What’s New in Small Animal Medicine

At The Ohio State University Veterinary Teaching Hospital

VTH Clinic Adds 24/7 Emergency Service
by Kristine McComis

After years of closing the clinic doors when the clock struck twelve, The Ohio State University Veterinary Teaching Hospital is now staying open for emergencies 24/7. By staying open to receive patients, we will also augment student learning opportunities and resident training programs, improve private practitioner consultation and referral services, and better serve our clients.

Emergency and critical care residents and interns will staff the service, with faculty remaining available on call. An on-call surgical team also will be ready for any emergent need.

Dr. Shane Bateman, professor and service head of Small Animal Emergency and Critical Care, is thrilled with the service's recent expansion to include critical care specialists Dr. Amy Butler and Dr. Edward Cooper. "With the addition of two more faculty criticalists to our service in the fall of 2007, we are now poised to provide outstanding 24-hour care in both our emergency and critical care services," he said.

More information about the Urgent Care/Emergency Service can be found at: vet.osu.edu/771.htm

For emergency services, call 614-292-3551, 24 hours a day, seven days a week.

Teleradiology Now Available Through Veterinary Teaching Hospital
by Melissa Weber

Getting a second opinion from expert radiologists just became easier, thanks to new capabilities in the Veterinary Teaching Hospital.

"Teleradiology is simply the digital transmission of imaging files from one location to another for interpretation, and then transmitting a report back," explained Dr. Tod Drost, associate professor and head of the Radiology Service in the Department of Veterinary Clinical Sciences. "It serves as a more rapid means to transfer images to a radiologist for their interpretation, and thus helps veterinarians with case management."

A recent supplement on “Digital Radiography” of Veterinary Radiology & Ultrasound explains the new technology in detail. Edited by Dr. Drost and available at www.blackwell-synergy.com/toc/vru/49/s1, the articles are free and available in PDF format. More details about the service at the Veterinary Teaching Hospital are available at: vet.osu.edu/4204.htm

For more information about the Teleradiology Service and how to sign up, please contact the Ohio State Veterinary Radiology Service at 614-292-1040 or vet.radiology@cvm.osu.edu

New Technology Provides Better Treatment for Urinary Stones
By Kristine McComis

Urinary stone disease is common in animal patients, and traditionally, invasive surgery has been the recommended treatment for removing the stones. Now, patients at Ohio State's Veterinary Teaching Hospital have another treatment option: a recently acquired laser lithotripsy device to treat urinary stones, which is currently used in female dogs and cats. With lithotripsy, a laser fiber is passed through a cystoscope; then, with a push of a button, energy is transmitted which will disintegrate or fragment the stone(s).

“We are very excited to have this instrument, which will provide an alternative treatment for patients whose owners would prefer they not undergo invasive surgery,” said Professor Dennis Chew, DVM, Diplomate ACVIM, whose focus is urology and nephrology. Link to the full story at: vet.osu.edu/4206.htm

For more information on laser lithotripsy, please call 614-292-3551.

New Techniques in Veterinary Ophthalmology
By Melissa Weber

The Veterinary Teaching Hospital is utilizing state-of-the-art technology to bring laser eye surgery to glaucoma therapy and in combination with cataract surgery.

Ophthalmic endolaser surgery allows the ophthalmologist to go inside the eye with a 20-gauge instrument that delivers light, video and laser. This can be performed as a stand-alone procedure for patients with glaucoma, or during cataract surgery for patients with secondary intraocular pressure concerns in addition to their cataract. For more details about the procedure and successful results, read the full article at: vet.osu.edu/3323.htm

For more information on ophthalmic endolaser surgery, please call 614-292-3551 and ask to speak with one of our ophthalmologists.
Veterinary Hospital Offers Rehabilitation Services for Dogs
By Kristine McComis

The Veterinary Teaching Hospital Canine Rehabilitation Facility opened its doors in March, offering an exciting advancement in post-operative therapy for orthopedic and spinal surgery patients. A Ferno Veterinary Systems underwater treadmill is a substantial component of the service. In addition to the underwater treadmill, the facility houses a terrestrial treadmill, an agility course, balls, and other toys to encourage play and movement. Although the majority of the patients will be recovering from joint or spinal surgeries, other patients that will benefit from the treadmill include the arthritic and the obese, as the facility will also be used in conjunction with the Veterinary Hospital’s Healthy Weight Management program.

