

VMTH Expands Integrative Medicine Service

The VMTH recently expanded its services to offer more options in the Integrative Medicine Service. Integrative medicine includes a comprehensive approach to veterinary medicine that complements conventional diagnostic and treatment modalities to optimize clinical outcome. Treatments the Service has previously offered include acupuncture and physical rehabilitation (which can include rehabilitation following surgery, paralysis rehabilitation, weight loss, and canine athlete injury rehabilitation).

With the recent addition of new Service Chief Dr. Jamie Peyton, to a stellar team that already includes Drs. Lauren Frank and Marilyn Koski and technician Ann Kitchen, the VMTH looks to expand integrative medicine activities, as well as include additional service offerings in pain management and palliative/hospice care. With many hospital clients requesting the additional offerings, VMTH leadership recognized the need to increase the size of the Integrative Medicine Service with another clinician, more appointment opportunities and additional treatment options.

The pain management program incorporates both traditional medications and complementary modalities, such as cold laser and acupuncture, to find the best pain therapy for an individual patient.

"Pain control is so essential for a patient's ability to heal and overall quality of life," said Dr. Peyton. "Therapy is aimed at not only acute pain during hospitalization, but also focusing on chronic pain management at home."

The palliative and hospice care program focuses on patients with serious illness ranging from internal medicine, neurologic, and surgical disease to cancer patients undergoing chemotherapy or radiation. Modalities are used to help support the body and treat the symptoms of the diseases or treatments, such as nausea, vomiting, diarrhea, fatigue and insomnia. The main goal is to help owners during this difficult time and incorporate complementary ways to help the patient's quality of life.

The addition of Dr. Peyton will allow the VMTH to see more patients and make further headway into the study and application of integrative medicine. The integrative medicine team will work closely with other services in the VMTH to identify multidisciplinary treatment opportunities to provide optimal patient outcomes. A goal of the Service also includes the development of a comprehensive academic program in integrative medicine. The first student clinical rotations begin in June.

Patients of the Integrative Medicine Service are treated in a 1,000-square-foot open treatment area that resembles a gym and two private treatment rooms. The Service's state-of-the-art equipment includes electric high/low treatment tables, two underwater treadmills, a land-based treadmill, therapeutic exercise equipment, ramp and stairs, and equipment to fabricate thermoplastic orthotics.



Physical rehabilitation workouts are one of the many ways the Integrative Medicine Service can help improve the health of patients.

Did You Know?

- ... that if your dog is overweight, it is at risk for serious medical conditions? Plan a visit to our Community Practice to have your pet's health evaluated.
- ... that Ysabel Knapp, RVT and Melissa Cavazos, RVT are a few of the VMTH's newest staff members in the Small Animal Clinic?
- ... that a year's supply of parasite preventives for your pet is much more affordable than the amount you'll spend on treatment if your pet gets fleas or ticks?



Melissa Cavazos, RVT



Ysabel Knapp, RVT

VMTH House Officers Present Research Findings

Every spring, the VMTH hosts the Gerald V. Ling House Officer Seminar Day. This past March saw the 36th annual installment of the day-long event, featuring short presentations of research findings from each house officer (resident, fellow and intern) to fellow house officers, faculty, staff, students and guests.

Having the ability to do research is a major advantage of doing a residency at the VMTH. As the hospital with the largest and most diverse residency program in the country, the VMTH is able to offer research opportunities not available elsewhere. This year saw 41 residents present 44 research studies covering an huge breadth of topics including anesthetic protocols for a wide range of domestic and wildlife species, inherited brain defects in cats, CPR techniques in pets, diagnosis of chronic cough in dogs, urinary tract infection in dogs, monitoring systems in animal shelters, potential zoonotic disease on fish farms, stem cells to treat injuries in horses, diagnostic imaging techniques, dental disease in horses, clinical pharmacology of antibiotics and analgesics in livestock and wildlife, and many more.

“The house officers raised the bar yet again,” said Dr. David Wilson, director of the VMTH. “The quality of this year’s presentations was outstanding and made the task of the judges extremely difficult.”



Dr. David Wilson addresses a capacity crowd at the 36th Annual Gerald V. Ling House Officer Seminar Day.

