

# WISCONSIN DEPARTMENT OF REGULATION & LICENSING



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STATE OF WISCONSIN  
BEFORE THE VETERINARY EXAMINING BOARD

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IN THE MATTER OF THE DISCIPLINARY :  
PROCEEDINGS AGAINST :  
ALICIA GUARINO HREBIK, D.V.M., : FINAL DECISION AND ORDER  
RESPONDENT. : ORDER 0000672

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[Division of Enforcement Case #07 VET 040]

The parties to this action for the purposes of Wis. Stat. § 227.53 are:

Alicia Guarino Hrebik, D.V.M.  
4461 Stagecoach Trail  
Rockford, IL 61101

Division of Enforcement  
Department of Regulation and Licensing  
1400 East Washington Avenue  
P.O. Box 8935  
Madison, WI 53708-8935

Veterinary Examining Board  
Department of Regulation & Licensing  
1400 East Washington Avenue  
P.O. Box 8935  
Madison, WI 53708-8935

PROCEDURAL HISTORY

The parties in this matter agree to the terms and conditions of the attached Stipulation as the final decision of this matter, subject to the approval of the Veterinary Examining Board. The Board has reviewed the attached Stipulation and considers it acceptable.

Accordingly, the Board in this matter adopts the attached Stipulation and makes the following:

## FINDINGS OF FACT

1. Alicia Guarino Hrebik, D.V.M., ("Respondent") was born on May 3, 1980, and is licensed to practice veterinary medicine in the state of Wisconsin pursuant to license number 5693-50. This license was first granted on July 14, 2004.
2. Respondent's most recent address on file with the Wisconsin Veterinary Examining Board is 4461 Stagecoach Trail, Rockford, IL 61101.
3. At all times relevant to this proceeding, Respondent was working as a veterinarian at Berlin, Wisconsin.
4. On August 23, 2004, Client J.H. brought his thirteen year old neutered cat Sam to Respondent for a second opinion on left front limping. Sam had previously been diagnosed by Dr. N. cellulitis, and treated with penicillin and Clavamox.
5. Respondent noted marked swelling and left front leg pain, and noted that the leg was warm to the touch, with areas of erythematous cellulitis and bruising, and a hard lump at the left elbow. Respondent also noted matting around the shoulder, which she attributed to self-mutilation secondary to pain. Radiographs indicated marked soft tissue swelling, but no bone involvement.
6. Respondent diagnosed a festering abscess, with no draining tract, and administered dexamethasone 1 mg., Banamine 7.5 mg. IV, amoxicillin 50 mg. subcutaneously and prescribed clindamycin drops 25 mg. twice each day with Metacam, and did not refer the patient to another clinic for more intensive care. Respondent's prescription of Metacam was written "dose for 10# SID" which is interpreted as "dose for a ten pound patient once each day." Sam weighed nineteen pounds on August 23, 2004.
7. Dexamethasone is a steroid; banamine and metacam are non-steroidal anti-inflammatory drugs. Individually, each can cause gastro-intestinal ulceration, kidney failure, and coagulopathies; concurrent use magnifies the individual risks. Use of these drugs in combination is contra-indicated.
8. Sam was brought back to Respondent on August 26, 2004, with labored and abdominal breathing, a painful abdomen, and the left front leg was hot to the touch. Radiographs indicated multiple mineralized opacities at the bifurcation of the trachea and caudal vena cava, and cardiomegaly. Respondent referred Sam to the Fox Valley (veterinary) Referral Center for emergency care.
9. The admitting diagnoses at the Fox Valley Referral Center were anorexia, leukocytosis, dyspnea, hypoalbuminemia, anemia, coagulation disorder, cellulitis, vasculitis, suspected septicemia, and cardiac arrhythmia. Sam suffered progressive respiratory distress during treatment, and died at the Fox Valley Referral Center that night.

## CONCLUSIONS OF LAW

1. The Wisconsin Veterinary Examining Board has jurisdiction to act in this matter, pursuant to Wis. Stat. §453.07, and is authorized to enter into the attached Stipulation and Order, pursuant to Wis. Stat. § 227.44(5).

2. The conduct described in paragraph #6, above, constitutes a violation of Wisconsin Administrative Code § VE 7.06(1).

## ORDER

NOW, THEREFORE, IT IS HEREBY ORDERED that:

1. Alicia Guarino-Hrebik, D.V.M., is REPRIMANDED.

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that:

2. Respondent shall, within nine months from the date of this Order, locate and successfully complete four hours of continuing veterinary education in the topic of veterinary pharmacology, including antibiotic selection, contra-indicated drug combinations, and the proper dosing and use of steroids and non-steroidal anti-inflammatory medications in small animals.

Respondent shall be responsible for locating the course(s) required under this Order, for providing adequate course descriptions to the Board or its designee, and for obtaining pre-approval of the courses from the Board or its designee, prior to commencement of the programs. All costs of the educational programs shall be the responsibility of the Respondent. For purposes of this Order, the Board's designee is

Department Monitor  
Division of Enforcement  
Department of Regulation and Licensing  
P.O. Box 8935  
Madison, WI 53708-8935  
Telephone (608) 267-3817  
Fax (608) 266-2264

Respondent may not count any of the courses she takes in compliance with this Order toward any other continuing education requirement.

3. Within thirty (30) days following completion of the course(s) required by this Order, Respondent shall file with the Department Monitor certifications from the sponsoring organization(s) verifying her completion of the courses.

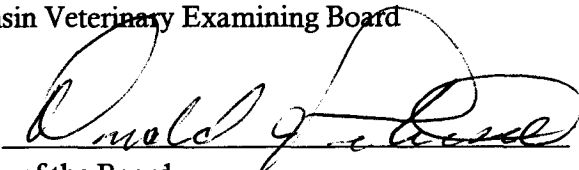
4. Respondent shall, within ninety (90) days from the date of this Order, pay costs of this proceeding in the amount of eight hundred seventy-five (\$875.00) dollars. Payment shall be made payable to the Wisconsin Department of Regulation and Licensing, and mailed to:

Department Monitor  
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5. Violation of any of the terms of this Order may be construed as conduct imperiling public health, safety and welfare and may result in a summary suspension of Respondent's license. The Board in its discretion may in the alternative impose additional conditions and limitations or other additional discipline for a violation of any of the terms of this Order. In the event Respondent fails to timely submit payment of the costs or fails to comply with the ordered continuing education as set forth above, the Respondent's license (#5693-50) may, in the discretion of the board or its designee, be SUSPENDED, without further notice or hearing, until Respondent has complied with the terms of this Order.

6. This Order is effective on the date of its signing.

Wisconsin Veterinary Examining Board

By:   
Member of the Board

2/16/11  
Date

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