Happy New Year! I hope you were able to take some time off from your busy schedules and relax with family and friends. We look forward to working with you again in 2015 and appreciate the opportunity to partner with you on your veterinary cases.

We are pleased to announce that we will have an on-site MRI starting in March that can accommodate companion animal, large animal and equine patients. This 3 Tesla, large bore unit will allow us to provide the most advanced imaging services right at the VMC-Columbus. Please see page 3 for more information.

In this issue, we highlight our Comparative Ophthalmology Service. Like our other specialty areas, this service is staffed with board-certified faculty DVMs and provides the highest level of service to your patients with complex ophthalmic issues.

Our staff is made up of faculty clinicians David A. Wilkie, DVM, MS, DACVO; Anne Gemensky-Metzler, DVM, MS, DACVO; Eric Miller DVM, MS; and residents Breanna Brash, DVM, and Kristen Gervais, DVM. Our technicians are Kelley Norris, RVT, and Christine Basham, RVT. We are ready to assist you 24/7 with any of your complicated ophthalmology cases.

A list of our services follows on page 2.

We also welcome three new faculty members to the VMC and have provided a synopsis of their backgrounds on page 4. And finally, we invite all of you to attend our Lunch with the Experts at the Midwest Veterinary Conference on Saturday, February 21. This event gives you the opportunity to talk directly with our faculty experts about diagnostic case management and other topics of interest to you.

Thank you for continuing to place your trust in us! And as always, please feel free to contact me with any questions or comments.
January-February 2015

Comparative Ophthalmology Service

We treat a variety of eye conditions, including:
- Dry eye (KCS)
- Cataracts
- Retinal degeneration
- Eyelid disorders and reconstructive surgery
- Glaucoma
- Corneal ulceration
- Ocular trauma
- Equine recurrent uveitis
- Equine corneal disease
- Equine ocular tumors

Our common procedures include:
- Cataract surgery (phacoemulsification with intraocular lens placement)
- Retinopexy for retinal detachment
- Eyelid reconstructive procedures for entropion, eyelid tumors, trauma, etc.
- Glaucoma medical and surgical treatment including endolaser and filtration surgery
- Laser treatment for intraocular cysts, ocular neoplasia, retinal detachment and glaucoma
- Medical and surgical treatment of corneal ulceration
- Cryosurgery for ocular neoplasia and eyelid disorders
- Orbital surgery – neoplasia, trauma, etc.
- Suprachoroidal cyclosporine implantation for treatment of equine recurrent uveitis
- Subconjunctival cyclosporine implantation for treatment of equine immune-mediated keratitis
- Equine ocular tumor excision, radiation and chemotherapy

The Comparative Ophthalmology Service often recruits patients for studies for which your clients may be eligible. See vet.osu.edu/vmc/clinical-trials for more details, or contact the Clinical Trials Office at cvm-clinicaltrials@osu.edu.

Ohio State Helps Restore Vision to “Bling”

Bling is seeing things just fine these days, thanks to the Ohio State’s Ophthalmology Service, the surgical skills of Dr. David Wilkie and a new method of sustained-release drug delivery.

Bling is a 12-year-old American Paint horse gelding who presented with a two year history of immune-mediated keratitis (IMMK) that had proved refractory to standard treatments, including topical cyclosporine (CSA), tacrolimus and corticosteroids. Although he did not appear to be in pain, Bling had significant loss of vision in the affected eye due to a vascularized, yellow/green infiltrate involving his temporal cornea.

As his owner, Lisa Sudol, said, “His whole eye was green!”

After consultation about treatment options, Dr. Wilkie and Lisa decided to try an aggressive approach involving a keratectomy of a very large area of the cornea, hoping to excise a possible immune-stimulant and facilitate healing to a clear cornea. While under anesthesia, Bling also received sustained-release subconjunctival cyclosporine implants – a new modality of therapy being used to treat selected cases of IMMK.

“This was perhaps one of the most difficult IMMK cases I have seen,” said Dr. Wilkie. “While a small keratectomy had benefited some cases in the past, the size of the affected area in this horse was much larger and resulted in removal of 50-75% of the cornea.”

Sustained-release CSA implants had been used for years at Ohio State for the treatment of equine recurrent uveitis but had only been recently modified for the treatment of equine IMMK. In fact, North Carolina State University and Ohio State had published a collaborative pilot study showing favorable outcomes with the use of these implants for IMMK.

While unsure about the outcome in this case, the surgical team believed that this approach was warranted given the steady progression of the disease and the significant loss of vision. They were correct. A year later, Lisa reports that the surgery and treatment were a great success, and Bling has had no recurrence.

