1-1-1987

New Anesthesia Teaching Aids

This paper is posted at ScholarlyCommons. http://repository.upenn.edu/bellwether/vol1/iss22/15
For more information, please contact libraryrepository@pobox.upenn.edu.
Zoonoses

There are over 150 diseases which can be transmitted from animals to man (zoonoses). Some are nationwide public health problems. The public press has exaggerated the importance of others or, in some cases, reported unproven association as fact. Following are some brief notes on a few different zoonoses.

Rabies is a zoonotic disease of national importance. It may affect any warm-blooded animal, and may create public health problems. The public practices in infection. Wild animals should not be kept as pets. Enforcement of animal control laws should be strict.

Animal bites are one of the most common pet-associated zoonoses. In addition to the possibility of rabies and tetanus, they can result in painful wound infection. Wild animals should not be kept as pets. Enforcement of animal control laws should be strict.

Toxoplasmosis is another disease which can be caused by exposure to infective oocysts in the feces of cats, as well as by eating infected meat. It is unfortunate that some reports have been misinterpreted. The most severe consequence in humans is transplacental transfer of the parasite to the fetus. Daily emptying of litter boxes and prompt disposal of waste can minimize exposure.

Typhoid fever and Salmonellosis are diseases of children caused by larvae of roundworms (Toxocara sp.). It is usually contracted by children eating dirt contaminated with embryonated ascariid eggs passed by dogs and cats. Treatment for ascariids in kittens and puppies should be routine, and prompt disposal of waste can minimize exposure.

Insecticides

There have been reports about adverse reactions to products sold over-the-counter for flea and tick control. Many times this could have been avoided if directions were carefully followed. READ THE LABELS! Never mix chemicals or increase recommended amounts. Use the products at recommended intervals.

It has been suggested that a new product should be tested on a small area. It is known that some animals react differently than others. Products safe on dogs might be toxic to cats. Different breeds may react differently.

Flea and tick control is an ongoing process. It requires treatment of the environment as well as the animal. House and yard must be sprayed or fogged. Empty and spray vacuum cleaner bags. Don't forget the inside of the car if the animal rides with you.

Professional advice may be necessary for satisfactory results. But if you do it yourself, follow directions on the package.

If you suspect poisoning, call a poison control center. Check your telephone directory for a local number. The Illinois Animal Poison Information Center is another source of information. Their telephone is 217-333-3611. Be sure to have the label of the suspected product when you call.

New Anesthesia Teaching Aids

The anesthesiaology course during the spring semester will be more interesting, thanks to a computer and programs illustrating principles of anesthesiaology and situations one may encounter in the operating room. The Animal Rescue League of Philadelphia provided the School with funds to purchase a computer and a host of anesthesiaology teaching programs.

"Anesthesiaology is a difficult subject to grasp in lectures," said Dr. Alan Klide, associate professor of anesthesiaology. "The concepts are hard to understand and these programs will illustrate them on the computer screen." The programs teach the uptake and distribution of inhaled anesthetics. The students have to choose the amounts of vaporizer, oxygen, and anesthetic for a hypothetical patient. The program plots the effects of drugs over time and provides a curve. If the student chooses an improper amount of drugs or oxygen the graph will reflect it and corrections can be made. "The programs illustrate on the screen the effects of various substances and make it easier to understand the concepts involved," said Dr. Klide. "They will also make the course more interesting."

The computer will also be used to demonstrate different anesthesia techniques. For example, at Penn's Vet School closed-circuit anesthesia with low oxygen flow is used. This requires a minimum of anesthetics. Another method is to use a larger amount of anesthetics, and this can be simulated on the computer so that students can be familiar with both techniques.

"The programs also allow us to demonstrate how drug action varies from patient to patient. We can select a hypothetical patient and assign all kinds of values, simulating a critical situation," said Dr. Klide. "Anesthesia has to be individualized for each patient, and these programs allow the students to practice this and observe the results on the screen."

