

V.C.O.T. stands for Veterinary and Comparative Orthopaedics and Traumatology. This abbreviation denotes at the same time objectives and contents of a new professional journal, which is launched by the Editors and the Publisher with this inaugural edition.

V.C.O.T. is the first periodical of its kind which deals with the increasing number of orthopaedic and traumatological conditions and diseases in both man and animals which have many orthopaedic problems and disorders in common; individual traumatological aspects bear many resemblances to each other. In view of the fact that a rapid limitation of animal experiments is now being called for, clinical research and progress in veterinary medicine should also be related to human medicine. Not only does this hold true for the employment of operative techniques, it also applies to the development of drugs, implant materials and implant design.

Knowledge in veterinary orthopaedics and traumatology has grown enormously over the past 20 years. Research and progress have been reported on in a variety of periodicals; without one journal being exclusively devoted to and reserved for these medical fields. V.C.O.T. thus wants to bridge the gap between the experimentally-oriented orthopaedist/traumatologist in human medicine and his counterpart in veterinary surgery, and has the prospect of becoming the official organ for both the "European Society for Veterinary Orthopaedics and Traumatology" and the American "Veterinary Orthopaedic Society". Consequently both the Editors and the Publisher wish this ambitious new journal all success and expect it to stimulate the dialogue between disciplines, comprising both veterinary and human medicine.

*F. K. Schattauer Publishers*