Congress in Progress
El Congreso está en marcha

The musical performance of “Coro Infantil de la Escuela Superior de Música”, during the Opening Ceremony

Organizing Committee during the Opening Ceremony

Further pictures from the Congress and social events will be soon available on the VetContact web site at www.vetcontact.com

Fotografías del congreso y de los eventos sociales están disponibles en el sitio web www.vetcontact.com
CARDIOLOGY/CARDIOLOGÍA

Topic minoxidil may cause lung edemas, pleural effusion and cardiac dysfunction in cats.

Auscultatory estimates of heart rate in atrial fibrillation may be significantly inaccurate and may not provide a sound basis for making clinical decisions; in a recent study only 30% of all test subjects provided accurate heart rate estimates.

DERMATOLOGY/DERMATOLOGÍA

Treatment of canine pyoderma with the antibiotic clindamycin can become very expensive over several weeks - but given only once a day at a dosage of 11 mg/kg body weight, 71.4% of the dogs in a recent study still showed complete remission within 14-28 days.

El tratamiento de la pioderma canina con el antibiótico clindamicina puede llegar a ser muy caro para muchas semanas - pero dado sólo una vez al día a 11mg/kg de dosis, 71.4% de los perros mostraban remisión completa a los 14-28 días según un reciente estudio.

Flea allergy: intracutaneous tests with whole flea extracts show better results regarding accuracy and allow a more precise diagnosis than in-vitro tests.

Topic 0.1% tacrolimus shows clearly less side effects in comparison to corticoids and is recently used in children with neurodermatitis. According to newest findings it may also help in dogs with autoimmune diseases like pemphigus erythematosus.

Atopic dermatitis: according to a recent study histamine and allergen concentrations in our common intradermal skin tests are not optimal.

DIAGNOSTIC IMAGING/IMAGEN DIAGNÓSTICO

Prostatic abscesses in dogs: percutaneous ultrasound guided drainage proves to be an interesting alternative to various other techniques including marsupialisation: it is quick, safe, less invasive and shows low postoperative complication rates.

Accesos prostáticos en perros: el drenaje percutáneo guiado por ecografía, muestra ser una alternativa interesante a otras técnicas variadas como marsupialización: es rápida, segura, menos invasiva y muestran menores complicaciones postoperatorias.

IMMUNOLOGY/IMUNOLOGÍA

Immune mediated hemolytic anemia requires rapid and aggressive intervention. As an alternative to corticosteroids with or without other immunosuppressive drugs, intravenous administration of human immune globulin may be useful for short-term stabilization of some dogs with IMHA.

INTERNAL MEDICINE/MEDICINA INTERNA

A review of the current status of blood groups in companion animals describes one blood group with 3 types in cats and multiple blood groups in dogs. Ferrets appear to be unique because no blood groups have been described.

Una revisión de los actuales grupos sanguíneos en animales de compañía describe un grupo sanguíneo con 3 tipos en gatos y múltiples grupos sanguíneos en perros. Los hurones aparecen como los únicos donde no se han escrito grupos sanguíneos.

EXOTICS/EXOTICOS

The heart of a python enlarges itself temporarily by 40% within 48 hours after feeding. Researchers from the Irvine University in California suggest that the fast in-crease of muscle tissue is caused by a raised production of myosines.

El corazón de una pitón se alarga temporalmente hasta un 40% hasta las 48 horas tras la alimentación. Investigadores de la Universidad de Irvine en California sugieren que el rápido incremento del tejido muscular es causado por un incremento en la producción de miósinas.

The widely discussed botulinus toxin, known in the cosmetic treatment of wrinkles, may be put to a further use in the orthopedic field: in cases of chronic backaches the toxin had showed results that are equal to those of surgery.

La discutida ampliamente toxina botulinica, usada en el tratamiento de arrugas, podría ser usada además en el campo ortopédico: en casos de dolor crónico de espalda, la toxina ha mostrado resultados comparables a la cirugía.

NEUROLOGY/NEUROLOGÍA

Phenobarbital does not conformly show positive effects in all epilepsy patients. Researchers of the Ohio State University found out why: dogs that showed a lower gamma-aminobutyric acid concentration in the cerebrospinal fluid before the begin of therapy seemed to react worse to the medication than animals with higher GABA-values.

Polyethylene glycol injections within 72 hours after spinal trauma can clearly decrease the risk of permanent paralysis.

