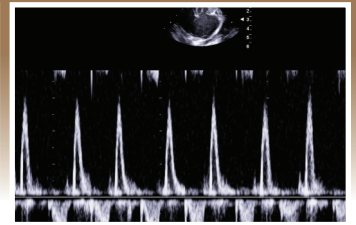
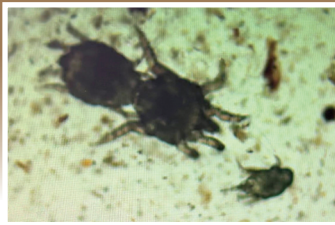


The FelineVMA presents



2024 Virtual Conference



**Available On-demand
from December 2, 2024 - May 31, 2025**

www.catvets.com/education



The FelineVMA presents 2024 Virtual Conference

The Virtual Conference will launch on December 2, 2024.
There is a total of 25 CE credits.

Pre-conference Day Bonus Session

Up-to-Date in 120 Minutes: The Latest Feline Updates & Developments
**Note - this two hour session is not available for on-demand RACE approved credits*

Drs. Susan Little, Jessica Quimby, Ilona Rodan,
Ashlie Saffire, Kelly St. Denis

Dermatology

		CE	SPONSOR/PARTNER
Feline Allergies & Atopic Skin Syndrome	Dr. Alison Diesel	1	
Feline Eosinophilic Granuloma Complex: A Case-based Discussion	Dr. Alison Diesel	1	
Autoimmune Skin Disease in the Feline Patient	Dr. Alison Diesel	1	
Kitty Dermatologic Conundrums	Dr. Joya Griffin	1	
Topical Therapy in Feline Dermatology	Dr. Alison Diesel	1	
Infectious Skin Diseases in the Cat Other Than Ringworm	Dr. Alison Diesel	1	

Cardiology

In the Thick of It: Diagnosis & Management of Feline HCM – Part 1	Dr. Joshua Stern	1	
In the Thick of It: Diagnosis & Management of Feline HCM – Part 2	Dr. Joshua Stern	1	
Oral Rapamycin Therapy in Feline Subclinical Hypertrophic Cardiomyopathy: Results of the RAPACAT Clinical Trial	Dr. Joshua Stern	1	
Changing F.A.T.E: Why Saddle Thrombus is No Longer a Death Sentence	Dr. Joshua Stern	1	
Pulmonary Pattern Paradigms & Left-sided CHF in Cats	Dr. Jaime Rechy	1	
Diet & Dilated Cardiomyopathy: What About Cats?	Dr. Joshua Stern	1	

Diagnostic Methodologies

Just Breathe: A Diagnostic Imaging Approach to Non-Cardiac Respiratory Distress	Dr. Jaime Rechy	1	
Unlocking the Power of Genetic Testing for Feline Diseases to Revolutionize Detection	Dr. Ashlie Saffire	1	
Cytologic Diagnosis of Inflammatory & Infectious Diseases in Cats	Dr. Peter Christopherson	1	
Current Approach to Examination & Interpretation of the Feline Pancreas with Ultrasonography	Dr. Martha Larson	1	
Improving Skills in Diagnosing Obstructive Gastrointestinal Disease in Cats with Radiography	Dr. Martha Larson	1	
Update on Hepatobiliary Disease in Cats: Focus on Ultrasonography in Icteric Cats	Dr. Martha Larson	1	
Recognizing Airway Disease in Cats: What to Look for & Degrees of Severity & Challenging Cases	Dr. Martha Larson	1	

Technician

Cat Friendly Interactions & Handling for Technicians (25 min)	Dr. Ilona Rodan	0.5	
Feline Dentistry: Proactive Not Reactive (25 min)	Nichole Dean, CVT	0.5	
Nerve Blocks: All the Cool Kids are Doing Them!	Nichole Dean, CVT	1	
Say Cheese! Feline Dental Radiographs	Nichole Dean, CVT	1	
Case-based Approach to General Anesthesia in the Cat	Rachel Bassett, CVT	1	
Anesthesia Monitoring: Troubleshooting & Tips	Rachel Bassett, CVT	1	
How Do I Set up This Anesthesia Machine? Argh! @#!%&!^#	Rachel Bassett, CVT	1	

PRE-CONFERENCE DAY BONUS SESSION

Up-to-Date in 120 Minutes: The Latest Feline Updates & Developments, Drs. Susan Little, Jessica Quimby, Ilona Rodan, Ashlie Saffire, Kelly St. Denis

In this session, five specialists will be showcasing the latest in feline products and services. Drs. Susan Little, Jessica Quimby, Ilona Rodan, Ashlie Saffire, and Kelly St. Denis, will offer practical summaries on more than 10 products and services. The presentations will cover questions such as: What do I need to know? How can I use/apply this in practice? What are the potential opportunities or barriers? Where can I obtain more information? You will not want to miss this cutting-edge session which will include Q&A with the speakers.

