VSES welcomes two new Specialists

We are pleased to announce the arrival of two new specialists at VSES.

Dr. Samantha Murray will be joining our Internal Medicine team in September. She attended the University of Pennsylvania School of Veterinary Medicine, receiving her Doctor of Veterinary Medicine in 2001 with the small animal award and Auxiliary to the Pennsylvania Veterinary Medical Association Prize. Dr. Murray completed a small animal medicine and surgery rotating internship and her residency in small animal internal medicine at Matthew J. Ryan Veterinary Hospital of the University of Pennsylvania.

Dr. Lindsay Occhipinti will be joining our Surgery team in November. She attended Michigan State University, receiving her Doctor of Veterinary Medicine in 2009 with the ACVS Student Surgery Award, the Arthur D. Marosi Surgery Award and the College of Veterinary Medicine Endowed Scholarship. She went on to complete a rotating internship at the University of Pennsylvania, as well as a surgical residency at Veterinary Specialists of Rochester.

Drs. Justin Greco (surgery) and Kristen Woosely (critical care) are leaving VSES as they relocate to California. We wish them the best and thank them for their years of service and dedication.

VSES is Expanding

Exciting things are happening at VSES! We have broken ground on a 15,000 square foot expansion at VSES.

One of MVA’s goals for this year was to expand VSES. During this phase of the construction, a 5,000 square foot, state-of-the-art educational center will be completed. Duncan’s Center for Veterinary Education is funded by a generous donation to Duncan’s Fund through Rochester Hope for Pets.

Space will also be created for future clinical expansions to accommodate VSES’ growing specialty services and increase the size of the lab.

MVA will begin holding CEs and educational meetings in Duncan’s Center for Veterinary Education in early 2015.

Upcoming CE Programs sponsored by Duncan’s Fund

LVT

Nutritional Management of Canine & Feline Gastrointestinal Disease
Presented by Purina Representative Steven R Cohn, DVM
Date: September 17 from 12:30-2 p.m.
Location: Medaille College

DVM

Medical & Surgical Perspectives of Adrenal Pathology
Presented by Michael Koch, VMD, DACVIM and Max Bush, VMD, Surgical Resident
Date: September 24 from 6-8:30 p.m.
Location: Rochester Academy of Medicine

Save the date: Our next speakers at Rochester Academy of Medicine will be Dr. Murray and Dr. Occhipinti on November 19th from 6-8:30 p.m.

LVT & ACA

Rabies: What You Need to Know
Presented by Eric Ammerman, Senior Public Health Sanitarian, Monroe County Health Department
Date: October 15 from 12:30-2 p.m.
Location: Medaille College

To RSVP for any of the above CEs, please contact Pam Holt at 2012mva@gmail.com or (585) 271-2733 ext. 11

CPR Training CE Update

We have received a lot of response in regards to our CPR Training CE. We would like to thank everyone for their interest in this new and exciting continuing education opportunity. This is something that we are very excited to begin offering to our neighboring hospitals. As we grow this program, we hope that it paves the way for more traveling CE programs.

We are working on contacting those of you who have expressed an interest in this program. Unfortunately, this has been taking a little bit longer than we had originally anticipated. Your continued patience with us is greatly appreciated.

Please feel free to contact us and check the status of this program at any time. If you have yet to sign up for this program and would like more information, please contact Lindsay Lavell at (llavellmva@gmail.com) or 585-424-1277.
When presented a patient with an ocular complaint, or when ophthalmic disease is identified on physical examination, certain diagnostic tests should be considered in the approach to the ophthalmic disease. Listed below are common complaints or initial findings, general rule outs, and diagnostic tests that should be part of the medical workup. These lists are not intended to be all inclusive, but to serve as a guide to help the practitioner decide on the best course of therapy, or if referral is indicated. Diagnostics for systemic disease, which may be appropriate in many cases, are not included here. Please contact me at any time with questions.

**RED EYE:**

**Diagnostic rule outs:**
1. Conjunctivitis (Various causes)
2. Keratitis (Various causes)
3. Uveitis (Various causes)
4. Glaucoma (Primary or secondary)
5. Episcleritis (diagnosis of exclusion).
6. Intraocular hemorrhage/conjunctival hemorrhage

**Appropriate diagnostic tests:**
1. Schirmer Tear Test
2. Fluorescein stain
3. Tonometry
4. Thorough eye exam/physical exam
5. +/- coagulation profile

**PAINFUL EYE:**

**Diagnostic rule outs:**
1. Corneal ulcer
2. Corneal rupture
3. Descemetocoele
4. Conjunctivitis/keratoconjunctivitis sicca
5. Uveitis
6. Glaucma
7. Orbital inflammatory disease
8. Ectopic cilia
9. Entropion
10. Corneal/conjunctival foreign body

