



January/February 2017

Hospital Welcomes New Leadership

Small Animal Clinic

Kate Hopper, BVSc, MVS, PhD, DACVECC - Director

After recently serving as interim director of the Small Animal Clinic over the past year, Dr. Kate Hopper has accepted the position for a five-year term. She is currently an associate professor of Small Animal Emergency and Critical Care. Her research interests include clinical acid base and electrolyte disorders, cardiopulmonary resuscitation and mechanical ventilation. Dr. Hopper is the co-editor of the textbook *Small Animal Critical Care Medicine*. She previously served as chief of the Emergency/Critical Care Service.



Large Animal Clinic

David Wilson, BVMS, MS, DACVIM (Hon.) - Interim Director

As former LAC Director Dr. Pam Hullinger takes up the leadership duties for UC Davis' California Animal Health and Food Safety Laboratory, Dr. David Wilson has stepped in to fill the position on an interim basis. A search committee has been formed to find the next LAC director. Dr. Wilson is a familiar face at UC Davis, having been with the school since 1981. Throughout his tenure at the school, Dr. Wilson has served in several high-ranking administrative positions including LAC and hospital director. He also currently serves as director of Veterinary Medical Center Facilities Planning.



Hospital Welcomes New Clinicians

Several new clinicians and a new pharmacist have recently joined the team at the UC Davis veterinary hospital. The additions include new faculty and staff veterinarians in: Equine Surgical Emergency and Critical Care Service, Neurology/Neurosurgery Service, Soft Tissue Surgery Service, Zoological Medicine Service, Cardiology Service, Community Practice Service, Emergency/Critical Care Service, Equine Internal Medicine and Dentistry Service, Anesthesia/Critical Patient Care Service, and the Small Animal Theriogenology Service.



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Large Animal Clinic Welcomes New Farrier

The UC Davis veterinary hospital is excited to welcome farrier Shane Westman, APF, as a new member of the Large Animal Clinic's dedicated team of professionals. As a lifelong horseman and a farrier for 23 years, Westman brings a wealth of knowledge and experience to the LAC.

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Dr. Larry Cowgill Receives Prestigious Hill's ACVECC Jack Mara Scientific Achievement Award

Congratulations to Dr. Larry Cowgill, DVM, PhD, DACVIM, the 2016 recipient of the Hill's ACVECC Jack Mara Scientific Achievement Award. Cowgill was an early pioneer in the application and perfection of hemodialysis techniques for dogs and cats and established the world's first clinical hemodialysis program for animals at UC Davis.

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Veterinarians May Hold Key to Solving a Human Heart Disease

Veterinarians at UC Davis are part of a team of researchers that have discovered a breakthrough in the treatment of cats stricken with hypertrophic cardiomyopathy (HCM). Their use of a new drug, MYK-461, on five cats with a naturally occurring form of inherited HCM has shown that the drug is the first in its class to modify the natural function of the disease. This discovery could finally lead to a viable treatment of HCM, a currently incurable disease that also affects humans.

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Videoendoscopy Helps Diagnose Equine Respiratory Disorders

Equine veterinarians at the UC Davis veterinary hospital are able to utilize overground videoendoscopy to help diagnose upper airway respiratory disorders.

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Training the Veterinarians of Tomorrow

A veterinary student's curriculum involves three years of intensive coursework and one final year of clinical instruction. Training more than 135 fourth-year DVM

students annually, the UC Davis veterinary hospital wholeheartedly embraces its responsibility of being a teaching institution. Each student is closely supervised by faculty and resident veterinarians in order to ensure proper training, and that every animal is given the best possible care.

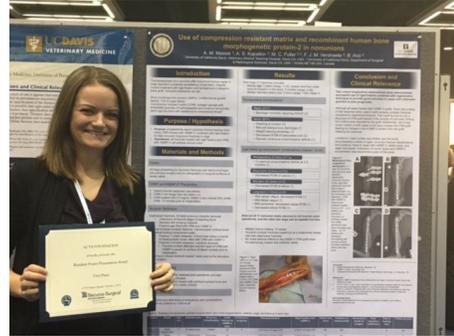
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Residents Win National Awards

Two UC Davis veterinary surgery residents won awards at the 2016 American College of Veterinary Surgery annual meeting in Seattle. Two other residents--from other residency training programs but mentored by a UC Davis faculty member--also won awards at the meeting.

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Dr. Joanne Paul-Murphy Recognized for Conservation Work in New Zealand

For more than a decade, Dr. Joanne Paul-Murphy has aided a conservation group in New Zealand working to save a critically endangered parrot species. The kakapo is a large, flightless nocturnal parrot indigenous to New Zealand. With only 164 remaining on Earth, the kakapo has benefited from Dr. Paul-Murphy's involvement.

