

Preface

This book grew out of the Homeopathic Professionals Teaching Group, as two of the veterinary tutors connected with the course realised that there is no current work that is directed at veterinary surgeons, whereas there are texts available which aim to cater for the needs of doctors.

Such veterinary works as do exist are directed mainly at animal owners. Whilst these have a certain value for veterinary surgeons, they fall short of what is needed by the committed student. This book attempts to fulfil the needs of the increasing number of veterinary surgeons with a genuine interest in homeopathy, providing sufficient information for them to gain an understanding of the principles and philosophy, together with guidance on basic prescribing. At the same time it is hoped that both the more experienced veterinary practitioner and colleagues in other medical professions will find useful information in it.

It is assumed that the reader has no previous knowledge of homeopathy. Inevitably some information, especially that pertaining to basic principles, will be available in other texts. However, as one of the aims has been to draw together material that is otherwise scattered throughout the literature, homeopaths of all disciplines should find it of value. Emphasis is given to the veterinary aspects of all subjects. Thus different routes to the simillimum which are particularly useful in animals are discussed to a greater degree than in the purely human texts. The emphasis throughout is on basic principles that can be applied to all situations. Detailed discussion of individual species, especially the farm animals, is only included where the approach differs from the standard.

In the main, detailed materia medica has been omitted. This aspect of homeopathy is well covered in other works, and its principal mention here is within the context of the veterinary dimension. The aim has been to provide an introductory manual and reference work that will not sit unthumbed on shelves for too long, but which will be well used, encouraging and informing the aspiring veterinary homeopath and assisting in the creation of a rounded practitioner capable of operating at all levels of homeopathic prescribing.