

REFERRALS Newsletter



ISSUE 2

Our Clinicians



Orthopaedics

Duncan Barnes

Ma VetMB CertSAS MRCVS



Soft Tissue Surgery

Tim Charlesworth

MA VetMB CertSAS MRCVS



Imaging & CT

Esther Barrett

VetMB DVDI DipECVDI MRCVS



Ophthalmology

Ida Gilbert

BVSc CertVOphthal MRCVS



Dentistry, Oral and Maxillofacial Surgery

Peter Southerden

BVSc MBA DipEVDC MRCVS



Andrew Perry

BVSc MRCVS

Welcome to the Eastcott Referrals Newsletter. A lot has happened since our last newsletter including the opening of our new, purpose built hospital and the extension of our referral services. We continue to offer referral services in dentistry, soft tissue surgery, orthopaedics and ophthalmology but can now also offer specialist imaging (ultrasound and CT) referrals available to our referring practices. We always welcome any feedback so please contact us with any queries or requests that you have!

New Hospital Open!

Our new 11,500 sq ft purpose built hospital is now open with easy access (see map on back page)



and generous on-site parking. We can now boast a total of 4 operating theatres in addition to a dedicated dental theatre which are all equipped and maintained to the highest standards. CT has now been installed and is already being kept busy giving us far more precise diagnostic information than previously available. We are also now able to offer both lecture-based and practical CPD meetings on site using our new lecture theatre and wet-lab facilities. We are very happy with our new premises and know that we can offer a warm welcome to you and your clients. Please feel free to contact us if you would like to visit and have a tour of the new hospital, we are confident that you will be impressed!

Eastcott Referrals

Eastcott Veterinary Hospital
Edison Park, Dorcan Way, Swindon, Wiltshire SN3 3FR
Tel: 01793 528341 Fax: 01793 401888

Email: referrals@eastcottvets.co.uk

www.eastcottvets.co.uk

Opening Hours

Monday to Friday 7am - 8pm
Saturday and Sunday 8.30am - 8pm



Referral standards...

There has been a lot of recent interest and debate in the differing levels of referral practice available (and the different levels of charging) in the UK. Sadly there is no current "tier" structure as there is in primary care veterinary practice and it can be hard for referring vets to actually know what facilities and staffing are available at their chosen referral practice. For example, a "multi-disciplinary specialist referral practice" can mean anything from having 2 or 3 specialist, full time surgeons,

medics, imagers, neurologists etc to having one full time specialist in a particular field supported by visiting specialists who are only available once a week or so. We would like to state our position to avoid any confusion over the standard of referral practice that we provide. We currently have one full time specialist (dentistry) and one visiting specialist (imaging) but we are not claiming to be a multidisciplinary specialist referral centre! Instead, we feel we can offer a high level of expertise in all

areas in which we offer referral, all our primary surgeons are at least certificate level and our soft tissue and orthopaedic surgeons are currently training towards the RCVS diploma (DSAS). We are not all specialists and this is reflected in our pricing structure. We would not accept a referral if we did not feel confident in being able to successfully manage all aspects of the case and are happy to give advice or discuss any aspect of any case within our chosen fields.

Two things that you may not know...

- 1** *We still guarantee that any client seen by Eastcott Referrals will not be allowed to register as a client by our first opinion side. We feel that this is important to give you the peace of mind that your clients will always be returned to you.*
- 2** *We are happy to give advice about any case over the phone or via email. This includes sending in photos of problematic wounds, reviewing x-rays or discussing the best way to manage a problematic case. Simply phone us or email referrals@eastcottvets.co.uk if we can be of any help.*

Oral and Maxillofacial Surgery at Eastcott Referrals

We believe we have an unrivalled combination of specialist skills and facilities to offer for challenging oral and maxillofacial surgery cases. Our team includes Peter Southerden who is a Diplomate of the European Veterinary Dental College (EVDC) and European Specialist in Veterinary Dentistry and Andrew Perry who is on an alternate pathway training program of the EVDC.

This expertise is backed up by a superbly equipped hospital including a CT scanner. CT is the imaging modality of choice for

oral and maxillofacial neoplasia and trauma.

