

Heroes for Healthy Pets Program Helps Veterinary and Pet Businesses Maintain Disease-Free Facilities *Certification Program to Help Manage Infectious Diseases Launches Nationwide*



Over the past few years, the incidence of infectious disease outbreaks in dogs in the United States has increased, and one of the best ways to combat this growing risk is through education and proactive healthcare for dogs. In March, at the annual Western Veterinary Conference, Merck Animal Health (known as MSD Animal Health outside the United States

and Canada) and Clorox Healthcare, in coordination with the International Boarding and Pet Services Association, the National Association of Veterinary Technicians in America, Pet Sitters, International, VETgirl, and Barkleigh Productions launched the Heroes for Health Pets™ Infectious Disease Management Certification Program to educate veterinary and pet professionals about the risks of infectious diseases.

Since its launch, more than 200 veterinary and pet care businesses throughout the country have earned certification. Jill Lopez, DVM, MBA, Senior Brand Manager for Merck Animal Health, says the certification helps give pet parents peace of mind that the facilities they are using have taken adequate precautions against the spread of disease. "We are committed to helping animal care givers be proactive in providing safe, healthy and clean environments for the pets in their care. The Heroes for Healthy Pets™ certification program has given clinics, day cares and grooming facilities the tools and knowledge they need to help prevent the spread of disease."

The Heroes for Healthy Pets™ Infectious Disease Management Certification Program consists of two free educational modules taught by three renowned veterinary experts in infectious disease:



Understanding Infectious Diseases led by Dr. Jason Stull and Dr. Michelle Evason, and Effective Infectious Disease Control led by Dr. Melissa Bourgeois.

The program is free and open to all veterinary and pet professionals. To become certified, participants must complete both educational modules and pass the certification exam. The certification provides two hours of Registry of Approved Continuing Education (RACE) approved continuing education credits for veterinary professionals. Individual pet professionals and veterinary and pet care facilities can also apply for certification.

To learn more about the Heroes for Healthy Pets™ Infectious Disease Management Certification Program or register for certification, visit heroes4healthypets.com