DERMATOLOGY

Feline Allergies & Atopic Skin Syndrome, Dr. Alison Diesel

Although still lagging behind compared to what is known and available for allergic skin disease in the canine patient, there has been more of a focus recently on diagnosis and managing allergic skin diseases in cats. What has historically been referred to as “feline atopy” and then “non-food, non-flea hypersensitivity skin disease” has been recently reclassified as “feline atopic skin syndrome.” This discussion aims to provide an update in regards to allergies in cats and dive into options when considering how to manage the allergic feline patient. Focus will be on environmental allergies with some discussion of other allergic skin conditions.

Feline Eosinophilic Granuloma Complex: A Case-based Discussion, Dr. Alison Diesel

The eosinophilic skin diseases in cats comprise various lesions including eosinophilic granulomas, eosinophilic plaques, and indolent ulcers. While often related to underlying allergic conditions, these lesions are more of a cutaneous reaction pattern in the feline patient and can be due to a number of underlying etiologies. This case-based discussion will present various examples of eosinophilic skin diseases in cats, both common and a bit less so, for consideration.

Autoimmune Skin Disease in the Feline Patient, Dr. Alison Diesel

While less common than parasites, infections, and allergies, autoimmune disease can present infrequently in the feline dermatological patient. This discussion will highlight some selected autoimmune skin diseases in cats, with a focus on when to consider these conditions higher on the differential diagnosis list and how best to approach them. Features of the various diseases will be taken into account to help guide the practitioner in regards to treatment considerations and prognosis.

Kitty Dermatologic Conundrums, Dr. Joya Griffin

Delve deeper into unusual and complicated feline skin diseases that represent a diagnostic and treatment challenge. Learn how to narrow down differentials and achieve an accurate diagnosis quickly. We will also explore treatment options and how to use multimodal therapy to provide the best outcome for your feline patient.

Topical Therapy in Feline Dermatology, Dr. Alison Diesel

While many feline caregivers balk at the mere thought of bathing their cat, the benefits of topical therapy in the dermatological patient is evident. Thankfully, alternative formulations for dermatological products have surfaced through the years making topical therapy a viable consideration even in the bath-resistant cat. This discussion will highlight some options to consider in the feline patient with skin disease, focusing on specific ingredients and options for use.

Infectious Skin Diseases in the Cat Other Than Ringworm, Dr. Alison Diesel

Dermatophytosis remains a paramount consideration for the cat with skin disease, particularly when alopecia is part of the presenting clinical signs. There are, however, other infectious agents to consider in the dermatological patient, some of which are often forgotten in cats. This discussion will focus on various bacterial, fungal, viral, and other infectious agents in cats with dermatological disease, and highlight some important treatment considerations in this species.

CARDIOLOGY

In the Thick of It: Diagnosis & Management of Feline HCM – Part 1, *Dr. Joshua Stern*

In this session we will dive into the world of feline hypertrophic cardiomyopathy and investigate best practices for the veterinarian. This first of two sessions will focus on the pathophysiology and diagnostic strategies for this often-silent disease. Attendees should expect to leave with a diagnostic strategy for uncovering feline heart disease.

In the Thick of It: Diagnosis & Management of Feline HCM – Part 2, *Dr. Joshua Stern*

This second of two sessions will focus on the management for this disease in both the preclinical and clinical period. Attendees should expect to leave with a therapeutic strategy for feline HCM.

Oral Rapamycin Therapy in Feline Subclinical Hypertrophic Cardiomyopathy: Results of the RAPACAT Clinical Trial,

Dr. Joshua Stern

In this session we will review the outcome of the RAPACAT trial which reports on the use of a novel rapamycin product in the treatment of subclinical HCM. We will discuss the positive study outcomes, study limitations, and the ongoing HALT trial which investigates this drug in a larger population of cats. Practitioners will leave with the knowledge of study outcomes and data needed for the consideration of using this drug in their clinic for HCM patients.

