



Letter to the Editor

Private Veterinary Pathology laboratories in Brazil

Dear Editor,

Over the past ten years, the Pet Industry has undergone a significant economic revolution, attracting an investment of over R\$ 6 billion only in 2007. Veterinary Medicine has followed this progress with the creation of new Veterinary Schools and training programs, and the incorporation of subspecialties, high-end diagnostics and alternative therapies into the private practice.

Nonetheless, some specialties have not been able to keep up with that demand. For instance, while academia employs the majority of Veterinary Pathologists, very few professionals are currently working in the private practice and industry. Although a variety of Veterinary Schools offer Residency and Internships programs to train veterinary pathologists for clinical diagnostics, most professionals have focused their goals of postgraduate training on PhD programs which are totally research oriented.

Nowadays despite the high investment needed to start a private Veterinary Pathology laboratory, the turnover is relatively short due to the incredibly high demand. The few private laboratories available in metropolitan areas are currently stretched to their limits. Thus, as part of the mission of this Association, I would like to encourage and inspire professionals in the Veterinary Pathology field to pursue this career that has such a widespread opportunity in the current market.

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