**Appropriate diagnostic tests:**
1. Schirmer Tear Test
2. Fluorescein stain
3. +/- Tonometry (assuming a descemetocoele or corneal rupture has not been identified).
4. Thorough eye exam/physical exam

**CLOUDY EYE:**

**Diagnostic rule outs:**
1. Corneal disease
   a. Corneal ulcer (possibly infected?)
   b. Corneal infiltrates (corneal dystrophy or degeneration, eosinophilic keratitis)
2. Corneal edema:
   a. Glaucma (Primary or secondary)
   b. Uveitis (Various causes)
   c. Corneal endothelial degeneration/dystrophy
3. Aqueous flare:
   a. Lipemic aqueous

**Appropriate diagnostic tests:**
1. Fluorescein stain
2. Tonometry
3. +/- blood pressure
4. Thorough eye exam
5. +/- neurologic exam (other cranial nerves etc.)/physical exam

**OCULAR DISCHARGE:**

**Diagnostic rule outs:**
1. Serous discharge
   a. Epiphora
      i. Nasolacrimal obstruction
      ii. Imperforate punctum
      iii. Painful eye (see above)
   b. Conjunctivitis
2. Mucoid/mucopurulent discharge
   a. Conjunctivitis
      i. Keratoconjunctivitis sicca!!!!!
      ii. Follicular conjunctivitis
      iii. Herpes virus-associated conjunctivitis
      iv. Eosinophilic conjunctivitis
      v. +/- Allergic conjunctivitis
   b. Corneal disease/ulceration
   c. Dacryocystitis
   d. “Medial canthal pocket syndrome”

**Appropriate diagnostic tests:**
1. Schirmer Tear Test!!! (Should be performed on every patient with discharge on the initial exam).
2. Fluorescein stain (both for corneal disease and to assess nasolacrimal patency)
3. +/- Nasolacrimal irrigation (flush)
4. +/- Conjunctival cytology
5. Thorough eye exam

**VISION LOSS**

**Diagnostic rule outs:**
1. Corneal disease (Various causes)
2. Cataract
3. Uveitis (Various causes)
4. Glaucoma (Primary or secondary)
5. Retinal disease
   a. Retinal degeneration
      i. PRA
      ii. SARD
   b. Retinal detachment (Various causes)
6. Optic nerve disease (Various causes +/- other neurologic disease)
7. Central CNS disease (Various causes +/- other neurologic deficits)

**Appropriate diagnostic test:**
1. Fluorescein stain
2. Tonometry
3. +/- blood pressure
4. Thorough eye exam
5. +/- neurologic exam (other cranial nerves etc.)/physical exam

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Dr. Kent Burgesser earned his PhD in immunology from the University of Denver in 1989 and his DVM degree from Colorado State University in 1993. He completed his residency in veterinary and comparative ophthalmology at Colorado State University in 1998, where he also earned a master's degree in Clinical Sciences. He received board certification from the American College of Veterinary Ophthalmologists in 2000. Dr. Burgesser was previously a clinical instructor in ophthalmology at the Ontario Veterinary College. He practiced ophthalmology in south Florida before joining Veterinary Specialists & Emergency Services, where he is now the hospital co-director.
PREVELANCE AND MAGNETIC RESONANCE IMAGING OF INTERVERTEBRAL DISC DISEASE IN PUGS WITH CAUDAL ARTICULAR FACET DYSPLASIA OF THE THORACOLUMBAR SPINE

A. Full1, C.W. Dewey1, J.L. Bouma2. 1Cornell University Ithaca, NY 14853 and 2 Veterinary Specialists of Rochester, Rochester, NY 14620.

Introduction/Purpose: Congenital vertebral malformations are a common occurrence in the canine population, however according to the veterinary literature many affected dogs have no evidence of neurologic dysfunction. Although articular facet aplasia/dysplasia has been known to be a frequent occurrence, it has been poorly represented in the veterinary literature. With the increased use of advanced cross sectional imaging such as MRI, the emergence of recent publications describing the development of secondary fibrous constrictive myelopathy in pugs with articular facet anomalies have begun to challenge that notion. Furthermore the significance of IVDD in pugs with articular facet dysplasia has yet to be determined. The primary goal of this retrospective study is to determine if there is a correlation between development of IVDD in pug and pug mixes with articular facet dysplasia.

Methods: Retrospective review of the imaging databases of three referral veterinary hospitals including Cornell University, Veterinary Specialists of Rochester and Long Island Veterinary Specialists to identify pug and pug mixes who had undergone MRI examination of the thoracolumbar spine spanning time period of 7 years [2007-2014]. MRI images as well as available radiographs of the thoracolumbar spine are reviewed by a single radiologist [JLB]. The following parameters are included in this evaluation: presence or absence of articular facet anomaly; location or locations of the defect, presence or absence of extradural cord compression and finally presence or absence of extradural cord compression due to IVDD.

