

Veterinary Specialists & Emergency Service



Eye Surgery
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of Cancer in Dogs
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Quarterly Newsletter Fall 2009

News at VSES:

◇ **Radiology Services at VSES** - We are pleased to announce that Jennifer Bouma, VMD, DACVR will be joining VSES full-time on November 16, 2009. Dr. Bouma earned her VMD and completed her radiology residency at the Veterinary School of the University of Pennsylvania. She completed her small animal internship at Angell Memorial Hospital in Boston, Massachusetts. Dr. Bouma will be available Monday, Wednesday, Thursday and Friday for radiograph interpretation/consults as well as outpatient ultrasounds.

◇ **Consultations Available** - Consultation services are available in cardiology, neurology, and for outpatient ultrasounds. Please call VSES or refer to upcoming events page at www.vetspecialistsofrochester.com for available dates.

◇ **On-Line Access to X-Rays** - We are excited to announce new and improved radiology equipment at VSES. Effective 11/1/09, if you would like to view images for your patients on-line, please contact Angela or Laura at 585-424-1260 for a username and password.

◇ **Animal MRI** - Our name has changed but our location and phone number remain the same! Animal MRI, formally Companion MRI of Western New York, is accepting referrals for stable patients. Please fax completed form to 585-424-1335 or complete referral form electronically. The form is located on the Vet Access portion at www.vetspecialistsofrochester.com. If patient is better served as a referral to the emergency service or one of our specialists, please follow the normal VSES referral process. Watch for our new website coming soon: www.animalmri.com.

Website Updates & Communication

- Recent concerns with our on-line referral form have been corrected. Please feel comfortable in using the convenient resources available via our website. Contact Kathy at 424-1260 if you need a username and password for the Vet Access link.
- At your request, we have added a link on the Vet Access section showing estimated costs for basic procedures. We also included days services are available.
- If you would prefer to receive communication, including referral letters, via email, please contact VSES with your address. You can also reach us electronically at: v.specialists@yahoo.com

◇ **Referring Veterinarian Binder** - Enclosed are updated surgery department and Animal MRI pages for your referral binder. Please replace existing pages with enclosed. We will continue to provide updates as necessary ensuring your binder is complete and up to date. Please let us know if you need additional copies of the binder.

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CRITICAL CARE

Kristen Woosley, DVM,
DACVECC

EMERGENCY

Kimberly Dodge, DVM
Bruce Ingersoll, DVM
Simon Kirk, DVM
Johnny Lamb, DVM
Thomas Linnenbrink, DVM
Joseph Wilder, DVM, DABVP

INTERNAL MEDICINE

Michael Koch, VMD
*Practice Limited to Internal
Medicine*
Laurie Prober, VMD
*Practice Limited to Internal
Medicine*

ONCOLOGY

Joanne Intile, MS, DVM,
DACVIM (Oncology)

OPHTHALMOLOGY

Kent Burgesser, PhD, DVM,
MS, DACVO
Hospital Director

RADIOLOGY

Jennifer Bouma, VMD, DACVR
*Will be Available for Referrals
Starting November 16, 2009*

SURGERY

Justin Greco, DVM, DACVS
Stephen Mehler, DVM, DACVS
Lauren May, VMD
Practice Limited to Surgery

CONSULTING SERVICES

Cardiology
Neurology

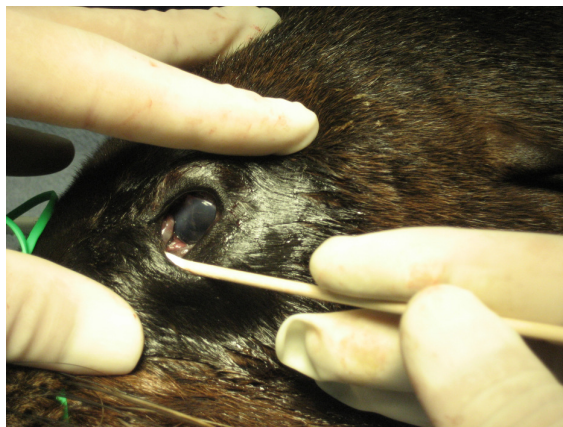
The Visit to Utica Zoo: Successful Eye Surgery Done on Eight Week Old Sea Lion



and evaluate Max's eye and discuss treatment options.

Max had a notable amount of fibrinous tissue adhered to the cornea at the site of a full thickness corneal laceration. The front of the eye was otherwise intact and the presence of a dazzle response indicated that there was still potential for vision. The best option for treatment of Max's eye condition was to place Max under general anesthesia to remove the abnormal tissue adhered to the cornea. General anesthesia is never without risk in any animal, and this is especially true for marine mammals.

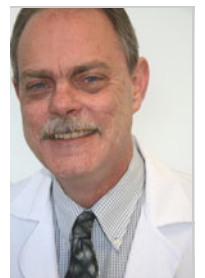
Max is an eight week old male sea lion pup who resides at the Utica Zoo in Upstate New York. Unfortunately, early in Max's life, his mother inadvertently traumatized his left eye causing suspected corneal rupture. Since Max is still so young, and small enough to be held, it was recommended to have Dr. Kent Burgesser, the veterinary ophthalmologist and hospital director at Veterinary Specialists and Animal Emergency Service come out to the Utica Zoo



Max was anesthetized and the fibrin clot and extruded iris were removed. The laceration in the cornea was sutured to enhance and to prevent future prolapse of the iris, as well as prevent intraocular contamination. Max was very stable under anesthesia and recovered uneventfully. It was expected at the time of surgery that Max would retain functional vision in the eye and would be able to go swimming in about three weeks.

