

# Diagnostic Laboratory Begins a Program for Practitioners

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In September the Diagnostic Laboratory began a continuing education program which enables practitioners to observe and participate in Diagnostic Laboratory activities. Practitioners have always been welcome to visit the laboratory at their convenience. This program provides for an organized and informative three day visit. Large and small animal practitioners are equally welcomed.

Doctor Vaughn Seaton, professor and head of the Diagnostic Laboratory, outlined the program's intentions as being primarily to acquaint practitioners with:

1. The laboratory's philosophy, policies, and approach to veterinary diagnostic problems.
2. Capabilities of the laboratory in the fields of pathology, bacteriology, virology, chemistry and toxicology.
3. Specimen collection, preservation, and submission to the laboratory for use in various diagnostic disciplines.
4. Interpretation, evaluation, and use of laboratory findings as reported to the practitioner.

Two practitioners are scheduled to visit the laboratory each week. During the mornings they visit and work with various staff members of the laboratory. The first morning they meet with Doctor Seaton for orientation to the program and a tour of the facilities and introduction to personnel.

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The second morning is spent with Doctor Brown in the bacteriology and virology laboratories. The third morning is spent with either Doctor Buck or Doctor Osweiler in the chemistry and toxicology sections of the laboratory. The afternoons are spent with either Doctor Vorhies or Doctor Dillman in the necropsy laboratory.

Upon completion of their visit, practitioners are presented with a booklet which summarizes laboratory techniques in handling various cases. It contains valuable information on the requirements for collection of specimens for diagnostic virology, bacteriology, and toxicology.

This program is sanctioned by the Iowa Veterinary Medical Association's newly formed Academy of Veterinary Medical Practice.



Left to Right: Dr's P. W. Ucko, Clifton, Iowa, and L. W. Swain, Dallas Center, Iowa, work with Dr. Vorhies in Necropsy room.