If you would like to discuss or refer an oral or maxillofacial surgery case please contact Eastcott Referrals on 01793 528341 and ask to speak to Peter Southerden or Athena Wilcox (Referrals Manager) or email referrals@eastcottvets.co.uk

Figure 1 - Stage 2 oral melanoma in an eight year old cross bred dog. The tumour was resected and the defect repaired using two single pedicle advancement flaps (H-plasty). The ipsilateral tonsil, mandibular, parotid and medial retropharyngeal lymph nodes were also removed. There was evidence of metastasis to the tonsil but not to the local lymph nodes. This patient has started a course of the Canine Oral Melanoma Vaccine.



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New team members

Esther Barrett VetMB DVM DipECVDFI MRCVS

We are delighted to welcome Esther to Eastcott Referrals. Esther holds both the RCVS and European diplomas in diagnostic imaging and is a recognised specialist in the field. Esther operates a freelance imaging service throughout Wales and the West country and will be available for referrals at Eastcott including "ultrasound-only" appointments.

Andrew Perry BVSc MRCVS

Andy is currently studying for his European Diploma in Veterinary Dentistry and will now be assisting Peter Southerden as part of the dental referral team.



CT is here!

We now have a CT scanner! CT is becoming increasingly popular in veterinary medicine as it is far more sensitive at detecting and describing pathology than conventional radiography. The scans are quick to perform and can be performed on sedated or even conscious animals when the patient is debilitated. CT scans are interpreted by imaging specialists and full imaging reports will be sent to you within 24 hours of the appointment. Please contact us if you wish to discuss any case and whether or not CT scanning would be appropriate.

Ophthalmology Focus

Is it a Cataract or is it Nuclear Sclerosis?

The distinction between the natural ageing changes of the lens, nuclear sclerosis (NS), and a true cataract causes some confusion. NS is seen in all animals; in dogs from the age of 6-8 years, cats from the age of 8-10 years and in humans from 40-50 years of age. NS is seen as a bilateral symmetrical blueish-grey haziness of the nucleus of the lens (see picture). This happens because new lens fibers are laid down throughout life which causes compression of the older lens fibers in the centre of the lens. The nucleus becomes denser with age and increased light refracts back to the viewer, making it easier to see. Practically NS causes a gradual reduction of ability to see contrast and intensity of colour and will reduce the ability to accommodate (focus) as well, but functional vision is retained in our animals, except in advanced cases.

In practice, it can be difficult to distinguish NS from cataract, unless

specific training in ophthalmology has been sought. Assessing the position of a cataract within the lens is greatly helped by a slitlamp biomicroscope, but only minimum equipment is required to distinguish a cataract from NS and can be done with most light sources; such as an ophthalmoscope, a pen-light or a Finhoff illuminator. With NS a nuclear ring will be seen and reflection of the tapetum will be retained. A good view of the retina is possible, especially with indirect ophthalmoscopy. Cataracts on the other hand will block the tapetal reflection and cause interference with the tapetal view (see picture).

Ida welcomes referrals for cataract evaluation at Edison Park. Surgery will be performed in collaboration with ophthalmologists at Rowe Vets or Optivet Referrals, either at Edison, Bristol or Emsworth. The majority of follow-ups will be at Edison Park in Swindon.



Operating Microscope



Dentistry CPD

Eastcott Veterinary Hospital has both the expertise and teaching facilities for veterinary dentistry and oral surgery which are unrivalled in the UK. The facilities include a lecture room with the latest interactive smart board for stimulating presentations and a practical teaching room equipped with the latest dental and digital x-ray equipment

We aim to provide you with skills that can be put into practice straight away giving an immediate clinical benefit to your patients and a very rapid payback on the cost of the course.

Upcoming courses:

Practical Dental Radiography

10th November 2011
£450.00 plus VAT
(Max 6 delegates)

Dental radiography is the foundation of good dentistry. This is an intensive practical course for delegates who want to master the techniques of oral and dental radiology. Participants will use the latest dental x-ray machines, digital sensors and software. There will be one x-ray machine and sensor between two delegates which will allow each person to take many dozens of x-rays. By the end of the day each participant will be confident in their ability to take diagnostic dental x-rays of small animal patients.

