Expanded Healthcare in Veterinary Medicine

Rachel Seabold
Indiana University - Purdue University Fort Wayne

Andrea Baker
Indiana University - Purdue University Fort Wayne

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Rachel Seabold, Andrea Baker
Sponsor: Tim Johnson
Department of Biology/Pre-Vet

In the past, preventative care in small animal veterinary medicine has consisted primarily of routine vaccinations and check ups. But in the last few decades great strides have been made in the services now available to pet owners. One obstacle that veterinarians and technicians alike have had to overcome in order to provide the best care possible has been the increased number of exotic animals as domestic pets. With the introduction and increased popularity of such exotic species, the veterinary field has had to respond quickly with new and inventive solutions for treating and maintaining the health and life expectancy of a wide variety of animals. A survey of area veterinary hospitals regarding the range of species they treat, as well as the increase in services offered, was taken to determine how this trend has impacted the animal health care field. The responses were analyzed to determine the degree of influence that exotic animals may or not have on small animal veterinary practices.