Session Descriptions

SESSION ONE: 9:30 - 10:45 AM

Thomas Phillips, DVM, Fellow of the Academy of Veterinary Dentistry 2007

Tips and Practical Solutions to Dental Challenges

All veterinarians face challenging dental cases. This course will offer options and techniques to successfully accomplish difficult extractions, oronasal fistula, and tips and tricks for dental procedures.

Learning Objectives:
- Learn techniques for successful extractions
- Learn options to treat oronasal fistulas
- Identify when ankylosing resorbing tooth roots should be extracted verses retained

SESSION ONE 9:30 - 10:45 AM

Aaron Wey, DVM, DACVIM (Cardiology)

Pattern Recognition and the ECG – Clinical Interpretation for the LVT

This lecture will be useful for both new and experienced LVTs and will review the clinical ECG as used in small animal practice. Lecture topics will begin with suggestions for obtaining a good quality ECG and will finish with recognition of common rhythm abnormalities encountered in companion animal practice. Audience participation will enhance the lecture and allow attendees to test their knowledge acquired during the presentation.

Learning Objectives:
- Understand how to obtain a diagnostic-quality ECG
- Gain confidence with the interpretation of the clinical ECG for dogs and cats (heart rate, rhythm)
- Recognize common ECG abnormalities in veterinary medicine: ventricular ectopy (all types), supraventricular ectopy, and conduction block (bundle branch and AV block)

SESSION TWO: 10:45 - 12:00 PM

Danielle Berube, DVM, DACVECC

Respiratory Distress in the Small Animal Patient

This presentation will review the many differentials for patients presenting in respiratory distress. The lecture will be organized based on anatomic locations within the airway, including upper airway disorders, pulmonary causes of respiratory distress, and diseases of the pleural space. Within each section, we will focus on the physical examination findings, diagnostic options to localize the disorder, and stabilization techniques for the patient. We will also discuss less common causes of respiratory distress such as acute lung injury (ALI), acute respiratory distress syndrome (ARDS), transfusion related acute lung injury (TRALI) and even some examples of nonrespiratory look-alikes.

Learning Objectives:
- Identify the various causes of respiratory distress
- Understand the diagnostic options available to localize the condition
- Learn methods to stabilize your patient in respiratory distress

SESSION TWO: 10:45 - 12:00 PM

Erica Zappia, LVT, Internal Medicine

Diabetes Mellitus: A Not So Sweet Dream

This course will review vital information for the veterinary technician regarding the diagnosis and management of diabetes mellitus. Participants will learn physiology, clinical signs, and laboratory abnormalities of diabetes. Important communication practices between the veterinary technician and the client will be discussed.

Learning Objectives:
- Identify clinical signs and laboratory abnormalities of diabetes
- Understand the physiology of diabetes
- Improve your communication with client's regarding appropriate insulin administration for at-home care

SESSION THREE: 1:00 - 2:15 PM

Chris Ryan, DVM, DACVR

Introducing Diagnostic Ultrasound in General Practice

This lecture will begin by reviewing the basic operation of ultrasound equipment with a focus on hardware and software features common to almost all machines. The various settings and controls will be reviewed, along with the effects that these have on overall image quality, and how to utilize these settings to optimize image quality. A roadmap will then be developed for applying ultrasound in everyday general practice, beginning with the basics of evaluation for abdominal or pleural cavity fluid, and proceeding to perform a complete basic abdominal ultrasound exam. Normal sonographic anatomy and measurements will be reviewed, along with a recommended acquisition protocol for submission to teleradiology services.

Learning Objectives:
- Understand the basic operation of an ultrasound machine, including common hardware and software features, the effects these have on image quality and how to optimize diagnostic images.
- Understand the conventions for ultrasound image acquisition and labeling.
- Recognize normal sonographic anatomy for a basic abdominal ultrasound exam.

SESSION THREE: 1:00 - 2:15 PM

Theresa Kilichowski, LVT, Oncology

An Overview of Lymphoma for the Veterinary Technician

Lymphoma is one of the most commonly diagnosed cancers in veterinary practice. This course will teach the technician lymphoma subtypes and survival times, treatment options, side effects, and quality of life goals. This course will help technicians confidently provide support and education to their pet owners after a diagnosis of lymphoma.

Learning Objectives:
- Understand common symptoms, subtypes, and mean survival times of lymphoma patients.
- Understand common treatment protocols, side effects, and supportive care regimens.
- Educate owners of their options to help overcome the fear of cancer treatments and chemotherapy.

SESSION FOUR: 2:15 - 3:30 PM

Alison Khoo, BSc, BVMS, DACVIM (Internal Medicine)

Diagnosing and Treating Canine Incontinence and Uroliths

Urinary incontinence is a common presenting complaint in veterinary practice. Treatment of refractory cases may become a major source of frustration for both owners and veterinarians. Medical, surgical, and interventional therapeutic options will be discussed.

Learning Objectives:
- Understand the disorders associated with urine retention and their management
- Understand the pharmacological and non-pharmalogical options for managing a patient with sphincter mechanism incompetence
- Understand the risks and benefits of surgical vs. minimally invasive management options for urolithiasis

SESSION FOUR 2:15 - 3:30 PM

Molly White, LVT, Emergency

Assessment and Treatment of Pain in the Emergency and Critical Care Patient

This lecture will discuss the importance of treating acute pain in our emergency and critical care patients, with an emphasis on the role of the veterinary technician in the recognition, assessment, and treatment of pain. Participants will learn sources of acute pain and available treatment modalities, as well as common pitfalls and challenges when assessing pain. Participants will also hear options for implementing a pain scoring system for their practice and resources for continued education.

Learning Objectives:
- Understand why the assessment and treatment of pain is crucial for our patients.
- Recognize the veterinary technician's unique and well-suited role in this process.
- Learn strategies for the identification of acute pain in dogs and cats, as well as options for objective measurement (pain scoring)