

Saturday July 18, 2020

07:30 – 08:15	Arrival and Registration
08:30 – 09:30 Megan Brashear	Critically Important Critical Thinking Skills Veterinary nursing requires more than simply checking off boxes on treatment sheets, it involves thinking through the reasons for and the expectations from each treatment performed. This lecture will cover not only the importance of learning to think critically with every patient interaction, but uses case studies to allow the audience to practice these skills and see how they can help in real life situations.
09:30 – 10:30 Elle Haskey	Approach to the Seizuring Patient Patients can seizure due to intracranial or extracranial causes. These cases often require prompt stabilisation before investigations are performed. This lecture will cover the classification and common causes of seizure, the initial management and ongoing nursing considerations which should be factored into the patient care plan.
10:30 – 11:00	MORNING TEA
11:00 – 11:45 Megan Brashear	Basic ECG Interpretation Utilizing videos, photos, and real patient ECG strips, this lecture will describe and explain the most common ECG abnormalities encountered in emergency and critical care. Starting with a quick review of a normal ECG complex, attendees will work through rate, rhythm, and waves for a variety of arrhythmias. Once identified, common clinical signs and emergency treatment for each arrhythmia will be discussed. An emphasis will be placed on quick recognition of true emergencies and preparation of treatment.
11:45 – 12:30 Dr Delisa Appelton	Knowledge is our First Ingredient - how to debunk nutritional misinformation, myths and opinions
12:30 – 13:30	LUNCH
13:30 – 14:45 Cat Robinson	
14:45 – 15:45 Elle Haskey	Nursing AKI Patients Acute kidney injury (AKI) can be a presenting condition of the emergency patient and also a complication in some hospitalised critical patients. This session will review the physiology, current veterinary grading systems and common causes AKI. Nurses should be aware of how the diagnosis of AKI is made and how to deliver nursing care to patients which are affected. Severe cases may be candidates for haemodialysis.
15:45 – 16:45 Elle Haskey	Nursing Coagulopathic Patients Coagulation abnormalities are common in the emergency and critical care patient. These patients often require hospitalisation and intensive nursing care. This lecture will look at common causes for both primary and secondary coagulation disorders, treatment options and the nursing considerations.



Sunday July 19, 2020

08:30 – 09:30 Elle Haskey	Approach to the Trauma Patient Trauma is a common cause for the emergency patient to present to the clinic. Trauma can cause a range of injuries including neurological conditions, pneumothorax, ruptured bladder and wounds. This lecture will cover patient assessment where life threatening injuries are identified and common stabilisation techniques. It will also focus on the important parameters which should be monitored and integrated into the nursing care plan.
09:30 – 10:30 Elle Haskey	Blood Transfusions The administration of blood products is becoming increasingly common in veterinary clinics. Veterinary nurses are often involved in both the donation and administration process. This lecture will focus on when it is appropriate to administer blood products, how to make this process safe for the patient, how to take a donation and considerations for administration including monitoring for signs of a transfusion reaction.
10:30 – 11:00	MORNING TEA
11:00 – 11:45 Megan Brashear	The Basics of Medical Math Veterinary technicians are responsible for medical calculations – how comfortable are you with your math skills? This lecture will begin with the basics of drug calculations and advance to fluid additives and an introduction to more complicated CRI math. Attendees will learn to not only manage drug infusions but also be comfortable with “reversing” the math and checking their math. Bring a calculator!
11:45 – 12:30 Megan Brashear	The Pharmacology of Cardiac Drugs With multiple classes of drugs treating a variety of conditions, keeping up with cardiac medications can be a challenge for the nursing team. This lecture will discuss the various classes of drugs and the pharmacology of how these drugs elicit the effect they do. Particular attention is paid to patient monitoring and side effects to watch. Technicians will find themselves with more confidence both in the treatment room and when discharging cardiac patients home with their owners.
12:30 – 13:15 Elle Haskey	CPR Cardiopulmonary resuscitation (CPR) can be a lifesaving procedure. It is vital that veterinary nurses understand the principles of how to carry it out effectively. Preparedness is a key and staff and equipment must be ready for CPR at any time! The team should understand the differences between basic life support (BLS) and advanced life support (ALS). This lecture will cover the most important aspects of CPR and highlight the important role of the veterinary nurse in this procedure.
13:15 – 14:15	LUNCH
14:15 – 15:15 Megan Brashear	Understanding Fluid Therapy Not all IV fluids are created equal, and not every type of fluids is appropriate for every patient. This lecture will explain not only the make-up of fluids, but when to use each type, where fluids go once they enter the body, how to calculate IV fluids and drug additives, and monitoring patients on fluid therapy. The lecture will conclude with case studies and audience participation to determine patient fluid needs.
15:15 – 16:15 Megan Brashear	Direct and Compassionate Communication Direct communication is vital to managers but can be one of the biggest challenges when talking to employees, peers, and clients. Taught by a reformed passive aggressive communicator, this lecture will use case studies to illustrate the benefits of saying what you mean the first time, and how to get your point across while still maintaining your compassion and sanity.