Zoonoses are diseases that are naturally transmissible between vertebrates and man, including those contracted through direct contact with infected animals or carcasses, contaminated food or water, or inhalation of infected dust. Since zoonotic diseases are typically endemic and occur in natural foci, they are becoming increasingly important public health issues.

Both domestic and wild dogs are potential carriers of many disease organisms that can infect humans and hence constitute a risk to public health. This book is the first to address this important issue involved in human relationships with dogs.

This multidisciplinary book provides a comprehensive overview of zoonotic diseases, organised by disease, and is written by recognised experts in biology, epidemiology, and human and veterinary medicine. The first section summarises the anthropological aspects of human-dog relationships in different parts of the world. The second section is especially useful as it contains a review of the current knowledge of dog ecology and population biology, in the context of human activities. The subsequent sections cover information on the etiology of zoonotic dog-associated infections, with particular attention given to geographic distribution, occurrence in dogs and humans, source of infection, mode of transmission, the role of dogs in the epidemiology, and disease diagnosis and control. These parts are broad in scope, and include detailed information on zoonotic pathogens and the manifestations of zoonotic diseases in dogs and humans. Numerous tables and illustrations facilitate understanding of the transmission cycle of some of these diseases. Each section also includes pertinent literature references for each pathogen, so the reader is able to obtain the original reports with minimal library research. The final sections deal with the control and prevention aspects of dogs and diseases, including current and future methods for dog population management. The book also has a comprehensive index, which facilitates reference.

This excellent text brings together information that has been previously unavailable as a single source, and students and professionals alike will find it invaluable in their work in the wide variety of disciplines concerned with human and animal health. This book also answers the need that schools of public health and human and veterinary medicine, as well as bureaux of public health, have for a primary reference text.

Břetislav Koudela

CORRIGENDUM

Daszak P., Ball S.J.: A description of two new species of coccidia (Apicomplexa: Eimeriidae) from African reptiles with nomenclatural corrections for two Caryospora and one Eimeria species from snakes.


Key words: Coccidia, Apicomplexa, Eimeriidae, Caryospora, Reptilia, Serpentes, Dendroaspis

The correct name of the host for Caryospora regentensis is the “Eastern green mamba”, Dendroaspis angusticeps Smith, 1849 not D. viridis Hallowell, 1844 as stated due to the authors’ oversight. All other data regarding this description are correct.