



## **Purdue University Veterinary Nursing Distance Learning**

*Lynn Hall, Purdue University, West Lafayette, Indiana 47907*

### **HEALTH RISK AND INSURANCE ACKNOWLEDGMENT**

**Assumption of risk.** All VNDL students working in a veterinary facility encounter animals which may cause traumatic injury and/or expose them to infectious agents which cause disease. They will also be exposed to ionizing radiation (e.g. X-rays), volatile anesthetic gases, and chemical substances which can cause bodily harm. In enrolling in Clinical Mentorship courses in the Veterinary Nursing Distance Learning Program, students voluntarily accept that these risks exist and assume the responsibility to act safely and responsibly at all times.

**Pregnancy.** Pregnancy is a medical condition for which there are definite health concerns, and it is wise for a pregnant student to obtain additional information from her physician about these risks as soon as possible after the onset of pregnancy. The College of Veterinary Medicine is committed to supporting pregnant students in their academic careers. When pregnancy is identified, students are invited and encouraged to discuss needs for scheduling adjustments with the Director of the Veterinary Nursing Program.

**Rabies.** The level of risk for rabies exposure is dependent upon the geographical location of the Clinical Mentorship experience, the type of animals to which the student is exposed, and the degree of contact with animals potentially carrying the rabies virus. The VNDL student should be aware that all students enrolled in the Purdue University on-campus Veterinary Nursing Program are required to obtain the initial rabies immunization series. The student is expected to consult with, and be advised by, his/her physician and appropriate public health authorities regarding rabies immunization.

**Tetanus.** If a student has never received tetanus immunization, the student should receive such immunization as advised by his/her physician. If the student has had the initial series, but the last booster was received more than five years ago, the student should seek advisement from his/her physician regarding receiving a booster immunization.