The new teaching aids will be used in rounds and will be utilized in an elective for small animal anesthesia. "They allow us to prepare the students more thoroughly for the actual situations they may encounter when participating in anesthesia and surgery. They will be familiar with the various drugs' actions and will be able to evaluate a situation much more quickly. These programs are great teaching aids and will enable us to teach things that previously could only be learned through experience."
Cold Weather Reminders

Every year there are reports of antifreeze poisoning. It is very toxic for dogs, yet they seem to love it. Be careful where you drain radiators, and seek prompt veterinary attention if any antifreeze is ingested. Salt and other products used to melt ice can cause sore feet, especially in city dogs. They have webbed toes, and the lemon-colored coat has a pronounced mane or ruff on the neck. The breed was developed in Germany from a Newfoundland-St. Bernard cross, with some Great Pyrenees added. They are trustworthy guard dogs.

The Fila Brasiliens is the most popular breed in Brazil today. It is a large, strong guard dog weighing 100 pounds and is nearly 30 inches high. The Fila is not a breed for everyone. It is very wary and distrustful of strangers but good with its family.

The Nova Scotia Duck Tolling Retriever is a small retrieving breed about 20 inches high and weighing under 50 pounds. It is described as "wonderful companions, great children's playmates, super obedience dogs, flashy show dogs and fun to own." When hunting, the toller attracts game by running back and forth, usually retrieving a "tolling stick" thrown by the hunter.

The Catahoula Leopard Dog is a native American breed. It is the Official State Dog of Louisiana. It is a medium to large breed, about 25 inches in height. The breed's most distinctive feature is its white or "glass" eye. It comes in a wide range of colors, preferably with leopard spotting. The Catahoula is a multi-purpose breed "for excellence." It has an inherent desire to herd livestock, has been used for hunting large and small game, is a superb home guardian and a great family or child's companion.

The Czech or Cesky Terrier was "invented" by crossing the Scottish Terrier and Sealyham. Its color is blue or brown. About ten inches tall and weighing under 20 pounds, the Czech Terrier is a household companion, an avid hunter and a good show dog.

The Shiba is an ancient Japanese breed. It is an active and alert small dog that can adapt well to city or country living. It is related to, but smaller than the Akita. It comes in many colors, but red is the most popular. The breed has a distinctive "foxxy" appearance with prick ears and tail curling over the back.

There are chapters on the Beauceron, Kareliao Terrier, Hungarian Vizsla, and many more. It all makes very interesting reading and provides useful information about rare and unusual breeds.

Eighteenth Annual Symposium

The Eighteenth Annual Symposium, Your Veterinarian and Your Dogs, will be presented January 30, 1988, at the Veterinary Hospital of the University of Pennsylvania, Philadelphia.

During the day-long event, four faculty members will discuss canine medical topics. Dr. Betty Dayrell-Hart, lecturer in neurology, will speak about Selective and more. Dr. Robert J. Washabau, lecturer in medicine, will discuss Canine esophageal diseases.

In the afternoon, Dr. Kevin Stanley, lecturer in dermatology, will speak about Allergic skin diseases in dogs. The final speaker. Dr. Stuart C. Helfand, assistant professor of medicine, will discuss Signals of cancer. The program is being supported by the Iams Company. After each lecture, there will be a brief question-and-answer session. The program begins at 9:30 a.m. at VHUP in Philadelphia. The cost is $35, which includes lunch and parking. Advance reservations are required and can be made by contacting Dr. M. Josephine Deubler, 3830 Spruce Street, Philadelphia, PA 19104. Telephone (215) 898-8862.

