

Majority of practices do look after employees

Dear editor,

I read Shams Mir's article and had to check the date. Was this an April Fool's Day joke? What a ridiculous view of our profession he has. He sees as the "norm" what I and many others see as being a small handful of veterinary practices that no one is forced to work for.

Some of his examples of bad working practices are laughable. Shrinking clinical freedom? Why choose to work for a corporate practice if you don't want to work like a robot with restricted clinical freedom and fixed protocols? Pressures of overcharging? Who defines overcharging? Vets as a whole severely undercharge for their services, compared to the fees charged for comparable professional services. Vets who are supposedly suffering the stress of working against their consciences should have more self worth and belief in the quality of their work, and feel comfortable charging accordingly for it. If these slavish and macho bosses exist, and vets feel unable to stand up to them and insist on improved working conditions, then why put up with it?

In this current recession, we are in the very fortunate position that there is a wide choice of jobs available to us. So pull yourselves out of "drudgery and darkness" and go work for one of the vast majority of practices out there that do look after their employees – practices that *do* support their vets through owner disputes, that *do* give clinical freedom for vets to be vets, and that *do* provide a happy working environment – with or without a lavish staff room and a designated parking space.

Yours faithfully,

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