Changing F.A.T.E: Why Saddle Thrombus is No Longer a Death Sentence, *Dr. Joshua Stern*

In this session we will review the updated literature on disease outcomes for cats with saddle thrombus and hypertrophic cardiomyopathy. We will discuss new treatment recommendations and assess prognoses. Practitioners will leave with a plan for the assessment and treatment of feline HCM in the modern era.

Pulmonary Pattern Paradigms & Left-sided CHF in Cats, *Dr. Jaime Rechy, Jr.*

This presentation will be an interactive diagnostic imaging case-based discussion using audience polling software for attendees to practice their skills and commit to a diagnosis on their smart device. Attendees will review the fundamentals of common radiographic pulmonary patterns and distributions seen in patients presenting to the ER, and how to confirm or rule out left-sided cardiac disease using point-of-care ultrasound techniques. Attendees will be asked to review a series of radiographs and ultrasound images, formulate a list of imaging findings, then commit to an imaging diagnosis and medical plan based on the history provided. The instructor will provide feedback on attendees' real-time assessment, reveal the patient's final diagnosis, and open the floor for questions and answers.

Diet & Dilated Cardiomyopathy: What About Cats?, *Dr. Joshua Stern*

Nutrition is an essential consideration in cardiovascular disease of all species. The link between taurine deficiency and feline dilated cardiomyopathy is well established. More recently, diets high in legumes have been implicated in serious cardiovascular disease and death in dogs. This session will investigate the impact of diet on feline heart disease and shed light on the research into high legume diets and heart disease of cats.

DIAGNOSTIC METHODOLOGIES

Just Breathe: A Diagnostic Imaging Approach to Non-Cardiac Respiratory Distress, *Dr. Jaime Rechy Jr.*

This presentation will provide the knowledge and background to understand the fundamentals of how to recognize and diagnose non-cardiac causes of respiratory distress using radiographic and point-of-care ultrasound techniques. Attendees will learn how to recognize the Roentgen signs for the most common pulmonary, pleural space, lower airway, and upper airway diseases one sees in the ER. Then, attendees will be introduced to the approach and interpretation of pulmonary and pleural point-of-care ultrasound with emphasis on recognizing normal glide sign, pneumothorax, and the different types of pulmonary infiltrates.

Unlocking the Power of Genetic Testing for Feline Diseases to Revolutionize Detection, *Dr. Ashlie Saffire*

Decoding a feline patient's DNA is another step in the pursuit of better medicine and optimal quality of life for our patients. It offers a way to identify health risks early so detection doesn't come too late. In this discussion we will review the process of genetic testing, how to incorporate genetic testing in practice, and how to prepare caregivers with a plan when mutations are detected.

Cytologic Diagnosis of Inflammatory & Infectious Diseases in Cats, *Dr. Peter Christopherson*

This session will focus on various inflammatory and infectious diseases that can be diagnosed on cytology preparations. The presentation is case-based with liberal use of cytologic images. Questions are encouraged.

DIAGNOSTIC METHODOLOGIES continued

Current Approach to Examination & Interpretation of the Feline Pancreas with Ultrasonography, Dr. Martha Larson

This lecture will demonstrate to the participant how to find the pancreas on ultrasound using important landmarks. Use of videos will support this lecture. Numerous case examples of the abnormal pancreas will be shown. Acute and chronic pancreatitis, triaditis, and pancreatic neoplasia examples will be shown.

Improving Skills in Diagnosing Obstructive Gastrointestinal Disease in Cats with Radiography, Dr. Martha Larson

This case-based session will show approaches to assessing the gastrointestinal tract in vomiting cats. Cats with both vomiting and diarrhea will also be discussed with examples. Challenging cases will be shown with examples of how to develop next steps. Is it safe to wait? What is expected on fast and repeat radiographs in obstructive versus non-obstructive disease?

Update on Hepatobiliary Disease in Cats: Focus on Ultrasonography in Icteric Cats, Dr. Martha Larson

This session will review hepatobiliary disease with numerous case examples. Cases of primary hepatic disease will be reviewed and emphasis on what to look for in ultrasound scans will be demonstrated. Differentiating hepatic from extrahepatic biliary disease will be reviewed. How to trace the extrahepatic bile ducts will be shown.