ONCOLOGY/ONCOLOGÍA

Non-coherent light sources for photodynamic therapy may be a cost-effective alternative in the treatment of superficial tumors in animals.

Fuentes de luz no coherentes para la terapia fotodinámica, podría ser una alternativa rentable en el tratamiento de tumores superficiales en animales.

Canine osteosarcoma: four fraction palliative radiotherapy shows to be more effective for palliation of clinical signs and may result in a longer survival time than three fraction palliative protocols.

Osteosarcoma canino: cuatro fracciones de
Terriers have a higher prevalence than Miniature or Toy Poodles, in the mixed-breed/hybrid population this disease appears to be age related.

Predisposición dependiente de la raza a catarras espontáneas: en los Estados Unidos, Fox Terriers tienen una mayor prevalencia que los Miniatuas o Toy Poodles, en los cruces de la población híbrida esta enfermedad aparece estar unida a la edad.

**SURGERY/CIRUGÍA**

In closing median sternotomy wounds in dogs, wires should be preferred over sutures: wires give more stability, they lead to chondral or osteochondral bridging of the sternum whereas suture only showed fibrous union.

En el cierre de las esternotomías medias de perros, los alambres deberían ser preferidos sobre las suturas: los alambres dan mayor estabilidad, ellos provocan uniones condrales u osteocondrales del esternón, mientras las suturas sólo mostraron uniones fibrosas.

Successful surgical correction of multiple congenital defects is possible: in Japan, an ostium primum septal defect, a ventricular septal defect, and mitral valve malformation with regurgitation in a dog were corrected by extracorporeal circulation using a cardiopulmonary bypass system.

La corrección quirúrgica exitosa de múltiples defectos congénitos es posible: en Japón, un defecto del septo ostium primum, un defecto del septo ventricular, y una malformación de la válvula mitral con regurgitación en un perro, fueron corregidas por circulación extracorpórea usando un sistema de bypass cardiopulmonar.

Surgical therapy of scapular osteosarcomas in small animals is not very popular but in selected cases, partial scapulectomy can preserve limb function and may be considered a viable alternative to limb amputation.

**OPHTALMOLOGY/OFTALMOLOGÍA**

Breed-related predispositions to spontaneous cataracts: in the US, Fox Terriers have a higher prevalence than Miniature or Toy Poodles, in the mixed-breed/hybrid population this disease appears to be age related.

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Introduction

The veterinary profession is often called upon to deal with behavioural matters, ranging from the more common enquiries regarding house soiling in cats or control problems in dogs to the more complex issues of feather picking in parrots, tail-chasing in dogs and tail biting in pigs. The veterinary surgeon is the only person fully qualified to determine whether the problem is of somatic, genetic or psychological origin and there is a fundamental need for improved veterinary education in this field. The training of the general practitioner depends on the availability of specialists within the field of behavioural medicine.

Public interest

One particular reason for a high level of public interest is the fact that euthanasia due to behavioural problems is one of the major causes of death in otherwise healthy young pets.

Political interest

At the present time a number of countries worldwide are in a state of political upheaval due to the proposals for breed specific legislation, relating to the issue of so called “dangerous dogs”. The legislation that is proposed is not based on scientifically validated problems related to breed specific behaviours, but on public perception and political pressure. There is an urgent need for scientific structure and sound professional advice, which the veterinary profession is well placed to provide. Indeed, in terms of the implications for animal welfare, the profession has a duty to respond to the growing need for sound guidance for governments and legislating bodies.

Improved veterinary medical service to the public

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Recent research within the field of behavioural medicine, both fundamental and clinical, has led to an increase in the efficacy of behaviour modifying techniques and products, which are available to the general public and to the veterinary practitioner. Specialists within the field are needed to continue this work and also to respond to the need for referral facilities for veterinary surgeons presented with complex behaviour cases. In addition to their clinical and research work, specialists in the field of behaviour are called upon to carry out administrative and consultancy work within drug companies, food companies, societies for animal protection and prevention of cruelty, insurance companies, research establishments and political administrations. Their role in providing advice on animal welfare, based on the understanding of animal behaviour, has become increasingly significant.

Distinct and identifiable specialty

Behaviour problems can be defined as normal behaviours, which are incompatible with life in a domestic environment, while behavioural disorders can be defined as a collection of abnormal or pathological behaviour.

Treatments include techniques, which modify behaviour, emotion, mood, cognition and systemic function.

Ewelina Skrzypecka: Is it a discipline that each practitioner should be acquainted with?