Practical Extraction Course

17th November 2011
£450.00 plus VAT
(Max 6 delegates)

Surgical extraction of teeth is often perceived to be a difficult and frustrating procedure. This completely practical course will teach participants the correct surgical techniques to extract the most difficult teeth – the maxillary and mandibular canines, upper fourth premolars and lower first molars. Each delegate will have their own cadaver, modern dental unit and hand instruments. By the end of the day each participant will be able to approach the most difficult extraction with confidence.

Oral and Maxillofacial Surgery

22nd & 23rd November 2011
£845.00 plus VAT

This course will teach delegates what they need to know to perform common oral and maxillofacial procedures (use of muco-periosteal flaps, glossectomy, mandibulectomy, maxillectomy, palatal surgery and jaw fracture repair) and develop an area of expertise within your practice. This course is run in partnership with Improve International and held at the teaching facilities at Eastcott Veterinary Hospital.

Introduction to Veterinary Dentistry

26th January 2012
£300.00 plus VAT
(Max 12 delegates)

This course is suitable for delegates who need to establish a thorough and rational approach to their dental cases to ensure consistently good outcomes. It includes a lecture session covering common oral and dental conditions, oral examination, radiology and extraction techniques. This is then followed by two practical sessions. The first on dental radiography and the second on surgical extraction techniques.

Future CPD

TDDS Cpd Day

2nd November 2011
9am-5pm – £132 inc VAT

Principles of oral cancer surgeries, Surgical approach to mast cell tumors; Cytology of cutaneous and subcutaneous masses; Puffball toxicosis in dachshunds. To enroll on the course contact Katie on 01392 247914

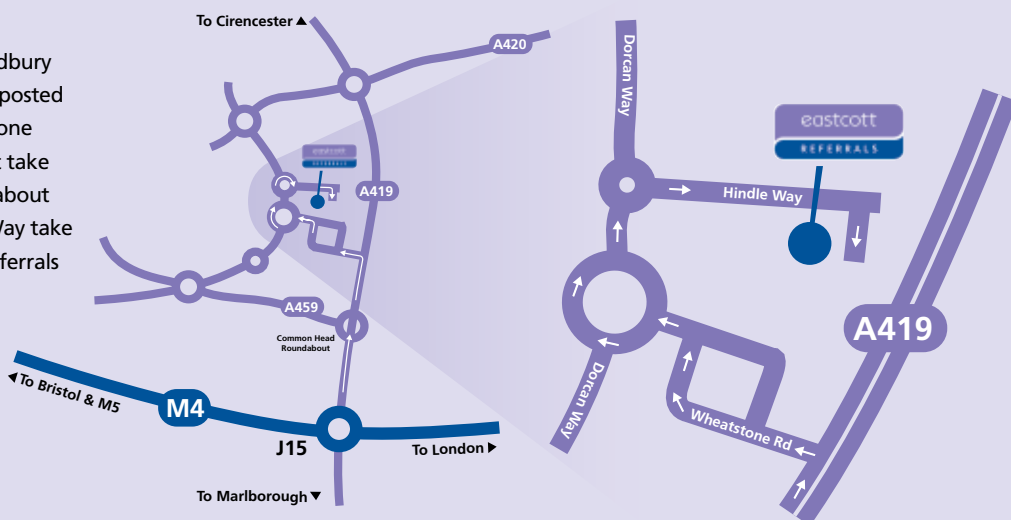
Evening CPD talks

We will continue to provide free evening talks on a range of topics in our new lecture room at Edison Park (New Hospital). Invitations will be sent once details have been finalised. Please email us with any requests for topics you would like to be covered. To reserve a place on any of the above courses please email Athena at athena@eastcottvets.co.uk

How to find us

From M4 westbound take junction 15 then at Badbury roundabout take the 3rd exit onto the A419 signposted Swindon. Branch Left, then merge onto Wheatstone Road – B4006 Signposted Dorcan. At roundabout take the 3rd exit onto Dorcan Way – B4006. At roundabout take the 2nd exit. Arrive at Edison Park, Hindle Way take the first road on the right to arrive at Eastcott Referrals Hospital. Wheatstone Road can only be accessed from the A419 Northbound, if travelling southbound on the A419, proceed to Common Head Roundabout and then rejoin the A419 Northbound.

For satnav follow: SN3 3RB



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