Recognizing Airway Disease in Cats: What to Look for & Degrees of Severity & Challenging Cases, Dr. Martha Larson

This session will review how to make a diagnosis of airway disease in cats and discuss both allergic and infectious etiologies and how they can differ radiologically. A thorough review of interpreting the airways in cats with case examples will be shown. Challenging cases will be discussed and with comparisons to CT scans.

TECHNICIAN

Cat Friendly Interactions & Handling for Technicians, Dr. Ilona Rodan

Technicians play a critical part in cooperative interactions with feline patients and caregiver education. The Cat Friendly veterinary interactions and handling minimizes distress, increasing caregiver and veterinary team safety. Feline welfare is promoted throughout the veterinary experience, starting and ending at home. The outcome is improved feline healthcare through more frequent visits and client loyalty. Working cooperatively with cats to promote their physical and emotional safety during veterinary visits also increases team satisfaction, efficiency, and safety.

Feline Dentistry: Proactive Not Reactive, Nichole Dean, CVT

This session will discuss the objectives of feline dentistry, break down the parts of professional preventive oral care, and discuss the importance of home care.

Nerve Blocks: All the Cool Kids are Doing Them!, Nichole Dean, CVT

This session will discuss the benefits of nerve blocks and how they provide better care for our patients. It will also help decide what agents to use and where to use them as well as discuss risks and complications associated with nerve blocks.

Say Cheese! Feline Dental Radiographs, Nichole Dean, CVT

This session will cover the importance of dental imaging, identify normal and abnormal structures, and how to get the best imaging.

Case-based Approach to General Anesthesia in the Cat, Rachel Bassett, CVT

Does anesthesia make you anxious? In this session, we will review the approach to general anesthesia in the feline patient in a case-based lecture. We will review general anesthesia, including intra-operative pain management options. Then, we will bring it all together and apply it to a variety of feline anesthetic cases from the straight-forward, elective procedures to the complex or critical cases presenting with pre-existing conditions that need to be managed.

Anesthesia Monitoring: Troubleshooting & Tips, Rachel Bassett, CVT

Do you struggle with getting your anesthetic monitors to reliably read on your feline patients? In this lecture, we will provide a brief review of physical monitoring followed by a thorough discussion of multi-parameter monitoring techniques and tips.

How Do I Set up This Anesthesia Machine? Argh! @#!%&!^#, Rachel Bassett, CVT

Do you get tachycardic setting up the anesthesia machine? We will review how fresh gas flows through the anesthesia machine, how to set up for patient use, and the commonly used breathing circuits. The lecture will include a demonstration of performing a leak test and common troubleshooting techniques of your anesthesia machine.



Rachel Bassett, AAS, CVT, VTS (Anesthesia & Analgesia)
Animal Emergency & Referral Center of MN, St. Paul, Minnesota



Rachel Bassett's first job in 1999 was at a bovine practice in southwest Minnesota. From 2001 to 2013, she worked in the surgery, anesthesia, and oncology departments at the University of Minnesota. She earned her VTS certification in anesthesia and analgesia in 2008. Rachel worked part-time for the Animal Emergency & Referral Center of Minnesota (AERC) from 2002 through 2010 and returned full-time in 2013. Rachel enjoys all things anesthesia and has a primary interest in pain management. As the Equipment Manager, she oversees more than 1,000 pieces of medical equipment among three hospitals. She manages repairs and maintenance, and procures additional equipment. She enjoys the biomedical side of veterinary medicine, and understanding how our medical equipment supports our patients physiologically. She gives back to the veterinary community by speaking at various veterinary conferences and webinars throughout the year, and has contributed to medical journals and book chapters.



Peter Christopherson, DVM, PhD, DACVP
Auburn University, Auburn, Alabama



Dr. Pete Christopherson, Professor in the Department of Pathobiology, earned his DVM from the University of Wisconsin-Madison in 2001. He did a combined clinical pathology residency and graduate training program at Auburn University. Dr. Christopherson received board certification by American College of Veterinary Pathologists in 2007, and in 2008 he earned a PhD in research on inherited bleeding disorders in veterinary species under the mentorship of Dr. Mary Boudreaux. Dr. Christopherson subsequently joined the faculty at Auburn University at the end of 2008 and is now the director of the Auburn University Clinical Pathology & Hemostasis Laboratories. His areas of interest include evaluating the genetic basis for congenital bleeding disorders and diagnostic cytology.