Joël Dehasse: Not every vet has the ability to “communicate” with clients; lots of them will prefer to stay behind technical acts.

Every vet now has some knowledge that behavioural problems and pathologies exist and he/she can refer these cases to a specialist. But more and more vets and vet clinics are offering some kind of behavioural service such as puppy/kitten classes, prevention classes, etc. and that shows that behaviour is becoming recognized as a fundamental part of our practice/job.

Ewelina Skrzypecka: What is important in successful treatment of behavioural disorders: mental skills of a veterinarian, proper medicaments or is it a combination of both?

Joël Dehasse: As I see it today, the most important elements are the communication skills of the behaviourist vet / counsellor, i.e. being empathetic, non-judgemental, and being able to make the owner discover the best suitable therapies for themselves. It needs integration of the techniques to the point of forgetting to be open to the communication.
Ewelina Skrzypecka: Does a veterinarian need any special predispositions to treat behavioural disorders in animals?

Joël Dehasse: The vet needs to be empathetic; if he’s not, then we can teach him to improve his empathy and try not to impose his view of the world on the people coming to him for help. Women are more gifted in this area.

Ewelina Skrzypecka: Where veterinarians may acquire the knowledge on Veterinary Behavioural Medicine?

Joël Dehasse: There are different training institutions. Private continuing education courses are for instance provided by the ESAVIS (European School of Advanced Veterinary Studies) (www.esavs.org).

The ESAVIS has developed a 2 levels course in 2003 (level 1) and 2004 (level 2) aiming at giving the expertise to solve 70% of the behavioural caseload. The expertise is acquired by theoretical courses and workshops (role playing). A level 1 course is programme in Milan 12-16 September 2005, a new level 3 is programmed in Sardegna 21-25 November 2005. It will aim at integrating the techniques to the point of forgetting them to focus on communication and empathy with the client.

Ewelina Skrzypecka: Why have you chosen this speciality?

Joël Dehasse: For years, I’ve been involved in making myself and people conscious of the people and animal well-being. I’ve always thought that consciousness was a big step towards respect to Earth and humankind.

Ewelina Skrzypecka: What species are being treated in your practice (dogs, cats, other)?

Joël Dehasse: Cats and dogs, mostly, a few horses, rabbits and parrots.

Ewelina Skrzypecka: Veterinary Behavioural Medicine is an under-supported, under-appreciated, and under-taught specialty within veterinary medicine. What is your opinion to this statement?

Joël Dehasse: It’s under-appreciated and under-taught if we consider the first cause of death in pet animals: euthanasia because of behavioural problems. Psychology is also used in people even if psycho-drugs are over used. This is a parallel tendency.

Ewelina Skrzypecka: Have you ever been seriously injured by your patient?

Joël Dehasse: No

Ewelina Skrzypecka: What are your plans for the future?

Joël Dehasse: Develop even more the aspect of motivation of people and animals in behavioural consultations.

Joël Dehasse: DVM (1979), is certified in animal behaviour (1998) and family therapy (1998). He has been involved in animal behaviour for more than 20 years.

European School for Advanced Veterinary Studies

Behavioural Medicine I, Milano / Italy, 12.-16.09.2005

Overview:
Basic behavioural medicine: which aims at understanding and solving the most common clinical conditions. It includes an introduction to basic techniques of behaviour consultation and then focuses on practical problem solving, addressing issues such as aggression in dogs and soiling in cats.

Topics:
- The Vet. Behavioural Medicine consultation: frames, problems, demand, expectations, contract, semiotics, diagnoses, therapies, follow-up & psychels, limits
- Dog and cat behaviour development (ontogeny)
- Dog and cat ontogeny disorders, such as hyperactivity, deprivation and dyssoicalisation
- Workshops on communication, body language, client bonding and consultation framing & dog and cat ontogeny disorders
- Aggression in dogs: danger evaluation, influencing factors & psychopathology, sequence, postures
- Aggression in dogs: descriptive-contextual classification, diagnosis of dog and system disorders
- Workshops on aggression in dogs (evaluation and diagnosing)
- Social behaviour in dogs: ontogeny of attachment and hierarchy
- Social behaviour disorders: separation related disorders, hierarchy related disorders
- Workshops on social behaviour (disorder) management
- Principles of behaviour therapies
- Principles of therapeutic strategies, including psycho-pharmacy
- Workshops on learning theories and therapeutic strategies
- Territorial organisation and marking behaviours of the cat
- Soiling and marking-related, territory related disorders in cats
- Cohabitation disorder, anxiety in closed surroundings.
- Workshops on feline behaviours and soiling disorders

www.esavs.org
New Panel of Experts Reveals Secret To Smarter, More Trainable Puppies

April 2005: 60% of dogs brought to rescue homes for rehoming are under the age of 12 months, many because of problems with trainability. However, an important new discovery by premium pet food brand Eukanuba has revealed that enhancing puppy food with the omega-3 fatty acid DHA plays a vital role in cognitive development and can help produce smarter, more trainable puppies.

