

Study: Pet care industry is booming

June 26 2007

The American Chemical Society said U.S. pet owners spent \$18.5 million last year on veterinary care, medications and other non-food pet supplies.

And as people around the world devote more of their income to keeping pets healthy and comfortable, pharmaceutical companies are devoting more research to pet health.

Writing in the ACS journal Chemical & Engineering News, Associate Editor Rachel Petkewich reported the amount of money spent on pet care in the United States is expected to grow by more than 6 percent annually. And that, she said, is spurring global pharmaceutical companies best known for making human medicines to devote more research dollars for their animal health divisions.

Such research has yielded new medicines and vaccines to keep cats and dogs healthy. For example, Petkewich cited recently approved canine diet drugs, a drug for vomiting in dogs and a new medication for the barking and other undesirable behavior associated with separation anxiety.

But Petkewich noted people might also benefit from animal health research, with products originally developed for animals often being repurposed for diseases in humans.

Copyright 2007 by United Press International

Citation: Study: Pet care industry is booming (2007, June 26) retrieved 26 April 2024 from <https://phys.org/news/2007-06-pet-industry-booming.html>

This document is subject to copyright. Apart from any fair dealing for the purpose of private study or research, no part may be reproduced without the written permission. The content is provided for information purposes only.