



Animal Emergency
and Trauma Center



Hospital Happenings

AETC welcomes Clint Brown to our customer service team.

Diane Gates has been promoted to customer service supervisor. Congratulations, Diane !

Dr. Brad Green, Dip.ACVM (WA SpecialtyVetMed) is currently taking internal medicine referrals. Appointments can be scheduled by calling 360-200-5697

Dr. Steve Porkorny, Dip.ACVR is available for referral ultrasounds by appointment. Appointments can be scheduled by contacting WA SpecialtyVetMed.



SEASONAL TIP



KEEP HALLOWEEN SAFE FOR YOU & YOUR PETS

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We see an increased number of cases involving ingestion of candy and chocolate this time of year. Please remember to place these materials out your pet's reach. While most people are aware that chocolate can cause serious illness in pets, xylitol and raisins may also cause serious illness. If your pet ingests any of these compounds, seek veterinary advice promptly.

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Case of the Quarter

“Rain” is a female 9 yr old Domestic Shorthair cat that was presented at 10:30 a.m. She was unable to use her back limbs and vocalizing more than usual. There was a potential exposure to rodenticide in her history.

Her physical exam showed symptoms consistent with shock (pale mucous membranes, low body temperature, increased heart rate) and her lung sounds were increased. There were pulses in both rear limbs.

Dr. Stone immediately placed an IV catheter, drew blood for lab work and placed Rain in an oxygen cage. Within an hour he was able to diagnose rodenticide poisoning based on her markedly increased blood clotting times. It is suspected she was bleeding into her lungs (increased lung sounds) as well as around her spinal cord (unable to use rear limbs). She was also found to be anemic.

Treatment with Vitamin K1 and fresh frozen plasma was begun. Rain began to stabilize by 5:30 PM when her clotting times were nearly normal. Oxygen was discontinued at 7:30 PM. She continued to improve overnight and was able to be discharged to her owner at noon the next day. She will need to be given Vitamin K1 capsules for the next 4-6 weeks.

It is not known if she ingested the rodenticide bait directly or ingested a rodent which had itself eaten the bait.



Osteosarcoma



Osteosarcoma is the most common primary bone tumor in dogs. It typically affects the bones of the limbs in large breed dogs.

This tumor is highly malignant and over 90% of the cases have microscopic lesions in the lungs by the time the tumor is diagnosed. This disease is less common in cats and is less malignant. Metal implants, genetics, and a history of prior radiation at the site have all been associated with this type of cancer.

Symptoms are typically related to the limbs and include swelling, lameness, and pain. Degree of lameness varies from mild to non-weight-bearing. A firm painful swelling is commonly present. A bone biopsy is used to diagnose this tumor definitively.

Treatment involves both surgery (amputation) and chemotherapy. Owners must understand that treatment goals are to provide comfort and prolong life. A cure is unlikely. With amputation alone, median survival time is 4 months. With amputation and chemotherapy, median survival time is extended to 10 months.

