

Pittsburgh Veterinary
Specialty & Emergency Center
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Pittsburgh, PA 15237

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REFERRAL DISPATCH

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A QUARTERLY NEWSLETTER FOR REFERRING VETERINARIANS

CONTINUING EDUCATION AT PVSEC

PVSEC is happy to present a variety of CE topics during the next few months:

On **July 26, 2011 from 7:00-8:30 PM**, Dr. Michael Finn of the PVSEC Ophthalmology department will present a discussion of urgent ophthalmic conditions such as glaucoma, corneal ulceration and proptosis. Dan Scott & Associates, distributors of Tonopen-- used for testing intraocular pressures, and Prescription Center compounding pharmacy will co-sponsor refreshments and publicity for the event.

Due to the large number of veterinarians attending May's CE lecture on diabetes, Dr. Jill Lurye of the PVSEC Internal Medicine department will repeat her lecture on diabetic management in dogs and cats on **August 16, 2011 from 7:00-8:30 PM**. Dr. Lurye will discuss the insulin preparations currently available, the initiation of their use, therapeutic monitoring and the indications for adjustments in therapeutic regimens. An overview of insulin resistance and the diagnostic paradigm will also be discussed.

At the suggestion of referring veterinarians, Dr. Krista Mendoza of the PVSEC Dentistry department will present a lecture and hands-on lab demonstrating x-ray positioning techniques, for traditional and digital equipment. The lecture and lab on **September 14, 2011 from 7:00-9:00 PM** will also include demonstration of equipment provided by the event's sponsor, Tigerview Direct. Dr. Mendoza is also happy to arrange visits at referring practices to work with the doctors and staff on dental radiography technique specific to their practice's radiology equipment.

PVSEC respectfully suggests a donation to the Animal Care and Assistance Fund for attendees of Continuing Education programs: Veterinarians--\$30.00 and Veterinary Technicians--\$20.00. Donations may be made at the time of registration/sign-in for the lecture in the form of a check, made payable to "Animal Care and Assistance Fund" or on the ACAF website www.animalcarefund.org.

PVSEC is committed to providing continuing education events for local veterinarians and technicians and welcomes suggestions for topics that are especially relevant to general practitioners. Please contact Andie Furda, PVSEC Project Manager, to RSVP or if you have any CE questions or suggestions: afurda@pvs-ec.com or 412-348-2564.

UPCOMING EVENTS

July 26, 2011 7:00-8:30 PM
"Ocular Emergencies" presented by Michael J. Finn, DVM, MS, DACVO—PVSEC Ophthalmology (1.5 hours DVM CE Credit)

August 16, 2011 7:00-8:30 PM
"Insulin Therapy in Dogs and Cats" presented by Jill C. Lurye, DVM, MS, DACVIM—PVSEC Internal Medicine (1.5 hours DVM CE Credit)

September 14, 2011 7:00-9:00 PM
"Dental Radiography: Principles and Techniques" presented by Krista Mendoza, DVM, DAVDC—PVSEC Dentistry (2 hours DVM CE Credit—pending PA Board approval)

SAVE THE DATE : 2ND ANNUAL ANTE UP FOR ANIMAL CARE VEGAS NITE!

WELCOME TO A Fabulous VEGAS NITE PNC PARK

2nd Annual
ANTE UP FOR ANIMAL CARE

Benefits the Animal Care & Assistance
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ANIMAL DENTAL CLINIC
at PVSEC

PVSEC WELCOMES 2011-2012 SMALL ANIMAL INTERNS

Kristen Krisulevicz, DVM is originally from Wilkes Barre, PA and completed her undergraduate degree at Allegheny College. Dr. Krisulevicz comes to PVSEC after earning her doctor of veterinary medicine degree from Michigan State University. She has a particular interest in emergency medicine and critical care and hopes to pursue an Emergency and Critical Care residency after her internship at PVSEC.

Taemi Horikawa, DVM attended the University of California, Davis as an undergraduate, majoring in Chemistry, and then completed her veterinary degree at the University of California, Davis. During her studies, Dr. Horikawa maintained leadership roles in several veterinary extracurricular groups. After completing her internship with PVSEC, she will pursue a residency in ophthalmology, one of her many areas of clinical interest.

Katherine Borland, MS, DVM pursued an unconventional path to veterinary medicine, which included work and study in the fields of horticulture and botany. After attaining a Bachelors of Arts in biology and chemistry, Dr. Borland pursued a Masters of Science in horticulture and agronomy at the University of California, Davis. She then began veterinary school at the Ohio State University, during which she completed externships at a number of veterinary hospitals, including PVSEC. After completing the Small Animal Internship Program at PVSEC, Dr. Borland hopes to complete an emergency and critical care residency.

Lauren Sechler, VMD, a Pittsburgh native, attended Penn State University as an undergraduate, majoring in psychology with a biological sciences concentration. She then completed her veterinary degree at the University of Pennsylvania. During veterinary school, Dr. Sechler worked as a veterinary assistant at a general practice in suburban Philadelphia and completed externships at the San Diego Zoo and PVSEC. Dr. Sechler hopes to pursue residency training in internal medicine or oncology.

