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Veterinary Clinical Epidemiology, Third Edition

Ronald D. Smith

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Third Edition

Veterinary Clinical Epidemiology



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Ronald D. Smith : Veterinary Clinical Epidemiology, Third Edition before purchasing it in order to gauge whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Veterinary Clinical Epidemiology, Third Edition:

3 of 3 people found the following review helpful. targeted to its purpose By Emily R. Wheeler As far as statistics-based books go, this one is a fair read and does an excellent job of placing the student squarely in the middle of the elements of epidemiology that are important to a budding veterinarian. Well organized and a careful balance of theory and practical knowledge this book is not really intended to teach you how to be a practicing epidemiologist. If that is your hope, then certainly there are texts for that. It was written very specifically to give budding veterinarians a working

knowledge of statistics, epidemiological thinking and disease control concepts important to veterinary practice. If you want to be able to crunch numbers and solve problems by hand, this may not necessarily be the text for you - those books are certainly out there. But if you like statistics written with a philosophical leaning and an emphasis on understanding of the place of epidemiology in veterinary medicine, this is a great place to start - its short compared to many epi texts and serves its intended purpose quite well. Yeah, and Dr. Smith really is a super nice guy too.

While veterinary medicine has always valued the concepts and methods of epidemiology, they are virtually inseparable in today's clinical practice. With access to an ever-expanding number of journals, as well as countless Internet sources, more and more veterinarians are practicing evidence-based medicine. This is defined as the process of systematically finding, appraising, and adopting research findings as the primary basis for clinical decisions. An underlying premise of the book is that patient-based research is epidemiologic research. It logically follows that the users of this information, veterinary students and practitioners, be skilled in its application to patient care. From the preface *Veterinary Clinical Epidemiology, Third Edition* focuses on developing a deeper understanding of epidemiology and exemplifies how an improved capacity for interpreting and critiquing available literature ultimately leads to improved patient care. In preparing this edition, Ronald Smith, a highly respected epidemiologist, practitioner, and educator, has entirely updated his earlier work to reflect those changes that have dramatically altered the practice of veterinary medicine over the last ten years. New to the third edition: Numerous updated examples of the application of epidemiology in clinical practice Expanded journal representation to include a larger selection of international research Increased coverage of hypothesis testing, survey design, sampling and epidemiologic concepts related to the practice of evidence-based medicine Revised and updated information on diagnostic testing, risk assessment, causality, and the use of statistics *Veterinary Clinical Epidemiology, Third Edition* provides practitioners and researchers with the knowledge and tools to understand, critically assess, and make use of the medical literature that is vital to the treatment of animal patients.

"Smith has put together a 259 page book titled to imply a study of epidemiology, but also addresses biostatistics and the inevitable merging of these two disciplines. The book is a nice combination of these disciplines and is written in easy to understand language for those being introduced to the study. Reader beware; however, this is a theoretical textbook of the study of epidemiology (and to a degree biostatistics) as it applies to veterinary medicine and will not be useful to veterinary technicians or veterinary practitioners not studying or engaged within veterinary research. For this reason, the reviewer feels that the book, while well written, has limited value to veterinary technology students, practicing veterinary technicians or clinical veterinary practitioners and therefore garners a three out of five star rating." - Oreta M. Samples, DHSc, MPH, RVT, The VIN Book sAbout the Author Smith; Ronald D. College of Veterinary Medicine, Urbana, Illinois, USA,