All the presenters deserve to be recognized but, in the end, the judges could honor only six with awards:

Dr. Krista Keller – Outstanding Avian, Exotics, Lab Animal or Poultry Research Study and Presentation; **Dr. Jamie Prutton** – Chris Smith Award for Outstanding Equine Research Study and Presentation; **Dr. Kristopher Flores** – Outstanding Large Animal Research Study and Presentation; **Dr. Andrew Burton** – Gerald V. Ling Award for Outstanding Small Animal Research Study and Presentation; **Dr. Brian Leonard** – Outstanding Small Animal Research Study and Presentation; and **Dr. Bing Yun Zhu** – Outstanding Small Animal Research Study and Presentation.

“I would like to thank the House Officer Seminar Day Planning Committee, chaired by Dr. Kate Hopper and comprising Drs. Barbara Byrne, Alonso Guedes, Sarah le Jeune and Katherine Skorupski, as well as Drs. Claudia Sonder, Sharon Spier, Matt Mellema, and Bill Vernau who acted as moderators and joined the HOSD Committee on the judging team,” added Dr. Wilson. “The day would not have been possible without the support of our educational partners, Idexx Laboratories, Nestle Purina Pet Care, Zoetis and our own Dr. Peter Moore, and nothing would have happened without the incredible organizational efforts of Jan Harlan and many other VMTH staff.”

CASE OF THE MONTH – BLINK

Collaborative Effort Saves Cat in Respiratory Distress

One of the many advantages of coming to the VMTH is the large number of specialists available to provide expert care, regardless of which Service the animal presents to initially. Thankfully for Blink, a 1-year-old male domestic long-haired cat, that collaborative approach to care saved his life.

Blink was an outdoor cat that had gone missing for several days. He returned home in severe respiratory distress so his owner rushed him nearly two hours to the VMTH. Veterinarians from the Emergency Medicine, Critical and Intensive Care Service worked with the Internal Medicine Service to evaluate Blink’s respiratory tract, which revealed 80 percent narrowing of the trachea. The



A collaborative effort of several VMTH services saved Blink’s life.

Two VMTH Surgeons Become Board Certified

The VMTH's Small Animal Orthopedic Surgery Service is pleased to announce that Drs. Mark Fuller and Sun Young Kim are now Diplomates in the American College of Veterinary Surgeons (ACVS), making them board-certified specialists in small animal surgery. Joining them in this year's class of new Diplomates are Drs. Krista Adamovich (currently in private practice in Texas) and Cassie Lux (currently with the University of Tennessee), who recently completed their resident training at the VMTH.

Dr. Fuller earned his veterinary degree from the Western College of Veterinary Medicine in Saskatoon, Saskatchewan in 2005. After graduation, he completed a large animal internship at the Atlantic Veterinary College in Charlottetown, Prince Edward Island, followed by two years at a mixed-animal practice and small animal emergency medicine. Dr. Fuller completed a small animal rotating internship at the Veterinary Medical and Surgical Group in Ventura, California, followed by a small animal surgery residency at UC Davis before joining the VMTH as a staff veterinarian in 2012.



Dr. Mark Fuller, DVM,
DACVS

Dr. Kim received his veterinary degree in 2000 and a Master's degree in Veterinary Science in 2002 from Seoul National University in South Korea. He also had extensive clinical and research training at SNU's Veterinary Teaching Hospital from 2000-2003. The following year, Dr. Kim

held a small animal surgical fellowship at Michigan State University. He then spent a year at the University of Florida, completing a small animal medicine and surgery internship. In 2009, Dr. Kim came to UC Davis, where he completed a small animal surgery residency in 2012. He is currently an Assistant Professor of Clinical Small Animal Orthopedic Surgery.

"We are proud of the hard work and dedication Drs.



Dr. Sun Young Kim, DVM,
MS, DACVS

Fuller and Kim have put in to accomplish this goal," states Dr. David Wilson, director of the VMTH. "They are both excellent surgeons and have now established themselves at the forefront of their profession. I am also proud of the resident training program at the VMTH that prepared not only Mark and Sun for this certification, but also our former residents Cassie and Krista, who are now furthering their careers at other hospitals.

Their success, and the success of residents in many other disciplines, is a testament to talents of our residents and the exceptional mentorship provided by our faculty."

