

UQ VETS Newsletter

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Events

CE Workshops & Events



- 26 July 2017:
[UQ VETS Vet Nurses & Technicians Seminar - Dystocia and Foal Nursing](#)
- 29 Aug 2017:
[UQ VETS Equine CE Seminar](#)
- 14 Oct 2017:
[UQ VETS Veterinary Nurse Conference 2017](#)

[Find out more](#)

VETERINARY LABORATORY SERVICES

The Veterinary Laboratory Services (VLS) is excited to announce that in May 2017 the Immulite 1000 analyser was successfully installed within the VLS Diagnostic Laboratory at the University of Queensland, Gatton Campus. This analyser compliments the suite of diagnostics already available including haematology, biochemistry, urinalysis, coagulation testing, and on-site pathologists available for case review and cytology evaluations.

The Immulite 1000 is an immunoassay analyser used to measure hormonal assays, markers of inflammation, and other biomarkers used for both veterinary diagnostics and research. Analytes which we now have running routinely include total T4, cortisol, progesterone, ACTH, and insulin. They can be requested as stand-alone tests at the price of \$45/test or at reduced fees when included in some diagnostic panels (e.g. CBC/biochem + TT4), when multiple tests are requested over a short period of time (e.g. ovulation timing), or in research settings.

Excitingly for equine clinicians we are able to offer ACTH and insulin at a much reduced price compared to other diagnostic laboratories (\$45 rather than \$60-90 depending on the laboratory) and at an often much faster turnaround time (within 2 days). In concert with our team of equine internal medicine specialists, VLS also plan over the next year on developing internally validated, locally and seasonally relevant reference intervals and interpretive guidelines for these analytes. This will ensure that as a laboratory, VLS have the best ability to accurately diagnose equine PPID (pituitary pars intermedia dysfunction) and EMS (equine metabolic syndrome) in South-East Queensland.

If you have any questions about sample submission or timing please contact the VLS using the contact details below.

Veterinary Laboratory Services

School of Veterinary Science
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GATTON QLD 4343

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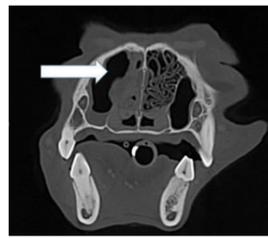
Fax: +61 7 5460 1540

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



Small Animal Case Study: Solving a sinus problem

Matey, an 8yo MN Brittany Spaniel, was referred to the UQ VETS Small Animal Internal Medicine service by his regular vet with a one month history of sneezing a nasal discharge. He had not improved after a course of antibiotics. A CT scan was performed of Matey's nose and frontal sinuses. The changes on his CT scan were suggested of an erosive rhinitis with loss of the turbinates (see arrow in image) and mild fluid accumulation in the frontal sinus. The CT scan was followed with a rhinoscopy procedure. The rhinoscopy revealed fungal plaques deep in the nasal cavity. The plaques were classically suggestive of nasal aspergillosis.



[Read the full story](#)

1976517.jpg Equine Case Study: Non healing equine wounds

Over the last month we have seen 3 cases of Habronema in horses presented to UQ VETS Equine Specialist Hospital. Typically non healing wounds are seen around the face, legs and even the penis/sheath. Habronema are parasitic worms that lay eggs in the horse's stomach. The eggs are passed in the faeces and hatch into larva. Maggots of various fly species then ingest the worm larvae. The Habronema larva mature in the maggot which then hatches into a fly. Flies are attracted to wounds and moist areas around the lips, eyes and penis of horses.



[Read the full story](#)



Small Animal Case Study: When GDV's get complicated

Gastric dilatation and volvulus (GDV) in dogs is a true emergency. When these dogs have complications such as gastric necrosis requiring resection, they become true intensive critical care cases.

'Beau' a 4 year-old male neutered Dalmatian developed one of the most severely dilated GDVs seen by the staff UQ VETS Small Animal Hospital. He was at increased risk of developing life-threatening complications, including disseminated intravascular coagulation (DIC), arrhythmias, peritonitis and systemic inflammatory response syndrome (SIRS).



[Read the full story](#)

1976517.jpg Equine Case Study: Exostosis of the caudal distal radial physis

Bony protrusion along the caudal radial physis can impinge on the carpal canal resulting in tenosynovitis and lameness. Horses with this condition often develop severe intermittent lameness and effusion of the carpal canal after exercise. The lameness can resolve within hours or days and make a clinical diagnosis challenging. A diagnosis is generally made based on clinical appearance and diagnostic imaging techniques such as scintigraphy, radiography, CT, ultrasonography and tenoscopy.



