

## Northwest Neighborhood Veterinary Hospital

9/12/12

To Whom It May Concern:

I have recently submitted a letter to the FTC regarding Pet Medications Workshop, Project No. P12-1201. This letter is present an additional concern that has recently arisen.

I placed a patient on a medication that I called into a local pharmacy. The pharmacist filled the prescription at 10 times the dose. Several times refills were called into the pharmacy and the dose given and always the medication sent home was 10 times the correct dose. Because this medication was dispensed by a 3<sup>rd</sup> party we never had an opportunity to see the prescription label and did not know that the medication was being dispensed incorrectly. During the time the patient was on the incorrect dose, other medical and behavioral problems arose. The owner incurred significant medical cost and the patient went through many tests before we discovered the incorrect dosage of a medication was being given. Correcting the dosage has resolved this patient's problems.

Unfortunately, this problem and many like this arose because the pharmacist did not have adequate knowledge in animal pharmacology and dosing. The excessive dose would have been recognized if the medication was being dispensed by a veterinarian. I am concerned that if veterinarians are forced to have prescriptions filled by human pharmacies, many more cases like this will occur resulting in both harm to animal patients and increase costs to owners.

Sincerely,

Scott Shuler, DVM