

Single-handed practice is alternative to union

Dear editor,

The veterinary union discussion conducted through these pages seems to have become somewhat repetitive and polarised. On the one hand, Shams Mir portrays all practice principals as worse than 19th century workhouse owners; on the other are those practice owners who seem to think that assistants should be grateful for what they have and shut up, however poor their working conditions.

There will always be those who will survive against all odds, and those whose mental fragility makes them more susceptible to normal pressure and stress. Perhaps Dr Mir should put his money where his mouth is and form his union, and all who feel they will benefit can join.

For the others, there is another way: set up your own practice and remain single handed. You will have no veterinary employees to bully, no one to answer to, and no one to blame for your problems other than yourself. I did it 28 years ago and have been blissfully happy since.

Yours faithfully,

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VT 39 (21):35
01.06.09