Nichole Dean, CVT, VTS (Dentistry)
VCA, Spring Valley, Minnesota

Nichole Dean became a Certified Veterinary Technician in 2012 and earned her VTS in dentistry in 2018. She has loved animals from a young age and greatly appreciates the human-animal bond. She has committed to improving the quality of life for pets by educating caregivers and veterinary healthcare professionals about oral health for pets. For 11 years she worked in a practice setting with patients and caregivers. She has had the opportunity to educate other technicians about dentistry and dental radiology through lectures and wet labs. Currently, Nichole work as a Scribe for VCA creating medical records for specialists and as a relief technician for Blue Pearl.



Alison Diesel, DVM, DACVD
Animal Dermatology Clinic, Austin, Texas



Dr. Alison Diesel is a board-certified veterinary dermatologist in Austin, Texas. She graduated from Kansas State University College of Veterinary Medicine in 2005, completed a rotating internship in Norwalk, Connecticut, followed by a three-year residency in dermatology at the University of Wisconsin-Madison School of Veterinary Medicine in 2010. She taught at Texas A&M University School of Veterinary Medicine and Biomedical Sciences for 12 years prior to transitioning into private dermatology practice. Her main clinical interests lie in feline dermatoses, particularly feline allergic skin diseases, and expanding knowledge of the cutaneous microbiome in companion animals. She is additionally heavily invested in improving and promoting wellness in the veterinary profession. She is currently serving as President-elect for the American College of Veterinary Dermatology.



Joya Griffin, DVM, DACVD
Animal Dermatology Clinic, Louisville, Kentucky



Dr. Joya Griffin is an Ohio native who graduated from Cornell University College of Veterinary Medicine. After graduating, she completed a rotating internship in Chicago and then returned to Cornell for a dermatology residency and then served one year as an instructor. She became a Diplomate of the College of Veterinary Dermatology in 2010 and joined Animal Dermatology Clinic in Louisville. Dr. Griffin is the star of Pop Goes the Vet with Dr. Joya on NatGeoWILD and Disney Plus. She loves mentoring and teaching students of all ages and lecturing at local, national, and international conferences on all things dermatology.



Martha Larson, DVM, MS, DACVR
Virginia-Maryland College of Veterinary Medicine, Blacksburg, VA

Dr. Martha Moon Larson received her DVM from Ohio State University. Dr. Moon Larson then completed an internship at Animal Medical Center, in addition to completing her MS and Radiology residency, also at Ohio State University. She has been ACVR board certified since 1987. She was a practicing Radiologist at Virginia-Maryland Regional College of Veterinary Medicine, Virginia Tech since 1986; where she is Professor Emeritus and retired last year. Her interests include: abdominal ultrasound, especially feline biliary and pancreatic disease; thoracic radiology and ultrasound.



Susan Little, DVM, DABVP (Feline)
Bytown Cat Hospital, Ottawa, Canada

Dr. Susan Little has been in feline practice since 1990 and has been board-certified since 1997. She is co-owner of two feline practices in Ottawa, Canada. She is a Past President of the AAFP and has received the Canadian Veterinary Medical Association Small Animal practitioner award, the NAVC Small Animal Speaker of the Year award, and the International Society of Feline Medicine/Hill's Pet Nutrition Award award for outstanding contributions to feline medicine. She is the editor and co-author of two textbooks: *The Cat – Clinical Medicine and Management* and *August's Consultations in Feline Internal Medicine, Volume 7*.

Distinguished Speakers



Jessica Quimby, DVM, PhD, DACVIM The Ohio State University, Columbus, Ohio

Dr. Jessica Quimby is a professor at The Ohio State University who is board-certified in small animal internal medicine and specializes in feline nephrology. Dr. Quimby has received the International Renal Interest Society Award and the AVMF/Winn Feline Foundation Research Award for her contributions to nephrology and feline medicine. In 2021, she was selected to serve on the IRIS Board. She is also Co-medical Editor of the AAFP's magazine, *The Feline Practitioner*.