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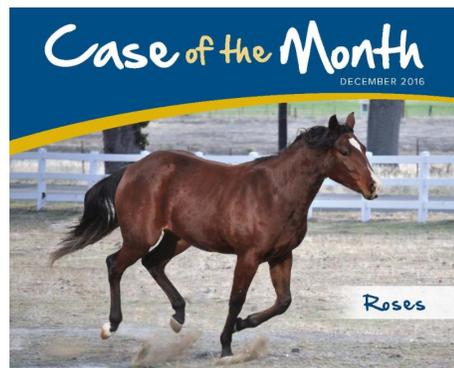


Case of the Month - December 2016

UC Davis Equine Surgeons Successfully Take On Risky Surgery

Roses, an American Quarter Horse yearling filly, was in need of surgical intervention to remove a retropharyngeal mass. The mass, known as a branchial remnant cyst, was a congenital abnormality arising from an embryonic structure called the third branchial arch. By the time Roses was 1 year old, the cyst had grown to the size of a softball and protruded from the right side of her throatlatch. It began to impede her movement, and she was unable to fully bend her neck and head to the right. The cyst was also compressing her trachea.

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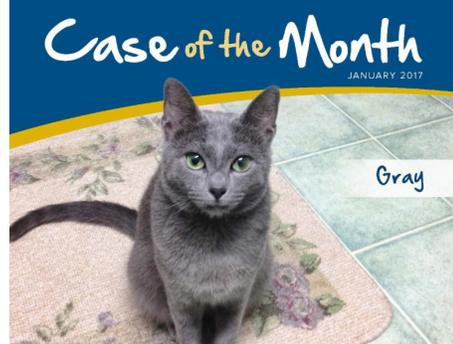


Case of the Month - January 2017

Paralyzed Cat Defies Odds and

Walks Again Thanks to UC Davis Neurosurgeons

Gray, a 9-month-old male cat, was found as a stray in Hawaii and taken in by his new owner. Shortly after settling in with his new family, Gray's posture became abnormal and his hind limbs splayed outward, severely affecting his ability to walk. He was painful to the touch, and over the next few days, became increasingly immobile. Radiographs taken by a local veterinarian indicated a vertebral disc space narrowing in Gray's lower back. Within a few days, he was no longer able to walk at all, so his owner researched where to get the best help for Gray. They were soon on their way to California to see neurologists at the UC Davis veterinary hospital.



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Did You Know?

...that Dr. Jorge Nieto won the 2016 SVM Faculty Clinical Excellence Award? The recognition shines a light on Dr. Nieto's exemplary service and dedication to the equine surgery program. He is considered an outstanding clinician, mentor, teacher and colleague - an excellent role model for students and residents.



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...that Natasha Shiroma, RVT, recently passed the Veterinary Technician Specialist (VTS) exam in Anesthesia and Analgesia? She is now a member of the Academy of Veterinary Technicians in Anesthesia and Analgesia. Natasha traveled to Dallas in September to take the full-day examination during the International Veterinary Emergency and Critical Care Symposium. She is one of several Registered Veterinary Technicians at UC Davis who hold VTS status. Other than Natasha in the Anesthesia/Critical Care Service, the hospital has RVTs with VTS status in the Emergency/Critical Care Service, Companion Exotic Animal Medicine and Surgery Service, Dermatology Service, Oncology Service, Equine Internal Medicine and Dentistry Service, and the Small Animal Internal Medicine Service. Congratulations, Natasha!



...that former ophthalmology residents Drs. Ann Strom and Tomo Wiggans presented winning manuscripts at the 2016 Annual American College of Veterinary Ophthalmologists Resident Manuscript Awards? Dr. Strom was second author on "Utility of antigen testing for the diagnosis of ocular histoplasmosis in four cats: a case series and literature review," which won the best resident case report manuscript. Dr. Wiggans was lead author on "Histologic and immunohistochemical predictors of clinical behavior for feline diffuse iris melanoma," which won best resident clinical research manuscript.



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Featured Clinical Trial

Dr. Jodi Westropp is recruiting dogs with radiodense bladder stone(s) and concurrent UTI with a urease-producing bacteria, such as *Staphylococcus*, *Klebsiella* or *Proteus* for a new clinical trial. The trial aims to evaluate the efficacy of a therapeutic diet for struvite dissolution in dogs. Owners are encouraged to enroll any dog with bladder stones that do not have concurrent disorders (e.g., diabetes), are not consuming urinary prevention/dissolution diets and/or have received antibiotics for less than five days. For more information about this and other groundbreaking trials, visit

www.vetmed.ucdavis.edu/clinicaltrials or email vetclintrials@ucdavis.edu.



CE Calendar

Upcoming Veterinary Continuing Education Events:

January 27-29	MATS: Clinical Cardiology, San Diego
January 28	Heumphreus Memorial Lecture, UC Davis
February 11-12	Low Stress Animal Handling Workshop, UC Davis
March 4-5	Wildlife & Exotic Animal Symposium, UC Davis
April 22	Regenerative Medicine Symposium, UC Davis

For more information on these and other upcoming CE events, please visit www.vetmed.ucdavis.edu/ce.

Help Advance Veterinary Care

At UC Davis, we take a great deal of pride in being ranked the #1 veterinary school in the world. A large part of that ranking comes from the extraordinary care available to animals and the tremendous teaching opportunities available to students through the Veterinary Medical Teaching Hospital. Join with us in advancing the health of animals, people, and the environment by making an [online donation](#) today.



<http://www.vetmed.ucdavis.edu/vmth>

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