

UQ VETS Newsletter

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Events

CE Workshops & Events



- [28 March 2017](#) - Diagnosing and managing Equine Metabolic Syndrome (for Veterinarians)

[Find out more](#)

VETERINARY LABORATORY SERVICES

The pathology team at UQ is available to support all veterinary practitioners as well as the excellent work done by the groups in the Veterinary Medical Centre. UQ's pathology team includes specialist anatomic and clinical pathologists, parasitologists, microbiologists, and molecular pathologists, making us one of the most comprehensive pathology teams in Queensland.

As well as specialist personnel, we have laboratories containing state of the art equipment for diagnostics and research, including a large haematology analyser, a brand-new biochemistry analyser, urinalysis and coagulation testing equipment, a comprehensive microbiology service including oversight by a specialist microbiologist, and a molecular testing facility (i.e. PCR analysis). Other, more specialised, equipment is available on a case-by-case basis (e.g. flow cytometer, liquid chromatography with mass spectrometry, fluorescence microscopy).

This year, we are planning to add an advanced hormone/endocrine testing analyser to the suite of machines available for daily use. This will allow more rapid and accurate diagnosis for common endocrine diseases including canine hyperadrenocorticism and hypoadrenocorticism, canine hypothyroidism, feline hyperthyroidism, and equine pituitary pars intermedia dysfunction. It will also help in the monitoring, early detection, and determining prognosis for equine patients with equine metabolic syndrome and laminitis, as well as helping determine the perfect dates for mating and insemination protocols in many different species.

The analyser will also be available for research projects on equine metabolic syndrome and laminitis, reproductive health, animal welfare, canine and feline endocrine disease, and diseases that cause increased inflammatory markers.

The diagnostic laboratories perform testing for all patients admitted to the Veterinary Medical Centre, as well as samples submitted by veterinarians external to the University. Please contact VLS or visit our website to enquire about available testing and pricing.

Veterinary Laboratory Services

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The University of Queensland
GATTON QLD 4343

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Office Hours: 8:30am - 4:30pm, Monday to Friday



Jess - the success of teamwork

We would like to highlight the team effort that is required in all cases – not only between the different departments of UQ VETS, but also with the referring veterinarian and owner. A co-ordinated team effort between the owner, the referring veterinarian and UQ VETS internal medicine, surgery, diagnostic imaging, anaesthesia and emergency and critical care departments was necessary for the successful and rewarding treatment of Jess, a border collie who had diseases of her respiratory, cardiac, hepatic and endocrine systems.

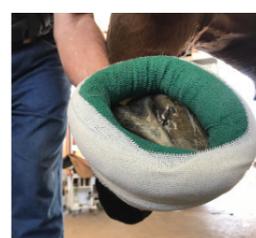
[Read the full story](#)



1976517.jpg Case Study - Solar penetrating injury

Solar penetrating wounds are a common cause of injury and sepsis in the horse. Simple injuries involve just the sub solar soft tissues including the horn of the foot and digital cushion, which often present as solar abscesses or 'nail prick'. More serious complications can arise following deeper passage of a foreign body and penetration of synovial structures.

[Read the full story](#)



Case Study - Lead toxicosis in avian patients

Birds of all species are among the most inquisitive animals on the planet; their only problem is that, unlike humans who can explore new things by touch, birds use their beaks and tongue to examine unfamiliar objects. Lead and other heavy metals are a common household hazard for birds. A recent theory has postulated that lead may taste similar to calcium – as most pet birds are fed calcium deficient diets, their craving for calcium may explain why lead is so attractive to them.

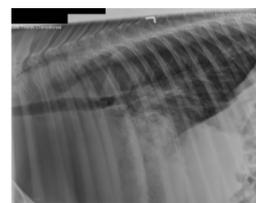
[Read the full story](#)



1976517.jpg Case Study - Progressive weakness in Welsh pony filly

A 4-day old Welsh pony filly was referred on emergency to UQ VETS Equine Specialty Hospital for progressive weakness. The filly was born at full term with no complications. However, after two days, the filly became weak and febrile. The following day, the filly was administered colostrum through a nasogastric tube and referred to UQ VETS Equine Specialist Hospital.

[Read the full story](#)



Case Study - From the Negative to the Positive: Dealing with Dachshund Spines

A 5-year-old MN Dachshund presented to his veterinarian one morning with a history of suddenly yelping, walking a few steps, and then being unable to use his hind legs. No major jump/running event had occurred, and the owner has three other dachshunds that are healthy. The dachshund's veterinarian found bilateral hind limb paralysis and immediately referred to the UQ VETS Small Animal Hospital Surgical Service given his high clinical suspicion that the dachshund was suffering from Type 1 Intervertebral Disc Disease given his breed and acute onset of signs.

