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Neonatal Nursing

Neonates are not just miniature adults! These tiny tots have many physiological differences that makes caring for them a challenge for any nurse. Take a deep dive into how neonatal cats and dogs differ from their adult counterparts and discover how you can provide the best care for your tiniest patients. Topics covered will include neonatal physiology, triage, physical exam, venous catheterization, emergency, and general nursing care guidelines that keep the little ones thriving in our Emergency Rooms and ICUs.

Learning Objectives:

1. Describe the physiologic differences between neonate and adult felines and canines.
2. List the difference in vitals and how they change as the neonate ages.
3. Describe the special considerations for the neonatal physical exam and triage.
4. List the most commonly used sites for venous catheterization in the neonate.
5. Describe the ideal environment needed for neonates to thrive in clinic.

The Art of Triage

Explore different types of triages we see in the emergency room and the general practice exam room. Learn how to triage clients in person and over the phone safely and effectively. Participants will learn techniques to take fast and effective patient histories, perform thorough physical exams and turn that information into an appropriate triage level. We will also explore ways to make the entire clinic staff a well-oiled triage and stabilizing machine!

Learning Objectives:

1. Describe the body systems that are a part of every triage exam.
2. Describe the best techniques to obtain vitals and information during your exams.
3. Successfully sort patients into a triage system that manages the flow of a busy ER.
4. Describe special considerations for exotic pet triages.
5. List and describe several ways to teach everyone in the clinic how to be involved with triages.

Medical Math for the Veterinary Technician

Medical Math is often one of the hardest skills to master for many Veterinary Nurses. Being confident and correct in daily calculations is essential to our patients' health and well-being. In this interactive workshop participants will learn the Rule of 5 for all medications administered as well as how to complete unit conversions and constant rate infusions for several different types of commonly used drugs. Dextrose and Potassium fluid additive math will also be covered.

Learning Objectives:

1. List the rule of 5 for every medication.
2. Complete conversions between metric and imperial system.
3. Complete CRI calculations for commonly used analgesics such as fentanyl and lidocaine.
4. Complete calculations for dextrose and potassium fluid additives.

The Technician's Guide to Blocked Cats

Dive into the gold standard of care for felines with Urethral Obstructions. Learn about the causes and consequences of this condition as well as common treatments for complications that often arise. Explore the different types of catheters and other tools used for an "unblocking" procedure. Learn how to properly manage UO cases in your hospital with the best techniques for urinary catheter placement, suturing in place, tail ties, nerve blocks, catheter care, and monitoring important parameters like "Ins and Outs" and electrolyte derangements.

Learning Objectives:

1. List and describe the main causes of Urethral Obstruction in felines.
2. Identify common presenting problems and lab work abnormalities seen with urethral obstruction.
3. Identify complications of urinary obstructions and their treatments
4. Name and identify the differences between types of urinary catheters used in felines.
5. Describe the proper way to care for indwelling urinary catheters.
6. Calculate Ins and Outs

Calm Your RAAS Down – Understanding the Renin-Angiotensin-Aldosterone System and its Inhibitors.

The Renin-Angiotensin-Aldosterone System is one of the body's most important regulatory systems. In this deep dive into RAAS we will explore the organs, hormones and enzymes that contribute to the system and how they interact to create the RAAS pathway. We will also explore the four classes of RAAS inhibitor drugs and how they work within the system. Join us to break down this complex system in a way that anyone can understand and remember!

Learning Objectives:

1. Explain what RAAS is, how it is activated, and what it does within the body.
2. Name the Organs involved in the RAAS system.
3. Name the Hormones involved in the RAAS system.
4. Name the enzymes involved in the RAAS system.
5. Explain how RAAS inhibitor drugs work on the system.

Toxicological Emergencies

Explore the most common and newest types of toxicities treated in the small animal ER and ICU. We will cover environmental, medicinal, and chemical substances that cause anything from mild irritation to life-threatening complications in feline and canine patients. Learn the mechanism of actions, symptom manifestations and treatment options available for these cases and the prognosis each one carries.

Learning Objectives:

1. List and describe several types of environmental and chemical substances that create toxicities in felines and canines.
2. List the mechanism of action that each toxin uses to create symptoms in patients.
3. List the symptoms expected with each toxicity.
4. List the available treatments for each toxicity.