

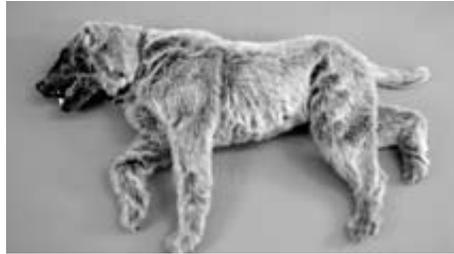
Accent on an Alternative

New Canine Models Help Prep Students for Surgery, Critical Care, and Radiology

Rescue Critters®, a California company that manufactures animal mannequins, models, and simulators, has two new canine mannequins with applications for veterinary training.

The “Rufus” K-9 Bandaging and First Aid Mannikin provides veterinary students with comprehensive critical care experience. The model can be used to practice advanced bandaging techniques. Students can also use the model to practice mouth to snout resuscitation. Right side front and rear legs are set in position while the left knee, elbow, carpal, and hock joints will move naturally with a 90-degree range of motion. The shoulder and hip joints also feature a 90-degree flexation and rotation. The model comes with five disposable lungs.

The “Emily” K-9 Positioning Mannikin prepares students to properly position dogs for abdominal surgery,



“Emily” K-9 Positioning Mannikin

sterilization, radiographs, advanced spinal stabilization, spinal recumbence, and other veterinary procedures. Because the model replicates the movement of a live canine in resistance and natural movement, students can safely practice techniques before working on live animals. Articulated on both sides, Emily features shoulder and hip joints with realistic rotation and 90-degree flexation. Knees, elbows, carpal, and hock joints also have a 90-degree range of motion.



“Rufus” K-9 Bandaging and First Aid Mannikin

The Louisiana State University School of Veterinary Medicine is already using the Rufus K-9 Mannikin for training and the Professional Veterinary Assistant School in Garden Grove, California, is using the Emily K-9 Mannikin. For more information on these and other alternative training products manufactured by Rescue Critters, go to www.rescuecritters.com or call (818) 780-7860.

Photos courtesy of Rescue Critters.

Alternatives Gaining Acceptance in Russian, Ukrainian Schools

Pathology Department at St. Petersburg Veterinary School to End Animal Experiments

Last fall, representatives of the International Network for Humane Education (InterNICHE) visited veterinary schools and other universities in the Ukraine and Russia with the goal of promoting the use of alternatives and a network of faculty and students working toward this objective.

Although Russia and the Ukraine have traditionally lagged behind the progressive animal protection movement in Europe (Russia has no animal protection laws), the InterNICHE representatives found surprising progress being made in replacing the harmful and terminal use of animals at several schools.

During the tour, the Department of Pharmacology at the State Academy of Veterinary Medicine in St. Petersburg pledged to discontinue the use of live animals for student training or postgraduate research, becoming the first institute in Russia to replace all animal use in a department and to implement alternatives as part of a broader process of reform (the department previously used approximately 1,000 animals per year but now utilizes computer software and other non-animal alternatives for training). Likewise, during an InterNICHE presentation, the director of the Agricultural Academy in Velikie Luki, which trains animal technicians,

confirmed the complete end to harmful animal use in education beginning in September 2005 (including the replacement of up to 500 frogs used annually in physiology training).

InterNICHE is continuing its outreach efforts in Russia and the Ukraine by making available a Russian version of its Web site with information about alternatives and by helping coordinate a small lending library of alternatives in Russia. InterNICHE also has translated its comprehensive alternatives manual, *From Guinea Pig to Computer Mouse*, into Russian. For more on the InterNICHE tour and the organization, go to www.interniche.org.