Results: Of the total of 53 dogs included in this study, 42 are pugs and 11 are pug mixes. Normal articular facet anatomy is identified in 19/53 dogs: 10/42 pugs and 9/11 pug mixes. The overall presence of thoracic and thoracolumbar caudal articular facet dysplasia in this population of dogs is 64%. Of the thirty-four dogs with abnormal articular facet anatomy, twenty-nine percent [10/34] have extradural cord compression due to mild IVDD.

Conclusion: The results of the present study indicate the prevalence of caudal articular process dysplasia in pugs and pug mixes, 64%, is high. Concurrent intervertebral disc disease of the associated disc space identified in 29% of the dogs may be indicative that this congenital anomaly could lead to chronic instability and associated neurologic disease.

Dr. Bouma and Dr. Dewey will be presenting this at the ACVR Annual Scientific Meeting in St. Louis from October 21st -24th. Please contact Lindsay Lavell (llavellmv@gmail.com) for more details.

Abstract: "Syndrome of inappropriate antidiuretic hormone secretion in a cat with a putative Rathke's cleft cyst"

An 11-year-old spayed female domestic shorthair cat was evaluated for anorexia, lethargy and weight loss of 6 days' duration. Bilateral mydriasis, absent menace response, slow-to-absent pupillary light reflexes, bilateral retinal detachment, intermittent horizontal nystagmus, intermittent ventral strabismus and systemic hypertension were present. Biochemical analysis revealed severe hyponatremia, severe hypocloremia and mild hypokalemia. Multifocal central nervous system disease was suspected based on optic, trigeminal sensory (ophthalmic branch), vestibulocochlear and possible oculomotor nerve dysfunction. Thoracic radiographs showed mild cardiomegaly without evidence of congestive heart failure. Ultrasound revealed mild pleural and peritoneal effusion. A cause of the severe hyponatremia was not identified, and it persisted despite fluid therapy. Syndrome of inappropriate antidiuretic hormone secretion (SIADH) was suspected as the cause of hyponatremia. Humane euthanasia was elected owing to continued clinical decline. Serum hyposmolality, urine hyperosmolality, natriuresis and lack of confirmed renal, thyroid and pulmonary disease aided in the presumed diagnosis of SIADH. Post-mortem histopathology of the brain revealed degeneration of the hypothalamus and optic tracts, along with a prominent fluid-filled craniopharyngeal duct (putative Rathke's cleft cyst) separating the pars distalis and the pars intermedia. The hypothalamic degeneration, possibly secondary to a Rathke's cleft cyst, was hypothesized to be the cause of presumptive SIADH in the patient. Although rare in occurrence, Rathke's cleft cyst should be included as a differential diagnosis in dogs and cats with signs of pituitary dysfunction.

Michael Koch, VMD, DACVIM, Internist at Veterinary Specialists of Rochester, was published in the Journal of Feline Medicine and Surgery. If you are interested in the full article, please contact Lindsay Lavell at llavellmv@gmail.com for a PDF copy.

"Syndrome of inappropriate antidiuretic hormone secretion in a cat with a putative Rathke's cleft cyst"

Dr. Bouma received her VMD from the University of Pennsylvania School of Veterinary Medicine in 1997. She then went on to complete a rotating internship in small animal medicine and surgery at Angell Memorial Animal Hospital in Boston, MA before returning to Philadelphia for a three year residency in radiology at the Veterinary Hospital of the University of Pennsylvania. Dr. Bouma achieved Diplomate status with the American College of Veterinary Radiology following completion of her residency in 2001.

Dr. Dewey is a board certified neurologist at Veterinary Specialists and Emergency Service. He received his DVM degree from Cornell University in 1989 and completed a small animal internship at the University of Georgia (UGA) before going back to school for his Master’s degree in Anatomy. Dr. Dewey completed a surgical residency at UGA and then a neurology residency at the University of California at Davis.
Your Feedback is Important to Us!

Please take a few minutes to take our survey. We strive to provide our best possible service to you and your clients. We would appreciate your feedback on our services and what else you would like to see from VSES. This short survey will allow us to gain a better sense of how we are doing and what we need to expand upon. We would like to thank you in advance for taking a few minutes to participate. The survey can be found here:

https://www.surveymonkey.com/s/rDVM2014

Join us at Rochester Hope for Pets’ 7th Annual Golf Tournament

For more information or to register visit: http://rochesterhopeforpets.org/activities.php