The earlier the better...

Training is a major challenge for new puppy owners - the early weeks of a puppy’s life are a vital window of opportunity for behavioural training and if puppies are not socialised from birth to 12 weeks, severe problems can arise.

- Puppies are born with just 15% of their adult brain mass but by the time they reach 12 weeks of age, this has increased to 90%.
- Survey of puppy classes in the UK revealed that more than 1 in 10 puppies between 12 and 26 weeks of age already had persistent behaviour problems.
- Behavioural problems range from play biting and fear of strangers, to severe issues like hard biting and aggression towards other pets.

Up until now, the role of diet and nutrition in improving cognitive function has been relatively unexplored. The new discovery by Eukanuba shows that this area has huge potential; by nourishing puppies with a high DHA level during this critical early stage, brain development can be enhanced towards increasing their ability to learn and pick up training.

Independent experts confirm importance of DHA

To explore how this discovery will bring positive benefits to puppy owners, Eukanuba established the Smarter Starter Panel - a panel of independent experts with expertise in key areas of a puppy’s life. Marjorie Booth, owner of top UK breeders Stormley Labradors and member of the Smarter Starter Panel, commented: "I would say that puppy behaviour is 10% genetic, 20% breeding and 70% environmental - this includes nutrition. It is the one element you can control - both before birth through the mother and during the first few weeks of a puppy’s life. It is vital that breeders and owners ensure puppies' diets include DHA enriched foods to aid cognitive development and trainability.

Trials conducted by Eukanuba reveal that puppies nourished with a DHA-enhanced diet before weaning (both while in the womb and through their mother's milk) and after from their own diet, showed better performance in tests than those fed a lower level of the nutrient - demonstrating a smarter, more trainable puppy.

Gwen Bailey, panel member and author of bestselling book The Perfect Puppy and founder of Puppy School (www.puppyschool.co.uk), continued: "An astonishing 40% of behaviour problems seen by the Association of Pet Behaviour Counsellors in 2003 were due to aggression to people - and this is a problem which is mainly caused by lack of early socialisation. For a happy, healthy and most importantly a well-behaved puppy, owners need to make sure their puppy is well socialised and trained with kind methods as well as being correctly fed early in life to ensure that it is active, healthy and alert."

David Morgan, veterinary and scientific communications manager, Eukanuba concluded: "Nutrition plays an important part in any diet and the research conducted by Eukanuba demonstrates a clear correlation between DHA and a puppy’s brain development. By nourishing puppies with a high DHA level it promotes a smarter, more trainable puppy and could also potentially help with developing correct behaviour enabling better socialisation."

Eukanuba uses a diet containing fish meal, egg, lamb, and other animal meats to provide a source of DHA, and other omega-3 fatty acids, to aid puppy brain development. It is available from your local vet from January 2005 - so why not incorporate DHA into your puppy’s diet for a smarter, more trainable puppy that will be the perfect addition to your family.

If you want to learn more about DHA and the Eukanuba research, visit: www.eukanuba.com

References:
1 Research carried out at the UK rescue home Battersea Dogs Home
Advantix® Spot-on for dogs.

**Composition:**
- 1 pipette for dogs up to 4 kg body weight contains 0.4 ml solution containing 40 mg imidacloprid, 206 mg permethrin, and 0.4 mg butylhydroxytoluol.
- 1 pipette for dogs over 4 up to 10 kg body weight contains 1.0 ml solution containing 100 mg imidacloprid, 590 mg permethrin and 1.0 mg butylhydroxytoluol.
- 1 pipette for dogs over 10 up to 25 kg body weight contains 2.5 ml solution containing 250 mg imidaclorpid, 1250 mg permethrin and 2.5 mg butylhydroxytoluol.
- 1 pipette for dogs over 25 kg body weight contains 4.0 ml solution containing 500 mg imidacloprid, 2000 mg permethrin and 4.0 mg butylhydroxytoluol.