The Canine Rehabilitation project was facilitated by a generous gift from Mrs. Barbara Trueman. Other donors, including Leota and John Folsom and William Meeks, are recognized for their generous contributions toward the purchase of equipment for this facility.

Jonathan Dyce, MA, VetMB, MRCVS, DSAO, Diplomate ACVS, and associate professor of Surgery, is thrilled with the addition of the rehabilitation unit and the state-of-the-art treatment he can now provide to his patients. “We are incredibly grateful to the supportive Friends of the Hospital, “ said Dr. Dyce, “their generous donations have greatly increased our quality of care.”

Link to full story at: vet.osu.edu/4214.htm

Clinical Trials Office Forming Referral Network
By Erin Pompili

The Clinical Trials Office at the College of Veterinary Medicine is building a network of veterinarians who can refer patients to participate in studies evaluating treatments for a variety of diseases, including cancer. “Participating veterinarians will have the satisfaction of knowing they helped with the discovery and testing of beneficial treatments for future patients,” said Dr. Cheryl London, associate professor and director of the CTO.

“It’s also a confidence booster for clients to know that their veterinarian is tied into a network where they can take their animal for treatment that is on the cutting edge,” said Deborah Devor-Henneman, clinical trials coordinator. “If veterinarians have tried a treatment and it’s not working, the Clinical Trials Office offers another alternative that might help [the animal]. And in the end, they may find a treatment that they can offer to other patients.”

For more information or to refer a patient, visit the Clinical Trials Office Web site at: vet.osu.edu/ClinicalTrials.htm

Healthy Weight Management Program Will Help Pets Shed the Weight
By Kristine McComis

The Veterinary Teaching Hospital has launched a Healthy Weight Management Clinic for pets. Obesity troubles in humans constantly make headlines, and as many as 30 percent of dogs and cats seen by veterinarians are overweight. Tony Buffington, DVM, PhD, professor of Veterinary Clinical Sciences and nutrition expert, leads a formal program to help address the deeper issues behind obesity in our pets besides the simple assumption that the animal just eats too much.

“These refinements and improvements in thinking about obesity, beyond overeating, leads to better ways to treat it,” commented Dr. Buffington.

To set up a consultation or enroll in the Healthy Pet Weight Program please call (614) 292-3551 or visit: vet.osu.edu/nssvet

For more information, link to full article at: vet.osu.edu/4195.htm

Welcome Our New Veterinarians

Matthew Allen, MA, VetMB, PhD
Associate Professor, Small Animal Surgery

Amy Butler, DVM, MS
Assistant Professor-Clinical, Small Animal Emergency and Critical Care

Ed Cooper, VMD, MS, DACVECC
Assistant Professor-Clinical, Small Animal Emergency and Critical Care

Ronaldo da Costa, DMV, PhD, DACVIM (Neurology)
Assistant Professor, Neurology and Neurosurgery

Joshua Daniels, DVM, PhD
Assistant Professor-Clinical, Clinical Infectious Disease

Rita Echandi, DVM, DACVR
Assistant Professor, Radiology

Aimee Kidder DVM, DACVIM
Clinical Instructor, Small Animal Internal Medicine

Ana Lara García, DVM, PhD, DACVIM (Oncology)
Clinical Instructor, Small Animal Oncology and Hematology

Julie Mahaney, DVM, MS
Clinical Instructor, Small Animal Community Practice

Laura Nelson, DVM, MS, DACVS
Clinical Instructor, Small Animal Surgery

For more information on our new faculty, please visit: vet.osu.edu/733.htm