

### THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 18, 2014 – Pre-conference Day

- 11:15 – 12:45 pm** **Protecting Cats from the Unexpected: Feline Vector-borne Disease Agents**, *Dr. Susan E. Little*  
 Although risk is often underestimated, infection of cats with vector-borne disease agents, including heartworm (*Dirofilaria immitis*), bartonellosis (*Bartonella henselae*, other *Bartonella* spp.), and cytauxzoonosis (*Cytauxzoon felis*), is surprisingly common in many areas. Several recent studies have shown that consistent use of parasite control products can prevent transmission of these agents by preventing feeding of arthropod vectors or abrogating infections prior to development of disease. For example, application of imidacloprid/moxidectin heartworm preventive to cats prior to high challenge experimental infection with *D. immitis* prevented development of lung pathology and seroconversion in treated cats; cats wearing acaricidal collars with flumethrin are protected from tick-borne transmission of *C. felis* and development of cytauxzoonosis; and flea control using imidacloprid has been shown to block transmission of *Bartonella* spp. between cats. This presentation will review data from several studies that document the ability of parasite control products to prevent infection with common vector-borne pathogens in cats, thus supporting efforts to help cats live longer, healthier lives.
- 1:00 – 2:00 pm** **Update on Feline Infectious Diseases: Agents Associated with Fever**, *Dr. Michael Lappin*
- 2:00 – 3:00 pm** **Update on Feline Infectious Diseases: Upper Respiratory Tract Disease**, *Dr. Michael Lappin*
- 3:30 – 4:30 pm** **Update on Feline Infectious Diseases: Lower Respiratory Tract Disease**, *Dr. Michael Lappin*
- 4:30 – 5:30 pm** **Update on Feline Infectious Causes of Diarrhea in Cats**, *Dr. Michael Lappin*  
 In this four lecture series, Dr. Lappin will provide updates on the diagnosis, treatment, and prevention of select feline infectious diseases using a case-based approach. Emphasis will be placed on new clinically relevant information generated in the last 12-18 months and will include infectious agents associated with fever (*Bartonella*, hemoplasmas, *Rickettsia felis*, *Anaplasma phagocytophilum*), upper respiratory tract disease (FHV-1, FCV, *Mycoplasma*), lower respiratory tract disease (FIP, *Toxoplasma*, *Bordetella*), and diarrhea (*Giardia*, *Cryptosporidium*, and use of probiotics).

### FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 19, 2014

- 7:45 – 10:30 am** **C** **New Data on Chronic Small Bowel Disease in Cats: Don't Accept Vomiting as "Normal,"** *Dr. Gary Norsworthy*  
 This lecture will address chronic vomiting, chronic diarrhea, and weight loss, all of which occur very commonly in cats and usually originate from disease in the small bowel. The attendee will learn how to recognize cats that need an abdominal ultrasound which usually leads to small bowel, liver, and pancreatic biopsies. Nearly 50% of these cats have chronic enteritis (usually IBD), and nearly 50% have lymphoma. Once the diagnosis is firmly made, the practitioner is in a position to treat both of these diseases. Dr. Norsworthy will reveal his approach to both and give instructions on how to communicate with the client before, during, and after the diagnosis is made. You should leave equipped with the knowledge and documents to diagnose and treat cats with this very common disease. You will find this new knowledge a game-changing event in your professional career.
- 11:15 – 12:05 pm** **C** **Diagnosis & Management of Pancreatitis**, *Dr. Kenneth Simpson*  
 Pancreatitis is increasingly recognized in cats and is often a real challenge to diagnose and manage. Cats are not small dogs and we have to challenge conventional DOGMA and pursue our inner CATMA. In this session we will also discuss - How good are fPL and ultrasounds, feeding in the face of pancreatitis, management of concurrent diseases (triaditis), and why you could consider bacterial infection in severe pancreatitis.
- 12:15 – 1:15 pm** **Lunch & Learn – Feline Urethral Obstruction: New Options, New Solutions to an Old Problem**, *Dr. Mark Brady*  
 Urethral obstruction (UO) is a potentially life threatening manifestation of feline lower urinary tract disease. This condition is thought to be a sequel to feline idiopathic cystitis, so a review of this pathophysiology will be presented. Recommendations for management of this problem can be cost prohibitive for some clients leading to unwanted outcomes for our patients. The discussion will focus on recently published evidence to provide options in these challenging cases.
- 1:30 – 2:20 pm** **C** **Winning the Fight Against Hepatic Lipidosis**, *Dr. Sharon Center*  
 Complex acquired metabolic deficiencies and dysregulations challenge survival in cats with hepatic lipidosis. This presentation will focus on evidenced-based approaches for hastened recovery from this devastating syndrome.
- 2:25 – 3:15 pm** **C** **Are You Comfortable with Feline Constipation?**, *Dr. Craig Webb*  
 Imagine if our human counterparts were faced with something as seemingly simple as constipation being a terminal disease, and in fact, for too many cats it is. Clinical cases of cats with constipation will be used to highlight important aspects of this condition, and the standard diagnostic work-up will be reviewed. Treatment strategies, both old and perhaps new, will then be presented and discussed. The clinician should walk away from this presentation with a new level of "comfort," or a few new ideas to try when faced with these frequently frustrating cases.
- 3:45 – 4:35 pm** **A** **Cholangiohepatitis: Emerging Evidence for Disease Pathomechanisms**, *Dr. Sharon Center*  
 Investigation of oxidant injury, inflammatory signaling, and antimicrobial epitopes in feline cholangiohepatitis has broadened our understanding of its pathophysiologic mechanisms. This lecture will provide an overview of new information that better characterizes this complex feline syndrome.
- B** **Is There a Direct Link Between IBD, Cholangitis, & Pancreatitis in Cats?**, *Dr. Kenneth Simpson*  
 Concurrent inflammation of the intestinal tract, liver, and pancreas is a relatively common occurrence in cats. In this session we will also discuss - is there a common stimulus driving inflammation in the intestinal tract, liver, and pancreas; could it be pathogenic bacteria or an immune-mediated disease; or could it possibly be the resident intestinal microbiota?
- 4:40 – 5:30 pm** **A** **Five Unique Feline Hepatic Syndromes**, *Dr. Sharon Center*  
 This discussion will provide a synopsis of feline primary copper associated liver disease, cholelithiasis, hepatocellular carcinoma, hepatic amyloidosis, and biliary atresia.
- B** **Diagnosis & Management of Persistent Vomiting**, *Dr. Kenneth Simpson*  
 A thorough and systematic approach is required to determine the cause of persistent vomiting. An integrated approach based on patient history, physical findings, clinicopathological testing, and diagnostic imaging will be presented. In this session we will also discuss - is *Helicobacter* a friend or foe, what antiemetic should I use, and when should I default to "Vitamin P?"

### SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 20, 2014

- 7:45 – 8:25 am** **Cat Friendly Practice Panel: In Our Experience**  
 Please join us for this panel discussion to learn more about the AAFP Cat Friendly Practice (CFP) Program. This session will be led by approved CFPs who have went through the process. You will hear about creative ideas, implementation tactics, here is what worked for us, and even the helpful tips that you can use in your practice. This is also your opportunity to ask questions and brainstorm ideas. So whether you would like to learn more about being cat-friendly, you are thinking about starting the CFP program, or even if you are already in the process, please grab your breakfast and join us for this discussion and Q&A.
- 8:30 – 9:20 am** **A Nutraceuticals in Feline Liver Disease, Dr. Sharon Center**  
 Nutraceuticals including antioxidant, hepatoprotectants, antifibrotic, and choleric agents importantly collaborate with conventional multimodal nutritional, immunomodulatory, and antibacterial treatments in feline liver disease. This discussion will highlight reasoned utility of these adjunctive therapies.
- B Chronic Diarrhea: What's the Cause?, Dr. Kenneth Simpson**  
 A thorough and systematic approach is required to determine the cause of chronic diarrhea. An integrated approach based on patient history, physical findings, clinicopathological test, intestinal function testing, and diagnostic imaging will be presented. In this session we will also discuss - is it parasitic, immune, infectious, or neoplastic, and could diet be the problem?
- P ICU Boot Camp: What You Should Know on Day One! Ms. Paula Plummer**  
 What should technicians know when in the ICU? Your questions will be answered in this session. Some topics that will be covered are proper dosage calculations, CRI calculations, how to handle infectious patients, and how to deal with a burn out.
- 9:25 – 10:15 am** **A Fibropolycystic Feline Liver Disease Syndromes, Dr. Sharon Center**  
 Fibropolycystic feline liver disorders include a spectrum of developmental disorders typically recognized in mature adult cats but confused with necroinflammatory and cholestatic processes. This presentation will discuss five distinct fibropolycystic manifestations and the confusion surrounding these diagnoses.
- B Managing Cats with Chronic Gastrointestinal Disease, Dr. Kenneth Simpson**  
 This presentation will review the differentiation and management of chronic enteropathies in cats. In this session we will also discuss - how do I manage inflammatory bowel disease and how do I manage lymphoma?
- P Feline Friendly Handling & Restraint, Ms. Paula Plummer**  
 This session will discuss tips on how to make your practice feline friendly with new techniques for feline handling and restraint. There will be demonstration videos so you can see how to handle your patient safely. We will end with discussions on feline body language.
- 10:45 – 11:35 am** **A Stem Cell Therapy in Feline Chronic Enteropathy: In Theory – Bench Top Research, Dr. Craig Webb**  
 The phrase “stem cells” conjures up a huge array of reactions and opinions, covering the gamut from moral repulsion to medical miracle. From this session, practicing veterinary clinicians will learn to discriminate between the many entries that fall underneath the “stem cell” umbrella, including important and distinct differences between the stem cells that fuel political debate, and those stem cells currently being offered as therapy for a myriad of human and veterinary diseases. The many potentially beneficial properties of mesenchymal stem cells will be covered, giving clinicians the foundation of information to more critically appraise the therapeutic use of this modality, both in theory and in practice.
- B Diagnosis & Management of Feline Diabetes Mellitus, Dr. Catharine Scott-Moncrieff**  
 This lecture will focus on diagnosis and treatment of feline diabetes mellitus. Topics will include insulin choice, diabetic monitoring, and management of diabetes in the presence of concurrent illness. The lecture will also discuss alternative strategies for cases that do not respond well to the initial choice of insulin.
- P The Feline Diabetic: Understanding the Disease, Ms. Heather Lynch**  
 Many strides have been made in our understanding of the diabetic state in cats. This session will focus on increasing understanding of the causes and effects of diabetes in cats, why they are different from diabetic dogs, and give talking points to help technician's better support clients and DVMs when working with diabetic felines. Included in this session is a discussion of the important role annual care plays in the detection, and possibly prevention of this disease.
- 11:40 – 12:30 pm** **A Stem Cell Therapy in Feline Chronic Enteropathy: In Practice – Clinical Application, Dr. Craig Webb**  
 Clinical cases will be used to highlight the history, diagnosis, and current treatment options commonly used for cats with chronic diarrhea (and/or vomiting). This will include a brief review of the evidence currently available to support these treatment choices (hence, the word “brief”). From there, the design, implementation, and results of a recently completed study using feline-derived mesenchymal stem cells for the treatment of client-owned cats with a chief complaint of chronic enteropathy will be detailed. The session will conclude by considering the stem cell therapy options currently available to the veterinary practitioner, leaving participants with a solid armamentarium when considering this therapeutic tool, or when asked to consider it by their clientele.
- B Diabetic Ketoacidosis: Understanding Pathophysiology is Critical to Treatment, Dr. Catharine Scott-Moncrieff**  
 This presentation will focus on the cause of pathophysiologic derangements associated with diabetic ketoacidosis and how an understanding of the pathophysiology can improve case management.
- P The Feline Diabetic: Successful Management, Ms. Heather Lynch**  
 With good communication and teamwork between the client, the DVM, and the veterinary team, almost all diabetics will be managed successfully. This session will cover the important role the technician can play in the management of diabetic cats, with talking points, common barriers to communication or treatment, and common treatment protocols. Some case examples will also be presented.
- 12:15 – 1:15 pm** **Lunch & Learn – Diagnosis & Management of Feline Chronic Kidney Disease, Dr. Jane Robertson**  
 This lecture will focus on the diagnosis and management of cats with chronic kidney disease (CKD). A new renal biomarker, symmetric dimethylarginine (SDMA), that has been shown to increase earlier than creatinine in cats with CKD will be introduced. The International Renal Interest Society's (IRIS) classification system for staging CKD in cats will be reviewed followed by a discussion of appropriate therapy that can slow progression of disease, improve clinical signs, and prolong life.

### SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 20, 2014 continued

- 12:50 – 1:20 pm** **ABVP: How Can it Help Me?**  
The American Board of Veterinary Practitioners offers a short informational presentation showing the benefits of getting Board-Certified in Feline Practice. Find out why the 90 Board Certified Feline Practitioners on Planet Earth stand out from the rest!
- 2:00 – 2:50 pm** **A Diagnostic Testing for Hyperthyroidism in Cats: More Than Just T4, Dr. Mark Peterson**  
Over the past two decades, many advances have been made in the availability of tests that can be used to diagnose feline hyperthyroidism. However, all of the commonly-used tests have limitations, especially when evaluating cats suffering from non-thyroidal illness. This lecture will focus on an update on the diagnostic approach for the workup of cats with suspected hyperthyroidism. Since definitive diagnosis of this common disorder is not always clear-cut, this review concentrates on protocols used in the work-up of "occult" or problem cases, in which misdiagnosis can be common.
- B Managing the Feline Diabetic: Picking a Protocol, Dr. Audrey Cook**  
This lecture will review the factors to consider when starting a diabetic cat on insulin, such as frequency of administration, when and what to recheck, dietary considerations, and essential client education issues. The importance of creating a team approach and establishing appropriate expectations will also be discussed.
- P The Unstable Feline Diabetic Patient, Ms. Paula Plummer**  
Complications with your feline diabetic patient can be commonly seen in an emergency. These complications include diabetic ketoacidosis, hyperglycemic hyperosmolar syndrome, and insulin resistance. This session will focus on how to recognize these complications, treatment options available, and an overview of pathophysiology with each complication.
- 2:55 – 3:45 pm** **A What's the Best Treatment for Hyperthyroidism? Antithyroid Drugs, Surgery, Diet, or Radioiodine? Dr. Mark Peterson**  
In cats, hyperthyroidism can be treated in four ways — surgical thyroidectomy, radioactive iodine (131-I), chronic administration of an antithyroid drug, or lifelong feeding of an ultra-low iodine diet. Each form of treatment has advantages and disadvantages, which must be considered when formulating the best treatment plan for the individual hyperthyroid cat. The treatment of choice for an individual cat depends on several factors, including the age of the cat, presence of associated cardiovascular diseases, other major medical problems (e.g., chronic kidney disease), availability of a skilled surgeon or radioiodine treatment facility, cost, and owner's preference. This lecture will review the pros and cons of each form of treatment, which should help the practicing feline veterinarian and owners decide which is really the "best" treatment for their cat.
- B Diabetes: Home Monitoring, Dr. Audrey Cook**  
This lecture will explore the reasons for encouraging home-monitoring of the feline diabetic and the benefits to the patient, client, and hospital. A step-by-step guide on getting started with home monitoring will be provided.
- P What Every Technician Should Know about Feline Hyperthyroidism, Ms. Paula Plummer**  
Occurrence of hyperthyroidism in feline patients is common. Every technician should understand basic physiology, clinical signs, different diagnostic methods, treatment options, and client education. This session will also include how to find that enlarged thyroid gland and how to understand our feline hyperthyroid patients so we as technicians can be better patient advocates.



### SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 21, 2014

- 8:30 – 9:20 am** **C** **Hyperthyroidism & the Kidney: A Strategy to Slow Progression of CRD in Treated Cats**, *Dr. Mark Peterson*  
 Hyperthyroidism and chronic kidney disease (CKD) are both common disorders in older cats. About a third of hyperthyroid cats will have concurrent chronic kidney disease (CKD), but the CKD is commonly masked and azotemia may not develop until euthyroidism is restored. This lecture will focus on methods to help diagnose masked renal disease, as well as provide treatment strategies designed to prevent or slow the progression of CKD in these hyperthyroid cats.
- 9:25 – 10:15 am** **C** **Feline Hypothyroidism: Much More Common Than You Think!** *Dr. Mark Peterson*  
 Unlike the situation in dogs, naturally occurring hypothyroidism is extremely rare in cats. Most commonly, feline hypothyroidism is an iatrogenic complication associated with overtreatment of hyperthyroidism. Although early reports suggested that cats were resistant to hypothyroidism and did not require treatment, it is now realized that milder degrees of iatrogenic hypothyroidism are very common and that these cats may benefit from thyroid replacement therapy. This lecture will review the range of thyroid function tests available to aid in diagnosis of feline hypothyroidism and discuss its management.
- 10:45 – 11:35 am** **A** **Nutritional Management of Endocrine Disease in Cats**, *Dr. Mark Peterson*  
 When treating cats with endocrine disease, most veterinarians concentrate on the use of medical or surgical treatments that can be used to manage or cure the disease. Dietary issues are frequently ignored or not properly addressed. This is unfortunate, in as much as nutritional support should play an integral role in the successful management of feline endocrine diseases. The lecture will cover the two most common endocrine problems of cats seen in clinical practice (hyperthyroidism and diabetes mellitus) and discuss the way one can integrate nutrition into the management of these common feline diseases. Our goal is to use the cat's diet as a means to support their overall body health and metabolism and, therefore, help manage their underlying endocrine disease.
- B** **Management of Problem Diabetic Patients**, *Dr. Catharine Scott-Moncrieff*  
 This lecture will outline an approach to problems of insulin regulation in diabetic cats. The lecture will cover problems such as owner compliance, short duration of insulin action, insulin induced hypoglycemia, and insulin resistance. Case examples will be used to illustrate each problem.
- 11:40 – 12:30 pm** **A** **Managing Cats with Idiopathic Hypercalcemia**, *Dr. Mark Peterson*  
 Unexplained (idiopathic) hypercalcemia has been increasingly diagnosed in cats since the disorder was first described in the early 1990s. It is not clear what causes idiopathic ionized hypercalcemia or why it is becoming more prevalent in cats, but it is likely that the diet is playing a role in its pathogenesis. This lecture will review how I manage these cats with a stepwise approach that includes a change of diet therapy, followed by the use of glucocorticoids, bisphosphonates (alendronate), or both.
- B** **Role of Concurrent Illness in Insulin Resistant Cats**, *Dr. Catharine Scott-Moncrieff*  
 Management of feline diabetes mellitus is sometimes complicated by underlying diseases that may cause profound insulin resistance. Lack of recognition of underlying disorders that cause insulin resistance results in poor glycemic control and decreases the likelihood of diabetic remission. This lecture will focus on the underlying causes of insulin resistance in cats, with special attention to two endocrinopathies (hyperadrenocorticism and acromegaly) that cause profound insulin resistance.
- 12:40 – 1:40 pm** **Lunch & Learn – What's New in Acute Feline Pain Management: Before, During, and After Surgery**, *Dr. Robin Downing*  
 Cats have been the "red-headed stepchildren" in the veterinary pain management world. Fortunately, this is changing rapidly as veterinarians are provided with more tools with which to recognize, prevent, and treat acute feline pain. An effective acute pain management plan for feline patients means anticipating when pain will occur, as well as anticipating how intense it may be. Learn how to construct a multi-modal approach that targets specific sites in the body with new (and some not so new) options to provide the broadest protection possible for our feline patients.
- 1:45 – 2:35 pm** **A** **Feline Adrenal Disease**, *Dr. Audrey Cook*  
 This lecture will review the clinical manifestations of adrenal disorders in cats, and the diagnostic and therapeutic options currently available. Patient management and prognostic considerations will be discussed for the various types of adrenal problems encountered in cats.
- B** **Feline Hypertension Secondary to Endocrinopathies**, *Dr. Catharine Scott-Moncrieff*  
 This lecture will review the endocrine causes of feline hypertension including hyperthyroidism and hyperaldosteronism. Topics include diagnosis of feline hypertension, differential diagnosis of feline hypertension, and management of hypertension.
- 2:40 – 3:30 pm** **A** **Hyperaldosteronism**, *Dr. Audrey Cook*  
 In the last few years our understanding of feline hyperaldosteronism has changed substantially. In particular, the impact of hyperaldosteronism in cats with chronic kidney disease has been recognized. This lecture will review the current literature on this complex disorder and its potential impact on geriatric feline patients.
- B** **Diagnosis & Treatment of Feline Acromegaly**, *Dr. Catharine Scott-Moncrieff*  
 This lecture will focus on the clinical signs, diagnosis, and treatment of feline acromegaly. Indications for testing, interpretation of diagnostic test results, and approach to management will be discussed using case examples.