Founded in 1965, the ACVS is the American Veterinary Medical Association specialty board that defines the standards of surgical excellence and advanced professionalism in veterinary surgery. Approximately 70 veterinarians earn their Diplomate credentials every year, with a current total approaching 1,800.

specialists consulted with the VMTH's Anesthesia Service on the best approach of sedating Blink in order to open his airway. Several balloon dilations of the narrowed region in his trachea were performed over the course of a few weeks. Blink also spent a few nights on oxygen in the Intensive Care Unit.

These procedures helped clear his breathing issues, but veterinarians discussed other treatment options that may help Blink more permanently. These included stent placement to hold the trachea open, resection of the area of strictured trachea, an anti-fibrotic drug treatment plan, additional balloon dilation and others. With Blink's breathing back to normal again following an additional ballooning, his owner took him home to decide on further treatment going forward.

After a few weeks, though, Blink made that decision for him. Blink returned to the VMTH in respiratory distress. During bronchoscopy, veterinarians discovered a complete disruption of his trachea on both ends. The Diagnostic Imaging Service performed an emergency CT scan to provide more definitive information on the disruption of his Blink's trachea. The Anesthesia Service immediately prepared him for surgery, where specialists from the Soft Tissue Surgery Service reconnected his trachea by anastomosis (surgically connecting two structures).

Following surgery, Blink spent three days in the ICU with heavy sedation, pain control, oxygen therapy, and strict rest to allow his trachea time to heal. He eventually returned home with his respiratory problems behind him.

From The Director's Corner

Welcome to the April issue of *VMTH View*. The VMTH will soon be buzzing with more students than normal, as the classes of 2014 and 2015 will temporarily overlap for the next eight weeks. We do not anticipate any interruption of Services or delays in the excellent quality of care we are able to offer our clients and their pets, or in the level of training we provide to our students. I appreciate everyone's patience through this transition.

We are excited to announce the expansion of the Integrative Medicine Service this month. As the VMTH continues to grow, the long-anticipated addition of new faculty and activities to that Service will be greatly welcomed by its clients and by clinicians from other VMTH Services. Integrative Medicine will also be able to make a positive impact on other Services now by working collaboratively throughout the hospital to provide several additional treatment modalities.



W. David Wilson, BVMS, MS, HonDACVIM, Director, VMTH

By highlighting the memorable 36th Annual Gerald V. Ling House Officer Seminar Day and the success of several recent graduates

of our Small Animal Surgery resident training program, this issue also emphasizes some of the many advantages of pursuing a residency at the VMTH. Residents in multiple VMTH programs have a very high success rate in passing their specialty board examinations. The experience gained at the VMTH is second to none when it comes to patient volume, expert mentorship, research and publishing opportunities, advanced training and much more. Our house officers are exposed to the most cutting-edge veterinary medicine available, and subsequently take that knowledge with them to other hospitals throughout the world. We are very proud of the accomplishments of our house officers and of the role we play in training the next generation of specialists and primary care veterinarians.

Regards,



Dr. W. David Wilson, BVMS, MS, HonDACVIM
Director, William R. Pritchard VMTH

Thanks and Praise from Grateful Clients

"The Integrative Medicine Service has been invaluable to our dogs. They provide such wonderful care, and we believe they make a positive difference in our dogs' lives. Thank you for providing positive and professional treatment to our furry family."

– Peter and Sharon Davies, West Sacramento, California

"Mimi Sudbury is a wonderful liaison between the VMTH and the client. I see her as a solid presence there, someone who can help the client in any way if needed."

– Marian Derby, Davis, California

"Thank you Drs. Jenna Burton and Boaz Arzi from the bottom of my heart for all that you have done for Salem. Without your help, I would have never been able to navigate his care."

– Dia Goode, Sacramento, California

Connect with us

For Appointments Call:

Small Animal Clinic: (530) 752-1393

Large Animal Clinic: (530) 752-0290



Like us on Facebook

<https://www.facebook.com/ucdavisvetmed>



Watch us on YouTube

<http://www.youtube.com/ucdvetmed>



Follow us on Twitter

<http://www.twitter.com/ucdavisvetmed>

www.vetmed.ucdavis.edu/vmth