NEW EDUCATIONAL PROGRAMS AT PVSEC: CRITICAL CARE INTERNSHIP AND SURGICAL RESIDENCY

Beginning in July 2011, the critical care service at PVSEC will have a post doctoral intern training with the criticalists for approximately one year. **Ingrid Manhart, DVM** earned her undergraduate degree in structural biology at the University of Illinois and then earned a Masters of Science in veterinary pathobiology. After working in the research field for 6 years, she attended Ross University and completed her Doctor of Veterinary Medicine degree. After graduation from veterinary school, Dr. Manhart worked at emergency practices in the Dallas, TX area and in downtown and suburban Chicago. Her clinical interests include emergency and critical care medicine, endocrinology, anesthesia/analgesia and nephrology. Following completion of a year-long critical care internship at PVSEC, Dr. Manhart plans to pursue a critical care residency.

With increasingly limited openings in academic institutions, more private practice hospitals are electing to make residencies available. In July, PVSEC will begin its inaugural year of offering surgical residency training.

Hope Chisnell, DVM recently completed the small animal rotating medicine and surgery internship with PVSEC and has decided to pursue a 3-year surgical residency with the PVSEC Surgery Department. Prior to arriving at PVSEC, Dr. Chisnell earned her Doctor of Veterinary Medicine degree from the Ohio State University. During veterinary school, her clinical research and externships focused her interest on orthopedic and soft tissue surgery.



REFERRAL DISPATCH

807 Camp Horne Road

Pittsburgh, PA 15237

412-366-3400

Fax 412-366-3489

Editor:

Andie Furda

PVSEC Project Manager

Contributors:

"New Food Trial Research Available"

Sandra Sargent, DVM,
DACVD (PVSEC
Dermatology)

"Looking for Dogs with Non-Seasonal Atopic Dermatitis"

Sandra Sargent, DVM,
DACVD (PVSEC
Dermatology)

"Save the Date: 2nd
Annual Ante Up For
Animal Care Vegas
Nite!" Marty Rottler
(Rottler Graphics);
Laura Aftosmis (ACAF
Board of Directors)

NEW FOOD TRIAL RESEARCH AVAILABLE

Dr. Sandy Sargent of the PVSEC Dermatology department suggests the following scholarly article: A recent study has confirmed what vets have always suspected. Over the counter elimination diets are not adequate for a strict food trial. The prescription diets are subject to extensive quality control and strict guidelines to minimize cross contamination with other proteins. Tell your clients that a food trial is a diagnostic test and should be done with prescription diets in order to maximize the chances of making a diagnosis. The entire article is available with free access at <http://onlinelibrary.wiley.com>

J Anim Physiol Anim Nutr (Berl). 2011 Feb;95(1):90-7. doi: 10.1111/j.1439-0396.2010.01016.x. Epub 2010 Oct 29.

ELISA testing for common food antigens in four dry dog foods used in dietary elimination trials. Raditic DM, Remillard RL, Tater KC.

Source: MSPCA Angell Animal Medical Center, 350 S. Huntington Ave., Boston, MA 02130, USA.



Abstract: This study evaluated four over the counter venison dry dog foods available from one on-line retail vendor for potential contamination with common known food allergens: soy, poultry or beef. An amplified, double sandwich type enzyme linked immunosorbent assay (ELISA) test of soy, poultry and beef proteins were performed by an independent accredited food laboratory. The ELISA test for poultry protein was found to be unreliable when testing in dry dog foods because false negatives occurred. ELISA testing of control diets for both soy and beef proteins performed as expected and could be useful in antigen testing in dry dog foods. Three of the four over the counter (OTC) venison canine dry foods with no soy products named in the ingredient list were ELISA positive for soy; additionally one OTC diet tested positive for beef protein with no beef products listed as an ingredient list. One OTC venison diet was not found to be positive for soy, poultry or beef proteins. However, none of the four OTC venison diets could be considered suitable for a diagnostic elimination trial as they all contained common pet food proteins, some of which were readily identifiable on the label and some that were only detected by ELISA. Therefore, if the four OTC venison products selected in this study are representative of OTC products in general, then the use of OTC venison dry dog foods should not be used during elimination trials in suspected food allergy patients.

LOOKING FOR DOGS WITH NON-SEASONAL ATOPIC DERMATITIS



Dr. Sandy Sargent is starting another clinical study with an investigational drug for atopic dermatitis. This study, a multi-locational clinical field trial, is to confirm the efficacy and safety of this medication in a population of atopic dogs. This investigational drug belongs to a new class of biotherapeutics and is a targeted immunomodulator. This agent has not yet been licensed for use in dogs or any other animals.

There are strict inclusion and exclusion criteria. The dog must have a one year history of NONSEASONAL atopic dermatitis. Other causes of chronic, recurrent pruritus must have been ruled out. Dogs will need to be able to tolerate withdrawal of steroids and cyclosporine for 4 weeks prior to enrollment. While costs of the drug and all visits, etc. are covered by the drug company once enrolled, the client must be willing and able to cover the typical costs for the initial visit to determine if their dog is eligible. Please contact Rachael at rshaw@pvs-ec.com or 412-366-3400 for additional information.

UPCOMING ACAF EVENTS

During the summer months, the Animal Care and Assistance Fund (ACAF) will hold two fun-filled fundraisers:



Saturday, July 9. Wine tasting and art auction at Engine House 25, (3339 Penn Avenue, Lawrenceville) from 7-10 PM. Please RSVP at, http://www.animalcarefund.org/uncorked/RSVP_uncorked.pdf by July 2.



The third annual Seruset Scramble Golf Outing will take place at Lake Vue Golf Course on **Saturday, August 6.** The "shotgun start" is scheduled for 9AM. Please contact organizer, Beverly Seruset (PVSEC Surgical supervisor) at 412-366-3400 x3120 or bevseruset@pvs-ec.com for more information.