[Read the full story](#)



Avian and Exotics Case Study: A saltie with a fracture

The Avian and Exotic Pet Service sees a lot of unusual pets – for example, this month we have had in hospital a macaw, a wild corella, a kangaroo joey, a wombat, and a crocodile!

The 15-month old Estuarine crocodile, commonly known as a Salt Water crocodile or a Saltie, is from a wildlife park on Brisbane. Weighing only 1.8kg, it was referred for treatment for a fractured humerus. It is not clear how the injury occurred, but a crocodile can be a very active animal, and it likely took a tumble and landed badly.

After discussions between the surgery team and the avian and exotics team, the decision was made to repair the fracture with a 'tie-in' fixator – a combination of an intra-medullary pin and an external fixator. The procedure was fairly delicate – the bone was only 5cms long and 5mm wide – and took 2 hours from induction to post-operative



radiographs. Under the watchful eyes of Gary Fitzgerald, Rebecca de Gier, and Sharbrina Zulkifli (Vet Tech Honours student) the anaesthetic was smooth and uneventful. Bob Doneley performed the surgery – one he has performed many times in birds, but the first time in a crocodile!

The croc will be going home shortly, returning in 6-8 weeks for the pin to be removed.



Production Animal Case Study: Heifer with an umbilical mass

A 4-month-old Holstein heifer from the UQ Gatton Campus Dairy was presented to UQ VETS Production Animal Service for an umbilical mass.



Distance and close examination provided following observations:

- A firm, moderately painful, abdominal mass from which a small amount of pus was draining,
- A 2-finger-wide defect in the abdominal wall abdominal cranially to the mass,
- Small and frequent urination,
- Sediment at the tip of the vulva hairs.

[Read the full story](#)

Learn more about UQ VETS staff

Equine Specialist Hospital

Dr Allison Stewart BVSc (hons 1), MS, DACVIM, DACVECC

Registered Specialist in Equine Internal Medicine and Emergency and Critical Care-Large Animal



Allison has recently joined the faculty at UQ. She has 15 years' experience working as an equine specialist in US university referral teaching hospitals, and just as importantly, 5 years of mixed practice experience in Australia. Allison has presented research throughout the world in the areas of equine endocrinology, fungal disease, neurology, infectious disease and pharmacology.

She has a clinical interest in large animal emergency and critical care, neurology, endocrinology, cardiology, ophthalmology, infectious disease (especially fungal), ultrasonography and endoscopy. As a clinician scientist, Allison loves involving veterinary students in research to answer practical clinical problems that can benefit equids throughout the world.

Equine Specialist Hospital

Dr Annie Rose

Annie Rose is a graduate from The University of Queensland. After graduation, Annie worked in small animal practice followed by an internship at The University of Melbourne, where her interest in Diagnostic Imaging began.



Annie then worked at The University of Queensland Small Animal Clinic, in the radiology section for nearly 15 years, as both a clinician and clinical teacher. During this time, Annie also had the opportunity to work overseas in short term positions at The Ohio State University and The Animal Health Trust.

Annie has now returned to UQ having spent the last three years at The University of Melbourne where she completed a residency in Diagnostic Imaging. Annie continues to enjoy all aspects of Diagnostic Imaging, particularly abdominal ultrasound.

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

Your dog days are over: new gift helps treat pets at UQ

A donation of state-of-the-art equipment to UQ VETS Small Animal Hospital has empowered the University's staff and students, while also improving the outcomes of the animals they treat.



A dog named Sparkie was the first patient to benefit from a generous donation by alumna Hilary Huey (Diploma in Physical Education '70) that funded the purchase of diagnostic equipment.

[Find out more >>](#)

UQ vet helps all creatures feathered, furry and slithery

An average day at work for former Toowoomba veterinarian The University of Queensland's [Associate Professor Bob Doneley](#) can see him treating injured venomous snakes or applying braces to the beak of a South American macaw.



Or you might find him conducting routine health checks on birds; removing a cancerous kidney from a python; working on injured joeys; checking dental disease in guinea pigs; or teaching veterinary and veterinary technology students how to care for animals.

[Find out more >>](#)

Project works to boost Chinese livestock welfare

The welfare of millions of animals in China – which raises and slaughters more livestock than any other nation – is the focus of a project led by The University of Queensland's [School of Veterinary Science](#).



Project manager and PhD student [Michelle Sinclair](#) said the [Animal Welfare Standards Project](#) involved UQ researchers working with Chinese industry professionals to improve the welfare of animals during farming and slaughter.

[Find out more >>](#)



[Small Animal Hospital](#)



[Equine Specialist Hospital](#)

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