At a two-week recheck following surgery the eye was visual and the laceration site was healed. The pupil shape was slightly abnormal but did not seem to interfere with vision. Max is back on display at the Utica Zoo with the other sea lions and is expected to do very well.

Kent Burgesser, PhD, DVM, MS, Diplomate ACVO earned his DVM degree from Colorado State University in 1993. He completed his residency in veterinary and comparative ophthalmology at Colorado State in 1998, and received board certification from the American College of Veterinary Ophthalmologists in 2000. Before joining Veterinary Specialists and Emergency Service (VSES), Dr. Burgesser was a clinical instructor in ophthalmology at Ontario Veterinary College and practiced ophthalmology in south Florida. Dr. Burgesser also holds a Masters degree in Clinical Sciences, has his PhD in Immunology, and currently serves as Hospital Director of VSES.



Palladia® (toceranib phosphate) A New Drug for the Treatment of Cancer in Dogs

A new and exciting anti-cancer treatment option has recently been made available to veterinary oncologists in the United States. Palladia® (toceranib phosphate) is actually the first drug to be approved by the FDA for treating cancer in animals.

Palladia® is a member of the receptor tyrosine kinase inhibitor (TKI) family of targeted anti-cancer therapies. This class of drugs has caused significant excitement in the human cancer field. The most widely known receptor TKI is Gleevec® (imatinib mesylate), a drug that has revolutionized the successful treatment of human gastrointestinal stromal tumors and chronic myelogenous leukemia. Palladia® is a multi-receptor TKI that is similar to Gleevec® and works by targeting mutated receptors involved in both cellular proliferation and tumor angiogenesis pathways.

Mast cell tumors are the most common cutaneous tumors seen in dogs. Mutations in the receptor tyrosine kinase known as KIT occur in 20-30% of grade 2 and 3 canine mast cell tumors. Palladia® successfully targets mutated KIT receptors in mast cell tumors. Specifically, Palladia® is indicated for the treatment of grade 2 and 3 recurrent mast cell tumors, with or without lymph node metastasis. Preliminary clinical trials indicate Palladia® may also have anti-cancer activity against some carcinomas and sarcomas as well. Information is not currently available about the use of Palladia® in cats.

Palladia® is a unique form of anti-cancer therapy for animals. It is available as oral tablets that are designed to be administered every other day at home by the owners, rather than being given intravenously at the veterinarian's office as we do for most other chemotherapy drugs. Initially, patients receiving Palladia® are scheduled for weekly rechecks for the first 6 weeks of therapy. Rechecks are reduced to an every 6 week basis after that point. The major toxicities seen with Palladia® are adverse gastrointestinal signs rather than hematological toxicity as seen with other traditional chemotherapy agents.

If you have a patient that you believe would benefit from Palladia® therapy, please feel free to schedule an appointment with the oncology service at Veterinary Specialists and Emergency Service, or speak with Dr. Intile (DACVIM - Oncology) by calling 585-424-1260.

Common Procedures of Oncology:

- Chemotherapy Administration
- Radiation Therapy Consults
- Clinical Trials
- Bone Marrow Aspirates
- Cytological Analyses
- Melanoma Vaccine
- Palliative Treatments
- Lymphoma & Leukemia
- Multiple Myeloma
- Biopsies
- Metastatic Screening
- Soft Tissue Sarcomas



Joanne Intile, DVM, MS, DACVIM (Oncology)

Dr. Joanne Intile received her veterinary degree from Cornell University in 2005. Following graduation she accepted a rotating internship in small animal medicine, surgery, and emergency and critical care at Long Island Veterinary Specialists before returning to Cornell to complete a residency in medical oncology.

Dr. Intile is a member of the American College of Veterinary Internal Medicine, the Veterinary Cancer Society, the AVMA, and Phi Zeta, the National Veterinary Honor Society. During residency she was awarded the Robert S. Brodey Memorial Award for outstanding clinical research project in oncology at the 27th Annual Conference of the Veterinary Cancer Society in 2007.

Dr. Intile has professional interests in clinical chemotherapy trials including developing novel rescue protocols for canine lymphoma, the use of Vitamin D for anti-cancer therapy, and hospice care/pain relief for cancer patients.

Veterinary Specialists & Emergency Service
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Thank-you to Pfizer Animal Health for their support of this newsletter.

UPCOMING CE, ROUNDS & SHADOWING

To RSVP to any of the following CE events, please contact Stephanie Maryan at 585-271-2733 x13 or mvamaryan@yahoo.com

| TOPIC | SPEAKER | DVM/LVT | DATE & LOCATION |
|---|-------------------------------------|---------|--|
| "Ophthalmic Examination Wet Lab" | Kent Burgesser, PhD, DVM, MS, DACVO | DVM | Saturday, Oct. 24th from 2pm-5pm Companion Animal Hospital, 2800 West Henrietta Rd. Rochester, NY 14623 |
| "Fun with the Fundus: Disease of the Retina & Optic Nerve" | Kent Burgesser, PhD, DVM, MS, DACVO | DVM | Wednesday, Dec. 9th from 6:30pm-9:15pm Rochester Academy of Medicine 1441 East Ave., Rochester, NY 14610 |
| "The Complementary Role of Abdominal Radiography and Ultrasound in Diagnostic Work Up of Veterinary Patients" | Jen Bouma, VMD, DACVR | DVM | |
| "Veterinary Ophthalmology for Technicians" | Christina Gardner, LVT | LVT | Wednesday, Nov. 4th from 12pm-2pm Veterinary Specialists & Emergency Service |

Rounds take place at VSES Tuesday-Friday from 8am to 9am. We have added the rounds calendar to our website, please refer to it for subjects/topics. You are always welcome to attend and participate. Please also know you are welcome to spend time in our treatment room as well. Let us know when to expect you!