Books

A Celebration of Rare Breeds by Cathy J. Flamholz (OTR Publications, P.O. Box 1243, Ft. Payne, AL 35967. $24.95 plus $2.00 postage and handling). This book gives history and characteristics of 53 breeds, most of which are not recognized by the American Kennel Club. It is an excellent reference with numerous photographs. Following are brief notes from the text:

- The Akbash Dog is a large, white, sheepguarding breed from Turkey. These dogs are natural guardians, may be aggressive, and are not suitable for all families. The Anatolian Shepherd is a similar breed, but their color may be tan with black nose and ears, as well as white.
- The Leonberger is another large breed which is even-tempered and said to be fond of children. They have webbed toes, and the lemon-colored coat has a pronounced mane or ruff on the neck. The breed was developed in Germany from a Newfoundland-St. Bernard cross, with some Great Pyrenees added. They are trustworthy guard dogs.
- The Fila Brasiliens is the most popular breed in Brazil today. It is a large, strong guard dog weighing 100 pounds and is nearly 30 inches high. The Fila is not a breed for everyone. It is very wary and distrustful of strangers but good with its family.
- The Nova Scotia Duck Tolling Retriever is a small retrieving breed about 20 inches high and weighing under 50 pounds. It is described as "wonderful companions, great children's playmates, super obedience dogs, flashy show dogs and fun to own." When hunting, the toller attracts game by running back and forth, usually retrieving a "tolling stick" thrown by the hunter.
- The Catahoula Leopard Dog is a native American breed. It is the Official State Dog of Louisiana. It is a medium to large breed, about 25 inches in height. The breed's most distinctive feature is its white or "glass" eye. It comes in a wide range of colors, preferably with leopard spotting. The Catahoula is a multi-purpose breed "for excellence." It has an inherent desire to herd livestock, has been used for hunting large and small game, is a superb home guardian and a great family or child's companion.
- The Czech or Cesky Terrier was "invented" by crossing the Scottish Terrier and Sealyham. Its color is blue or brown. About ten inches tall and weighing under 20 pounds, the Czech Terrier is a household companion, an avid hunter and a good show dog.
- The Shiba is an ancient Japanese breed. It is an active and alert small dog that can adapt well to city or country living. It is related to, but smaller than the Akita. It comes in many colors, but red is the most popular. The breed has a distinctive "foxxy" appearance with prick ears and tail curling over the back.

If you are considering purchase of a dog, visit a breeder and see puppies and adults. Don't select a breed just because it is a conversation piece or something different. Be sure to consider the training which might be necessary. There are 130 breeds eligible for registration with the American Kennel Club, while over 300 breeds are recognized by the Federation Canine International, the governing body of dogs in much of Europe, Asia, and South America. This book gives excellent background material and can help the prospective owner study a breed and make an intelligent decision about whether it is a suitable one.

The Rare Breed Handbook by Dee Gannon (Golden Box Press, 22-02 Raphael St., Fairlawn, NJ 07410. $22.95). This is a loose-leaf book which should be most useful for judges. It contains standards for 50 rare breeds divided, as by the American Kennel Club, into seven groups - 2 in Sporting, 9 in Hounds, 19 in Working, 3 in Terriers, 5 in Toys, 3 in Non-Sporting, and 9 in Herding.

A "Rare Breed" is defined as "A purebred dog which is not eligible for full registration with the American Kennel Club but which has a breed standard and is registered with a National or International Kennel Club." The book gives information on rare breed shows, judging tips, and the U.S. Registry for each breed.

This is a good reference for those who have become involved in showing and judging rare breeds. It is a good beginning, and additions and changes probably will appear in future editions. A glossary would be helpful to define some terms used in the standards, but this really should be done by the standard-writers.

Henry P. Schneider Dies

Dr. Henry P. Schneider (V'34) died at the age of 75. Dr. Schneider was director of biological research and chairman of the department of biomedical supporting services at Hahnemann Medical College, Philadelphia. He also served as professor of anatomy, physiology, and biophysics at Hahnemann until his retirement in 1982. Hahnemann University gave him professor emeritus status in 1984.

In addition to teaching and research at Hahnemann, Dr. Schneider maintained a general veterinary practice in the Wynnewood Valley-Spring House area from 1934 to 1959. Dr. Schneider served as president of the School's Alumni Association and as president of the Pennsylvania Veterinary Medical Association. In 1984, the School presented him with its Centennial Award of Merit. Dr. Schneider is survived by his wife, Catherine Schneider; daughters Barbara Simons, Harriet Zubar Day, and Suzanne; and six grandchildren.