Jaime Rechy Jr., DVM, DACVR Radiology at Veterinary Emergency Group, Nashville, Tennessee

Dr. Jaime Rechy Jr. is the Chief of Radiology at Veterinary Emergency Group (VEG). He received his Bachelor of Science and Doctor of Veterinary Medicine degrees from Texas A&M University. He completed a small animal rotating internship at the University of Tennessee, followed by a radiology residency at North Carolina State University. Dr. Rechy joined VEG after working in a busy specialty and emergency pet hospital, where he helped create a radiology department and mobile ultrasound unit while also leading the intern house officer program. He currently serves as a member and chair of multiple committees in the ACVR, reviews manuscripts for JAVMA/AJVR/VRU, and enjoys speaking and teaching at national conferences. Dr. Rechy has a passion for developing and delivering engaging educational content. In fact, he is completing a learning certificate program through Duke University to further improve his educational material using evidence-based methods.



Ilona Rodan, DVM, DABVP (Feline), AdvCertFB Cat Behavior Solutions, LLC, Madison, Wisconsin

Dr. Ilona Rodan is an ABVP certified feline specialist, with advanced training and AdvCertFB certification in feline behavior. She is the founder and director of Cat Behavior Solutions, and former owner and medical director of Cat Care Clinic in Madison, Wisconsin. Dr. Rodan is passionate about teaching veterinarians and veterinary teams about feline behavior, an important component of medicine, and how best to interact with and handle cats in veterinary practices, both enhancing feline welfare and human safety. She has presented nationally and internationally on feline medicine and behavior over the past 19 years and leads workshops for Cat Friendly Interactions and Handling. She is the chair of the AAFP Feline Welfare Committee, and a long-term AAFP volunteer, a Past President, and former chair of the AAFP Cat Friendly Practice® Committee. She co-chaired several guidelines and welfare position statements, including the *2022 AAFP/ISFM Cat Friendly Veterinary Interactions and Handling Guidelines*, and the upcoming *2024 AAFP Intercat Tension Guidelines*. She has authored journal articles and book chapters, and is a co-editor and co-author of the 2015 textbook, *Feline Behavioral Health and Welfare*. In 2005, Dr. Rodan was awarded the AVMA Animal Welfare Award for her leadership and contributions to advancing feline medicine and behavior.



Ashlie Saffire, DVM, DABVP (Feline) Cat Specialty Center at Faithful Friends Veterinary Clinic, Dublin, Ohio

Dr. Ashlie Saffire is a graduate of The Ohio State College of Veterinary Medicine and is board-certified in feline practice by the American Board of Veterinary Practitioners. She is a published author, serves as President-elect of the American Association of Feline Practitioners, and is a tutor for the University of Sydney's Feline Medicine Distance Education Course. She has obtained the Cat Friendly Veterinarian® certificate, is Fear Free certified, and is the owner of the Cat Specialty Center at Faithful Friends Veterinary Clinic, a Gold Level Cat Friendly Practice® in Dublin, Ohio. As an invited speaker, Dr. Saffire hopes to share her clinical experience and expertise in feline medicine with the veterinary profession.



Kelly St. Denis, MSc, DVM, DABVP (Feline) St. Denis Veterinary Professional Corporation, Brantford, Ontario

Dr. Kelly St. Denis is board-certified with the ABVP in the specialty of feline practice. In her early career she trained in molecular biology and immunology, and in the field of cancer research. In 1999, she graduated from the Ontario Veterinary College, and owned and operated the Charing Cross Cat Clinic from 2007 to 2020. Dr. St. Denis was President of the AAFP in 2020 and 2021, and continues to be an active volunteer in the organization including Co-medical Editor of *The Feline Practitioner* and *Journal of Feline Medicine and Surgery*. Dr. St. Denis is a consultant on the Veterinary Information Network in feline internal medicine.



Joshua Stern, DVM, PhD, DACVIM (Cardiology) North Carolina State University College of Veterinary Medicine, Raleigh, North Carolina

Dr. Joshua Stern serves as the Associate Dean and Director for Research and Graduate Studies at North Carolina State University College of Veterinary Medicine. He is also a Professor of Cardiology in the Department of Clinical Sciences at NCSU and leads the Stern Translational Cardiac Genetics and Pharmacogenomics Laboratory. The Stern Laboratory is dedicated to changing the outcome of feline hypertrophic cardiomyopathy and bringing hope to cats and cat caregivers dealing with this devastating disease.

