers will be able to glean a lot of important information relating to the work in your field of Veterinary Medicine.

Thank you, Prof. Giovanni Di Guardo for your interesting letter to the editor. I highly recommend our readers examining this interesting outline appraisal of the valuable contribution of the worm *Caenorhabditis elegans* for important medical research.

Dr. Rapaport from the University of Tel Aviv has described the challenge of maintaining disease free laboratory animals for research. This has been carried out by comparing the status of rats and mice kept under difference hygienic and quarantine conditions. Individuals working in this field of laboratory animals will find this article of interest.

Dr. Kachtan and his associates have presented a clinical case of a rare condition "Pneumatosis Coli in a dog. This condition is characterized by intramural gas within the colonic wall. It is also rarely reported in human medicine, and it is often reported as an incidental finding. This is the first description of this condition in a dog in Israel, with only a few cases been reported world wide.

Two articles from Turkey dealing with animal health are very welcome. Prof. Turkyilmaz and her team of bacteriologists continues to describe very interesting aspects of antibiotic resistance. In this article she places emphasis on *E. coli* with special emphasis on the effect of vaccination on the pathogenicity of this bacteria.

Prof. Dr. Nural Erol, presents an interesting virological serology article on Epizootic Haemorrhagic Disease Virus in Sheep, Goats and Camels in Turkey. The article frequently mentions the outbreak of the disease in Israel and the similarities found.

Dr. Sarah Weyl Feinstein and colleagues presents an encompassing article on nitrate intoxication in grazing cattle caused by intoxication caused by grazing *Silybum marianum* plants. The authors emphasize the importance of pasture management and proper knowledge relating to potential hazardous plants. The natural grazing environment cannot be ignored, rather addressing the cows and the pasture as one holistic eco-system.

*Sincerely,*

*Dr. Trevor (Tuvia) Waner*

Editor-in-Chief, Israel Journal of Veterinary Medicine