**Indications for use:**
- For the treatment and prevention of flea (Ctenocephalides felis, Ctenocephalides canis) infestation. Fleas on dogs are killed within one day following treatment. One treatment prevents further flea infestation for four weeks. The product can be used as part of a treatment strategy for flea allergy dermatitis (FAD). The product has a persistent acaricidal and repellent efficacy for four weeks (Pulex irritans, Pulex irritans). There is no evidence of cross-resistance to products containing other active ingredients. Containemicals: In the absence of available data the product should not be used on puppies of less than 7 weeks of age and 1.5 kg of weight. Do not use on cats. People with known skin sensitivity may be particularly sensitive to this product. Undesirable effects: On rare occasions, reaction in dogs may include transient skin symptoms (including pruritus, alopecia and erythema at the application site) or lethargy. If poisoning following inadvertent oral intake in puppies is unlikely but may occur in very rare cases. In this event, neurological signs such as tremor and lethargy can occur. Treatment should be symptomatic under veterinary medical attention. There is no known specific antidote. Special warning for target species: There may be an attachment of single ticks or hares by single sand flies or mosquitoes. For this reason, a transmission of infectious diseases by these parasites cannot be completely excluded if conditions are unfavourable. Withdrawal period: Not applicable. Prescription only medicine. Bayer HealthCare AG, Animal Health Division, D-51368 Leverkusen, Germany.

**Advantage®** for Dogs. Advantage® for Cats. (UK only: Pet Rabbits) Active Ingredient: Imidacloprid. Composition: 1 ml solution containing 100 mg imidacloprid and 1 mg butylhydroxytoluol. Pipettes of 1.0 ml, 2.5 ml or 4.0 ml for dogs and 6.4 ml or 9.8 ml for dogs.

Indications for use: For treatment and prevention of flea infestations on cats and dogs. (UK only: for the treatment of flea infestations on pet rabbits) Fleas are killed within 24 hours following application. One application remains effective for up to 4 weeks against fleas. The product can be used as part of a treatment strategy for flea allergy dermatitis (FAD). Containemicals: In the absence of available data the product should not be used on puppies less than 8 weeks or kittens of less than 7 weeks of age (UK only: do not use on cat rabbits of less than 10 weeks of age). Care should be taken to avoid contamination of the contents of the tube coming into contact with the eye or mouth of the user or recipient animals. Withdrawal period: Not applicable. Bayer HealthCare AG, Animal Health Division, D-51368 Leverkusen, Germany.

www.animalhealth.bayer.co.uk
Compartiendo con los veterinarios la misma pasión por los gatos y perros

Ofrecer “lo mejor de los dos mundos”

1. Los veterinarios y el equipo Royal Canin coinciden
   - Ambos sienten un verdadero respeto por los animales
   - Ambos son expertos en perros y gatos
   - Ambos son apasionados y racionales porque comparten un mismo objetivo:
     "Mejorar la salud y longevidad de los perros y gatos"

2. Crear “Una gran alianza”
   - Ser un fiel socio del mundo veterinario
   - Crear nuevos territorios para el progreso de la Salud
     - Prevención
     - Riesgos asociados
     - Innovación
   - Ofrecer gamas específicas, precisas y especializadas
     Desarrollar junto al veterinario la Nutrición Salud

3. Desarrollar una nueva visión de la Salud y de la Nutrición
   - Colaborar con el veterinario para dar una respuesta mejor y más precisa a las necesidades de los animales que acuden a su clínica
   - Animales enfermos > "Veterinary Diet"
   - Animales en riesgo > "Vet Early Care"
   - Animales sanos > "Vet Nutrition"

4. Ofrecer verdaderas diferencias
   - Para responder mejor a las necesidades de los animales
   - Para desarrollar la actividad y la fidelidad del cliente
   - Para crear valor añadido para los Animales, Propietarios y Veterinarios

5. Reforzar la función del veterinario
   - Reforzar su imagen médica y científica
   - Aportar servicios con un verdadero valor añadido
   - Evitar su pérdida de influencia
   - Evitar "trucos nuevos"
     (carencia de credibilidad científica)
   - Ofrecer al veterinario la función de prescribir la alimentación

6. Aplicar una regla formulada hace 2450 años
   "Que tu alimentación sea tu primera medicina"
   Hipócrates 460-377 ac.
   El siglo XXI será:
   El siglo de la Salud
   El siglo de la Salud Nutrición
   El siglo de los VETERINARIOS