GLOBAL NEWS

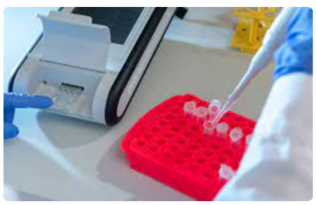
New Glossary Aims to Improve Communication Around Veterinary Oncology[1]

Vetpol, January 19th 2022

WSAVA's Oncology Working Group aims to help owners better understand cancer terminology. A Glossary of terms used commonly in veterinary oncology has been launched by the World Small Animal Veterinary Association (WSAVA) Oncology Working Group (WOW). With cancer such a complex disease, the Working Group hopes that the Glossary will give owners a clearer understanding of the choices facing them in terms of the diagnosis and management of their pet's disease and to discuss their care with their veterinarian from a more informed perspective. The Oncology Glossary is the first output from the WOW Group which was formed in 2021 to raise awareness of the latest thinking in cancer therapy and promote best practice globally. It explains in straightforward language many of the medical terms used in describing the presentation, diagnosis and treatment of cancer in pets with images to help illustrate some of the key terms. The document is available in for free download from the WSAVA website in a range of languages.

Novel screening test can detect 20 intestinal parasites[2]

DVM360, January 18th 2022



First PCR test for parasites affecting cats and dogs relies on molecular technology. A new molecular diagnostic test may be veterinary medicine's most sensitive for intestinal parasites affecting cats and dogs. The KeyScreen GI Parasite PCR can detect 20 parasites from a single storable 0.15-gram sample. Parasites are increasing, migrating, and mutating, and zoonotic diseases are on the rise, and treatment-resistant hookworms are an emerging threat to canine health. However, today's parasitic infection challenges outpaced the capabilities of existing screening tests, which are neither sensitive nor comprehensive enough to detect the breadth of parasites that are of significant concern to pet health. Parasites that can be detected by the KeyScreen GI Parasite PCR test include anthelmintic drug-resistant hookworm and zoonotic Giardia.

Genetic testing: the future of preventative care in veterinary medicine[3]

DVM 360, January 14th 2022

Advancements in genetic and oral microbiome screening are marching forward at an accelerating pace, pushing the boundaries of preventative care to new limits.Veterinary medicine is constantly evolving, and today's approach to proactive care goes beyond routine preventative measures such as annual vaccinations or the prevention of fleas, ticks, and heartworm.Preventive medicine currently involves a multifaceted approach. By leveraging innovative technology, knowledge, and an array of products, veterinary professionals can evaluate a pet's overall health. This includes identification of potential health issues along with risk for disease to support faster diagnosis and treatment planning. With aggregate data from new diagnostic tools, veterinarians can now provide clients with individualized medicine that is focused on early detection, prevention, and evidence-based management using a pet's risk factors and conditions to determine the best course of action.The genetic testing industry is committed to research and discovering new knowledge that will help veterinary professionals provide individualized care for their patients.

Hookworms Are Developing Resistance to Current Treatments

Vetpol, January 19th 2022

The parasites have evolved to evade all FDA-approved medications veterinarians use to kill them. Hookworms are one of the most common parasites plaguing the companion animal world. According to new research from the University of Georgia, they've become multiple-drug resistant. Right now, U.S. veterinarians rely on three types of drugs to kill hookworms, but the parasites appear to be developing resistance to all of them. The researchers focused on current and former racing greyhounds for the study. Dog racetracks are particularly conducive to spreading the parasite due to the sandy ground of the facilities, an ideal breeding ground for hookworms. Because of the conditions, all the dogs are dewormed about every three to four weeks. After analyzingfecal samples from former greyhound adoption kennels, veterinary practices that service the adoption groups and an active racing kennel, the researchers found the parasites were highly prevalent in the breed. Four out of every five greyhounds tested came up positive for hookworms. The study marks the first demonstration of widespread multiple-drug resistance in a dog parasite reported in the world.Compounding the problem, veterinarians don't typically test animals after treatment to ensure the worms are gone, so the drug-resistant worms go unnoticed until the dog has a serious infection and starts showing signs of hookworm disease.

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1. https://bit.ly/3fN7Quh | 2. https://bit.ly/3FHGXT2 | 3. https://bit.ly/3nKk4Z5