

Sunday Lecture Descriptions

Mary Berg, BS, RVT, RLATG, VTS(Dentistry)

Advanced Dental Procedures

Oral disease is one of the most prevalent diseases in dogs and cats. 80% of adult dogs and 70% of adult cats have some form of oral disease. Unfortunately, that leads to the extraction of teeth that may have been saved. It is vital to offer the client the options to treatment via referral to veterinary dental specialist. Owners want what is in the best interest of their pets but may not be aware of alternative treatment options. Remember to never judge what your clients will be willing to do for their pets.

Dental Radiology Made Easy- Tips and Tricks!

Dental radiographs are an essential part of the oral exam. The crown is just the tip of the iceberg. Approximately 42% of dental pathology is found subgingivally. Radiographs will help diagnose pathology that is not visible from the surface, confirm suspect pathology as well as help demonstrate the pathology to the client. Dental radiographs can improve the standard of care in your practice and increase your clinic's revenue.

The Oral Examination and Common Pathology Part One & Part Two

It is important to be able to recognize and identify oral pathology and anomalies. The most commonly observed abnormalities will be discussed in this presentation. It is equally important to correctly record the pathology on dental charts. A thorough dental examination includes both conscious and anesthetized examinations as well as charting disease processes, pathology and anomalies, and treatment plans.

The Technicians Role in Dentistry

Credentialed Veterinary Technicians/Nurses are essential member of the dental team as pet advocates and client educators. They are eager to be empowered and dentistry is one of the areas of the veterinary practice where technicians/nurses can be fully utilized. It is important to remember that a credentialed technician/nurse can do everything but; diagnose, perform surgery, prescribe drugs and give a prognosis. Empowering a veterinary technician/nurse to become the dental go to person of the practice allows for both professional growth and pride in their chosen profession as well as increasing the dental revenue for the practice. This person would be the go-to for all things dental with in the practice and be responsible for the training of the entire staff so that everyone understands the importance of good oral health.

Lynda Vermillion, CVT, VTS (SAIM)

IMPAHATP - The Alphabet Soup of Immune Mediated Disease

A look at three different immune mediated diseases of the dog and cat and if time allows, discussion regarding ways to encourage client commitment and compliance to try to ensure the best possible individual outcome for the patient.

- **Canine and Feline Polyarthriti...When Walking Hurts**
A look at patient presentation, diagnostics, potential causes, and treatment of this disease.
- **Canine and Feline Hemolytic Anemia...The Pale Horse of Death - Or Not!**
A look at patient presentation, diagnostics, potential causes, and treatment of this disease.
- **Canine and Feline Thrombocytopenia..."Can't Stop the Feeling" (That I'm Bleeding Out!)**
A look at patient presentation, diagnostics, potential causes, and treatment of this disease.

I've Gut A Bad Feeling About This...Gastrointestinal Disease

A look at three different gastrointestinal diseases of the dog and cat and if time allows, discussion regarding ways to encourage client commitment and compliance to try to ensure the best possible individual outcome for the patient.

- **Canine and Feline IBD/IBS...Sorry, Gotta Run(s)!**
A look at patient presentation, diagnostics, potential causes, and treatment of this disease.
- **Liver Dysfunction in the Dog and Cat...When Yellow Highlights the Organ Involved**
A look at patient presentation, diagnostics, potential causes, and treatment of this disease.
- **Megaesophagus and Megacolon - Disease Encountered at the Beginning and End of the GI Tract**
A look at patient presentation, diagnostics, potential causes, and treatment of this disease.

Tabitha Kucera, RVT, CCBC, KPA-CTP

Changing Perspective: Fear Free, A Kind Approach

Many animals feel fear, anxiety, and stress at their veterinary visits. Fear Free techniques help to limit that fear, anxiety and stress. With patients less fearful and stressed, they are easier to handle, we can obtain more accurate readings of vital signs, they recover more quickly, and clients, animals, and you are happier. Fear Free techniques such as considerate approach, gentle control, and a touch gradient can be used to reduce fear, anxiety, and stress in our patients. In this session I will discuss what is Fear Free. This will include understanding fear, anxiety, and stress in our cat and dog patients and tools to reduce fear, anxiety, and stress.

Do You Speak Cat? Feline Communication for the Veterinary Team

Veterinary team members often express doubt about handling cats. The best way to know a cat's emotional state and whether they are relaxed enough to cope with the stress of veterinary procedures is to watch their body language. This session will help you understand how cats communicate with us and determine how to tell when they are fearful, stressed, anxious, or happy. This is the first step to Fear-Free and Feline Friendly handling.

