



The British
Veterinary Centre

Background info for the vet job at the BVC



Our centre has been running for almost 20 years. We were the first veterinary practice to have western trained veterinarians in Abu Dhabi. We remain the only practice owned and run by British veterinarians in Abu Dhabi. We feel this is important as it allows us to determine the ethical and clinical standards. We have a moderately busy practice. It can be quite seasonal with lots of western expat families still fleeing the summer heat. So at certain times very quiet. Of the Abu Dhabi practices I am certain we are the best equipped and amongst the Gulf generally we would be in the top few. Relative to UK practices we would be equipped to a larger UK practice standard. I am happy to provide specific details as we go along. We are three full time vets with a fourth in the wings. We have quite a large support staff - about 25 personnel supporting the vets and running boarding, grooming, lab and pet transport sections. UAE support staff are generally less qualified with comparison to UK practices.

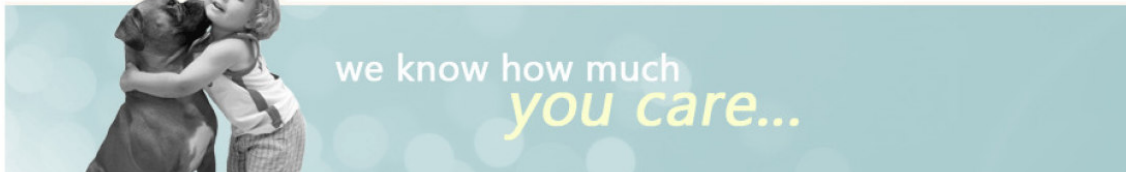
The work load is primarily first opinion and it is mainly routine work. The basic vaccinations and education. The most common patients are cats. There are some exotics - mainly birds and the odd cheetah. The most common diseases here are young cat diseases like ringworm, ear mites, feline herpes. We do have lots of diagnostic tools and can do a good work up when needed. The emphasis is on excellence in first opinion work and communication and we do accept referrals. We have visiting specialists that use our centre as a base from time to time.

We work up to 6 days a week. Up to eight hours a day. Its not intense - comfortably busy is all. We are flexible. The practice needs to be looked after and alongside that the life balance is important. We find flexibility from the team helps to achieve this. We are looking to find a colleague that will join the team in the same way. IE if someone want to go camping or diving or skiing then the other vets are easy about covering shifts, working more in the short term and benefiting in the long term from reciprocity. The practice is open until 10pm at night. Out of hours is limited to up to 2 nights a week. We may not be open that late when the new vet starts depending on who we recruit - it suited the Arabic speaking vet and his clientele - it is great customer service but may not be sustainable - we will see. We have a philosophy of enjoying work and play. We are doing comfortably in the clinic and we enjoy the benefits of the quality of life in a city that is exciting and has lots of sun and sea. There is a profit sharing system in addition to basic salary that is in the advert. We do provide health insurance.



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I think our key need is to find another nice friendly colleague. Someone who likes sharing information - is good at communicating in a nice way - about case management, ethics life in general. An enthusiastic vet that also loves life is wanted. Someone enthusiastic to experience the change that a move to a new culture brings. An interest in Islamic culture (or perhaps learning the Arabic language) or an interest in the expat lifestyle would be pointers to the right type of person for this job. It might also suit the more mature career type vet that has reached a point in life where they say there must be more to it than this and who wants a change of scene?