

Managing the Growing Popularity of Brachycephalic Breeds

Within this lecture I aim to cover the various health concerns associated with brachycephalic breeds with my focus being on Brachycephalic Obstructive Airway Syndrome (BOAS). My goal is to assist nurses in becoming more confident in recognising the signs of BOAS, when a patient requires interventions and how to successfully nurse them. I will also cover our responsibility, as veterinary professionals, to educate owners, breeders, and the public of these health concerns to improve patient welfare quality of life.

Veterinary Technicians Role as a Patient Advocate – Pain and Stress Management in ICU

I strongly believe that one of the most important roles of a veterinary nurse is being a patient advocate. Within this lecture, my goal is for nurses to be confident in recognising when our patients are painful and provide a better understanding of what analgesia options are available to best treat that patient. I will cover the negative implications stress and anxiety has on hospitalised patients and how these can be combated to help improve patient welfare and outcomes.

Approach to Difficult Venous Access – What Other Options Do We Have?

In an emergency or critical care case the rapid placement of an intravenous catheter is essential but gaining vascular access may become more challenging, especially in severely hypovolaemic or small patients. Within in this lecture my goals are to provide nurses with options for alternate sites for peripheral catheterisation as well as techniques available to us to facilitate tricky placements. I also aim to cover placement and indications for central venous catheterisation and PICC lines, allowing nurses to become more confident in these techniques. I will cover intraosseous catheters and their use in our veterinary patients.

Nursing the Thrombocytopenic Patient

Patients with thrombocytopenia are often encountered within veterinary practice. My goal for this lecture is to inform nurses of the various causes for thrombocytopenia, the clinical signs associated with the condition and the treatment options available to us. I will also provide important information of the specific nursing considerations required for these patients to minimise further blood loss.