Do you speak Dog? Canine Communication for the Veterinary Team

Veterinary team members often express doubt about handling cats. The best way to know a dog's emotional state and whether they are relaxed enough to cope with the stress of veterinary procedures is to watch their body language. This session will help you understand how dogs communicate with us and determine how to tell when they are fearful, stressed, anxious, or happy. This is the first step to Fear-Free and Canine Friendly handling.

No more cat wrangling: No more cat wrangling!

Techniques for feline friendly handling. Many cats feel fear, anxiety, and stress when being handled and/or approached. The effects of feeling this way can lead to reduced quality of life for the patient and animal care teams, an increase in injury to staff, and make owners less likely to bring their cats in for veterinary visits. Fear, anxiety and stress can also make veterinary visits more difficult and lead to lower quality care, fewer diagnostics, and ultimately poorer medical outcomes. Lastly, it can lead to cats being surrendered due to broken bonds between pets and their owners. This is why it is vital for us to do what we can to limit fear, anxiety, and stress in the cats we are working with and provide consistent, positive human to cat social interactions.

It Doesn't Have to Hurt: Recognizing Chronic Pain in Cats

As a certified cat behavior consultant and veterinary technician, I am lucky to bring a clinical eye to the home environment. Many behavior concerns have medical roots that would otherwise go unnoticed. Cats are unique in that they are both predator and prey animals. Due to this, assessing their pain is challenging not only for pet owners, but also for veterinary professionals. As veterinary technicians, it is crucial that we are able to identify pain in cats and communicate its significance to our clients. Through lecture and video demonstration, this session will hone your pain assessment skills and provide you with the resources that you need to administer effective client and in-clinic questionnaires.

Litterbox Lessons: Keeping Cats in the Litterbox

Cats defecating and urinating outside the box is one of the most common behavioral issues among cats. Unfortunately, this is also a leading cause of relinquishment. In this session, I will discuss litterbox lessons including common causes of housesoiling, how to prevent this issue, and litterbox needs for senior and handicapped cats. Attendees will learn how to respond efficiently and successively to clients concerns about housesoiling. Helping owners understand and deal with their cats housesoiling behaviors can help keep cats in their homes.

Patty Pate, CVT, VTS (ECC), CFE

The In's and Out's of Feline Urinary Obstruction for the Veterinary Technician

Urinary obstruction is a common emergency seen in felines at all practices. This lecture will review everything from patient presentation all the way through to discharge, including many of the pitfalls that might be seen during their hospitalization as well as nursing tips to improve the outcome of your patient.

DEA 1. WHAT? – Demystifying Transfusion Medicine for the Veterinary Technician

Transfusion medicine has been around for centuries and gone are the days of transferring your patient to the local emergency hospital for a blood transfusion. As the veterinary medical profession grows, transfusion medicine is being incorporated into the day-to-day practices of most veterinary hospitals. Technicians all play an important role in the patient testing, handling and administration of these products. Participants will leave with an understanding of bloods components, their uses, cross-matching techniques, administration and monitoring protocols and so much more.

SHOCK TALK!: A Veterinary Technician's guide to the essentials of shock.

A patient presenting in shock is one of the most common emergencies veterinary professionals will have to treat as it can often be a sequela of many different conditions or illnesses. During this lecture, we will review the four common classifications of shock, the three phases of shock, along with forms of treatment as well as treatment goals for our patients experiencing shock. We will focus on the technician's role when treating a patient in shock and how their advocacy for the patient can impact the outcome.

Toxic Tails and Pawful Predicaments: Navigating Common Toxicological Emergencies in Veterinary Medicine

In this lecture, we will delve into the world of common toxicological emergencies that veterinary professionals may encounter in their practice. From household hazards to outdoor dangers, we will explore a range of scenarios that can put our beloved furry friends at risk. Armed with a deep understanding of common toxins, their effects, and timely interventions, attendees will become even more adept at safeguarding the health and well-being of their patients.

Kirby's Rule of 20: An essential nursing tool for every Veterinary Technician (PART 1 & 2)

Over time, all Veterinary Technicians develop their own "toolbox" of essential skills and tools that they consider must-haves in order to effectively and efficiently perform their job. These "toolboxes" may look unique to the individual depending on the years of experience and the specialty wherein they work. Kirby's Rule of 20 is a well-known critical care nursing tool that helps to aid in the thorough monitoring of a critically ill patient. While this list was originally designed for critically ill patients, it can be used for patients in all areas of small animal medicine. In this lecture, we will review the 20 parameters listed in Kirby's Rule of 20 and determine how closely monitoring them can help every Veterinary Technician proactively care for their patients. In doing so, we will learn how this tool could potentially reduce or even prevent serious complications in all hospitalized patients regardless of specialty.