

DBPR vs. Hamici
DPBR CASE NO: 2013-001836

Personal Statement:

In his complaint against Dr. Abdel Hakim Hamici, Mr. Stephen Sewell has alleged that Dr. Hamici was negligent in the death of 5 neonates Jack Russell terrier puppies that Dr. Hamici falsified or intentionally omitted things from the medical records of these same puppies and their mother and that Dr. Hamici did not turn over medical records in a timely manner.

With regards to negligence Mr. Sewell claims that DR. Hamici overdosed "Bitsey" the dam, and her six puppies with Panacur 100mg/ml or Fenbendazole 100mg/ml. Mr. Sewell claims that Dr. Hamici said "Bitsey" had worms as well as the puppies. Mr. Sewell states that Dr. Hamici gave "Bitsey" 3cc of Panacur orally and each puppy 1cc orally for 3 days. Dr. Hamici claims he only prescribed and treated "Bitsey". Dr. Hamici further writes in the medical record that "Bitsey" was to receive "one ml orally once a day for three consecutive days". Dr. Hamici prescribed this medication without actually doing a fecal on "Bitsey", according to the history in the medical record, Dr. Hamici, "on heartworm prevention per owner". Dr. Hamici failed to note what or even verify from the previous veterinarian what heartworm prevention "Bitsey" was on, but all modern heartworm prevention is labeled for either the prevention or treatment of hookworms, roundworms or whipworms. So why did Dr. Hamici prescribe Panacur in the first place and was it even necessary. Dr. Hamici in his response noted that "Bitsey" was the only animal that received Panacur. This conflicts with Ms. Sewell who stated she saw Dr. Hamici pick each puppy up and "squirted a white milky substance into his or her mouth". Panacur suspension is a white milky substance. Again Dr. Hamici claims in his response that the Panacur was only for "Bitsey" and he only recommended 1cc orally once daily for three days, but he sent home according to the invoice provided, 25cc worth. If "Bitsey" only needed 3cc's total then why send home 25cc total. According to *Plumb's Veterinary Drug Handbook, 7th Edition*, the recommended dosage for the treatment of "susceptible ascarids, hookworms, whipworms and tapeworms (Taenia spp. Only)", the recommended dosage is 50mg/kg. Therefore according to the medical record provided "Bitsey" weighed 14.5 lbs or 6.5 kg, so the appropriate dosage should have been 3.25cc orally once daily for 3 days, still well below the 25cc Dr. Hamici scripted out.

Mr. Sewell in his statement and allegations says that Dr. Hamici overdosed the puppies on Panacur and that over dosage led to the death of 5 of the puppies. Mr. Sewell says that each puppy received 1cc with instructions to give 1cc orally for two more days. They claim that 1cc was an over dosage and that a Dr. Frank Ogden agreed. It should be noted that Mr. Sewell did not provide the medical records from Dr. Ogden for review. According to the medical records provided each puppy, all six puppies, weighed 1.2 lbs., if this is correct the recommended dosage would have been 0.27cc orally once daily for 3 days. However I do not believe this over dosage led to the demise of the puppies. According to *Plumb's Veterinary Drug Handbook, 7th edition*, fenbendazole or Panacur is considered "well tolerated at doses up to 100X recommended. The LD50 in laboratory

DBPR vs. Hamici
DPBR CASE NO: 2013-001836

animals exceeds 10 grams/kg when administered PO. It is unlikely an acute overdose would lead to clinical signs." At 100X recommended dosage Dr. Hamici would have to have given each puppy 27cc orally to possibly show adverse effects, not the 1cc Mr. and Mrs. Sewell say Dr. Hamici gave.

Mr. Sewell also alleges that the medical records were falsified or had things intentionally omitted. There is certainly no mention in the medical records of Dr. Hamici providing or giving Panacur to the puppies as alleged by Mr. and Mrs. Sewell. There is also no reference to the alleged conversation Mr. Sewell had with Dr. Hamici on 11-29-12 to give a soapy water enema to the puppies. Dr. Hamici did acknowledge a conversation with regards to a puppy dying but again there is no mention of this in the medical record either.

Finally there is the issue of Dr. Hamici failing to release medical records to a Ms. Patricia Olson. Medical records may only be released to an owner or authorized agent. Ms. Olson is not listed on the medical records provided as either an owner or agent. The only name listed on the medical records is Steve Sewell.

It is my belief that Dr. Hamici did indeed give the puppies Panacur and this was omitted from their records, I also believe he gave "Bitsey" 3cc and not 1cc as he wrote in his records. This is belief is based on Ms. Sewell's statement and that Dr. Hamici prescribed 25cc of Panacur. I do believe he did overdose the puppies but I do not believe this led to their deaths. I also do not believe the Panacur was necessary for either "Bitsey" or her puppies.

Scott Richardson, DVM
Tallahassee, FL