“He still has a little scar tissue in the corner of his eye [from the surgery], but he is doing well and appears to have full vision,” she said. “I highly recommend Dr. Wilkie and the whole staff in ophthalmology at Ohio State.”

For more information about the pilot study, please contact Dr. David Wilkie at wilkie.1@osu.edu.
On-Site MRI for Companion Animal, Farm Animal and Equine Patients

Beginning in late winter/early spring 2015, the VMC-Columbus will offer MRI services on site! Although we have had access for the past several years to a 3 Tesla magnet for companion animals (through a collaboration with Ohio State’s Wright Center for Innovation in Biomedical Imaging), this new MRI provides state-of-the-art MRI diagnostics at our Columbus location for companion animal, farm animal and equine patients.

With a high field (3 Tesla) and large bore (70 cm) magnet, the new MRI unit has capabilities unlike any other in Ohio or surrounding states. It captures high resolution images quickly, resulting in better diagnostics as well as a shorter anesthesia time for patients.

The VMC has a dedicated healthcare team of board-certified veterinary radiologists working in collaboration with other specialists in neurology and neurosurgery, small animal and equine orthopedics and sports medicine, cardiology and interventional medicine, oncology and more.

Our new MRI unit will allow us to offer the most advanced imaging, conduct leading-edge clinical trials and provide the best possible care for your patients – at a great value. For more information, please contact the specific service area (neurology/neurosurgery, equine, etc.) at the VMC.

Companion animals: 614-292-3551
Farm animals/equine 614-292-6661

Lunch with the Experts

Sponsored by Elanco Animal Health

Please plan to join faculty from the Ohio State Veterinary Medical Center for a lunch discussion and one hour of continuing education credit during the Midwest Veterinary Conference.

Talk with faculty experts in a small group setting, learn practical information about diagnostic case management in numerous disciplines and have your questions answered about your specific areas of interest. To register for one of the table topics, visit vet.osu.edu/Lunch-with-Experts.

If you have questions, please contact Lauren Lammers at 614-292-8727 or lammers.71@osu.edu.

Lunch with the Experts
Saturday, February 21, 2015
11:30 a.m. – 1:30 p.m.
Taft rooms in the Hyatt Regency
Welcome New Faculty!

Dr. Anusha Balakrishnan
Assistant Professor – Practice
Small Animal Emergency and Critical Care

Dr. Anusha Balakrishnan is a 2009 graduate of the Madras Veterinary College, Tamilnadu Veterinary and Animal Sciences University, where she received her Bachelor of Veterinary Science and Animal Husbandry degree. After her graduation, she completed clinical training at Michigan State University, a rotating internship in small animal medicine and surgery at the University of Wisconsin-Madison and her residency in small animal emergency and critical care at the University of Pennsylvania. She became board certified in small animal emergency and critical care in 2014. Her research projects have varied from a *Survey of the endoparasitic fauna of two species of captive snakes (King Cobra and Reticulated Python)* to the *Evaluation of microcirculation in mechanically ventilated dogs with sepsis.*

Dr. Eric L. Schroeder
Assistant Professor – Practice
Equine Emergency and Critical Care

Dr. Schroeder is a 2007 graduate of the Michigan State University College of Veterinary Medicine. After his graduation, he completed a one-year internship at Rood and Riddle Equine Hospital; following his internship he completed residencies at Michigan State University in both large animal emergency and critical care medicine and large animal internal medicine. Dr. Schroeder is a Diplomate of the American College of Veterinary Emergency and Critical Care (large animal). His clinical and research interests are in the areas of sepsis/endotoxemia, ethyl pyruvate, neonatal medicine, fluid therapy and infectious disease.

Dr. Page E. Yaxley
Assistant Professor – Practice
Small Animal Emergency and Critical Care

Dr. Yaxley is a 2003 graduate of the Ohio State University College of Veterinary Medicine. After her graduation, she completed internships in small animal medicine and surgery, and small animal emergency and critical care, along with a residency in small animal emergency and critical care medicine. She was also the founder and an assistant professor of the Veterinary Hospice Care Service at Michigan State University. Dr. Yaxley is a Diplomate of the American College of Veterinary Emergency & Critical Care (small animal) and is cofounder/co-president of the Veterinary Society for Hospice and Palliative Care. Her clinical and research interests are in the areas of end-of-life care and education, hospice, trauma, transfusion medicine and envenomation.

Departures

Dr. Christopher Adin (Small Animal Surgery) is leaving the VMC for a faculty position at North Carolina State University.

Dr. Bianca Hettlich (Small Animal Orthopedics) is taking a faculty position at the University of Bern in Switzerland.

Dr. Stacy Soulsby (Diagnostic Imaging) is pursuing private practice in the Denver, CO area.