[Read the full story](#)



Learn more about UQ VETS staff

Equine Specialist Hospital

Dr Carlos Medina

Dr Carlos E Medina Torres graduated as a veterinarian and completed an internship in large animal medicine and surgery at the Large Animal Clinic, National University of Colombia (Bogotá, Colombia) in April 2003. Following graduation he completed a Master of Science by Research in equine laminitis at The University of Liverpool (UK) in December 2004. He then moved to North America, conducted research in equine colitis and obtained a Doctor of Veterinary Science degree at the Ontario Veterinary College, University of Guelph (Canada) in June 2009. During his time in Ontario, he also enrolled in an American College of Veterinary Internal Medicine (ACVIM)-approved residency program in the specialty of Large Animal Internal Medicine.



After completing the residency, Carlos moved back to his home city of Bogotá, where he worked in his own *Alma Mater* as Internal Medicine Specialist for a year. He then changed the Andean altitude and hectic South American megatropolis for the Mediterranean, spending a year at The University of Messina (Italy). From the island of Sicily, Carlos moved 'down under' for the first time in March 2011 and spent three years in the sunshine state, completing a PhD in equine laminitis at The University of Queensland. Following his PhD, he worked as clinical instructor and research associate in the Equine Hospital, Ludwig-Maximilians-University Munich (Germany). During his time in Munich, he became a member of the European College of Equine Internal Medicine (ECEIM). After nearly three years in the land of "lederhosen, dirndls und weißbier", Carlos is now excited to rejoin The University of Queensland as an equine internal medicine specialist.

Carlos is a diplomate of both the ACVIM and the ECEIM. He has a particular medical interest in gastrointestinal and cardiorespiratory problems of the horse. His research focuses in the fields of equine laminitis and infectious diseases. He is looking forward to discussing any of these topics with referring veterinarians, so just call **07 5460 1788** or [email](#).

Diagnostic Imaging Team

UQ VETS is the only veterinary practice in Queensland with a dedicated, specialised Diagnostic Imaging Team, including two full-time veterinary radiographers on staff.

Jade Vellacott graduated from Queensland University of Technology with a Bachelor of Medical Imaging Science and began her career in human radiography before making the change to veterinary medicine. She brings with her adaptive radiographic skills and specialty knowledge in Computed Tomography (CT). Having a radiographer with extensive knowledge in radiation safety and radiographic procedures, we are able to provide veterinary science and veterinary technology students with a comprehensive and unique learning experience.



Brittney Bignell comes from a veterinary background with a Bachelor of Applied Science (extended major in Veterinary Technology) from The University of Queensland. With a passion for equine patients in particular, she rounds out the team with her animal-specific training and experience.

Having diverse expertise prepares our radiographers for any matter of specialty imaging requirements. Our imaging team supports the primary accession and specialty services in both the Small Animal and Equine Specialist Hospitals, and aims to provide high quality medical imaging to all patients with the greatest of care, thereby facilitating accurate diagnoses and optimised patient management.

In the News

Northern Australian beef industry to benefit from new UQ facilities

A new, state-of-the-art facility at Darbalara will be an important training centre for students in handling and production management of tropically adapted beef cattle.



The complex includes cattle yards and a teaching building on the 184 ha farm, which is also used for grazing and forage crop production.

[Find out more >>](#)

Innovative UQ veterinary science teacher attracts national award

An inspirational University of Queensland teacher who is held in high regard by his students has been recognised with a 2016 award for teaching excellence in the Federal Government's Australian Awards for University Teaching.



Professor Paul Mills, of UQ's School of Veterinary Science and a UQ veterinary science graduate (1987) is a veterinary pharmacologist and an internationally-recognised leader in innovative veterinary education.

[Find out more >>](#)

Milestone event marks students' transition to final year and professional practice

128 University of Queensland veterinary students have received clinical coats at a milestone ceremony during their academic careers, held recently at the University's Gatton campus.



Head of the School of Veterinary Science Professor Glen Coleman said the Clinical Coats Ceremony celebrated the important transition that UQ veterinary students made at the end of the fourth year of the Bachelor of Veterinary Science (Honours) program.

[Find out more >>](#)



[Small Animal Hospital](#)



[Equine Specialist Hospital](#)

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