



2025 MVTA CE on the Cape

Assessing and Addressing Pain

Veterinary Technicians are often seen as the patient advocates. With that in mind, it is crucial that Veterinary Technicians are able to evaluate patients to determine if they are painful. Further, as the ones who administer pain medications, they also need to understand the fundamentals of addressing pain. This talk will cover how pain is perceived in the body, ways to address pain, and various methods of addressing pain.

That's Shocking! The Basics of Shock

Once a patient is in a shock state, they are only able to compensate for just so long before they will decompensate and die. Having an understanding of shock and how to recognize it is important to avoid losing time in these critical situations. In this talk we will start with understanding what perfusion is, various reasons perfusion can be compromised, and then will discuss various types of shock.

Treating Pediatric Patients This talk will begin by discussing “the hypos” – hypoglycemia, hypovolemia, and hypothermia. These three conditions play a part in many pediatric emergencies. We will then discuss considerations when nursing these patients including how we can navigate things like IV catheter placement in those tiny veins.

Speaker Bio

Erin Spencer, CVT, VTS (ECC)

Erin has been working in the veterinary field for over 20 years. Her career has brought a variety of opportunities and roles from management, to teaching in a veterinary technology program, to running field clinics in under-served communities on Native American reservations. She holds a VTS in Emergency and Critical Care and a Masters degree in Adult Education. Erin owns a consulting and training business, Brown Dog Veterinary Solutions and has been the Director of Veterinary Nursing Development for Veterinary Emergency Group since 2021. Erin is a past president of NAVTA and the Massachusetts Veterinary Technician Association. She currently serves as the Immediate Past President of the Academy of Veterinary Emergency and Critical Care Technicians and Nurses and President-elect of PrideVMC. She also has participated in various committees within the veterinary community. Outside of veterinary medicine, Erin serves in local government as a Town Councilor.