

## Dr. Ellen Heinrich, DVM, MPH

**MPH Emphasis:** Infectious Diseases and Zoonoses (Dec 2014)

**MPH Applied Practice Experience:** Ellen worked on a project at the Lafene Health Center, Health Promotion Office involving a unique hand hygiene campaign targeting clinical and non-clinical staff.

**Current Position:** Small Animal Internal Medicine Resident at Iowa State University College of Veterinary Medicine.

**Perceptions about the MPH Program as An Alumnus:** My education through the MPH program at K-State has been valuable in my career as a veterinary internist. The additional courses in epidemiology, statistics, and infectious disease study have been especially useful in my further studies for board preparations in my internal medicine program, as well as in counseling owners concerning aspects related to public health and zoonotic diseases. In addition, my experience with creating a research project, drafting a manuscript, and presenting a master's thesis have been invaluable in preparing me for similar tasks as part of my residency program.

**Public Health Skills and Competencies Applied during Career:** I have applied my specific expertise in biosecurity in veterinary teaching hospitals to implementing and maintaining good biosecurity practices in patients with suspected infectious disease that I treat in the hospital. I have developed a good zoonotic disease rounds topic for veterinary students as well.

The area where I have seen the most applied benefit of my MPH in my career is for infectious and zoonotic disease counseling for owners of pets with suspected zoonotic disease, discussion with physicians of owners when there are zoonotic disease concerns in their pets, and consultation with general practitioner veterinarians on questions concerning zoonotic diseases. This additional expertise in this area has been invaluable in the recommendations I make for my patients and their owners.

