

# REFERRALS Newsletter

eastcott

REFERRALS

ISSUE 8

## Our Clinicians



### Dentistry, Oral & Maxillofacial Surgery

**Peter Southerden**

BVSc MBA Dip.EVDC MRCVS  
RCVS Recognised & European Specialist in Veterinary Dentistry



### Andrew Perry

BVSc MRCVS



### Soft Tissue Surgery

**Tim Charlesworth**

MA VetMB DSAS (ST) MRCVS  
RCVS Recognised Specialist in Small Animal Surgery (Soft Tissue)



### Orthopaedics

**Duncan Barnes**

Ma VetMB CertSAS MRCVS



### Internal Medicine

**Dr Alenka Hrovat Vernik**

DrVetMed PhD MRCVS



### Ophthalmology

**Ida Gilbert**

BVSc CertVOphthal MRCVS



### Imaging & CT

**Esther Barrett**

VetMB DVDI DipECVDI MRCVS

## New Internal Medicine Referrals Service

The new Internal Medicine Service is run by Alenka Hrovat Vernik DrVetMed PhD MRCVS who joins us on 1st September. Alenka completed an internal medicine residency program at Ghent University in Belgium in 2013 and is now studying towards the Diploma of the European College of Veterinary Internal Medicine, taking the final examinations in March 2015.

Alenka offers both urgent and routine medical appointments. She is happy to see patients with a broad variety of internal medicine problems of either a chronic or acute nature. Cases will include acute or chronic gastrointestinal diseases, respiratory diseases, excessive drinking, lethargy, weight loss or gain, fever, bleeding problems, complex endocrine diseases and acute or chronic kidney problems. Alenka will also see oncology patients, which can be transferred to another service within Eastcott Referrals if a multidisciplinary approach is required.

Alenka is happy to discuss any case and review the results of diagnostic investigations with referring vets prior to referral. Following each consultation, referring vets will receive an update on the initial blood work results, diagnostics and treatment plan. This will be followed by a final written report summarizing the results of diagnostic investigations, management and details of further treatment and follow up.

Client communication and the wellbeing of owners and their pets are Alenka's number one priority. Each case is approached step by step during a 1 hour consultation where results of previously completed diagnostic tests are reviewed, detailed history taken and patients carefully examined. Typically, after each consultation patients are admitted for additional examinations such as blood tests, medical imaging (radiographs, ultrasound, CT) and endoscopy. After completion, the majority of patients return home to await the results, but some may stay in the hospital if additional therapy is needed. A detailed diagnostic and treatment plan will be discussed with clients focusing on their needs and the needs of their pets. Diagnostics and therapy are tailored individually taking into a consideration the costs involved, invasiveness of procedures, prognosis and the quality of life of the patient. For complex cases or where there may be client uncertainty, cases can be discussed with the referring veterinary surgeon and client together.

Alenka is tutoring a **Free CPD Evening** on Thursday 25<sup>th</sup> September:

**'Puppies and kittens are not small dogs and cats'**

*see back page for details*

### Eastcott Referrals

Eastcott Veterinary Hospital  
Edison Park, Dorcan Way, Swindon, Wiltshire SN3 3FR  
Tel: 01793 528341 Fax: 01793 401888  
Email: [referrals@eastcottvets.co.uk](mailto:referrals@eastcottvets.co.uk)

[www.eastcottreferrals.co.uk](http://www.eastcottreferrals.co.uk)

### Opening Hours

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



# Shoulder arthrodesis in a miniature poodle using a CT generated 3D bone model

A 9-year-old miniature poodle was referred for the treatment of recurrent luxation of the right shoulder. Examination under general anaesthetic revealed a markedly increased abduction angle and gross instability of the right shoulder joint. Due to chronic non-weight bearing lameness there was very poor muscle around the shoulder joint. After two failed attempts had been made to stabilise the joint using sutures, the decision was made to perform a shoulder arthrodesis. This procedure can be an excellent way to resolve

chronically painful shoulder conditions whilst maintaining a good level of forelimb function.

A CT scan of the humerus and scapula was performed and from this a three-dimensional life size model was produced using 3D printing technology (3D model arranged through Vet CT Specialists). This allowed rehearsal of the surgery and precise contouring of the plate used prior to surgery. The benefits of this approach include greater accuracy of plate contouring, markedly

reduced surgical time and more predictable post-operative limb alignment.

During surgery the articular cartilage was debrided from the joint using an air-bur and the joint was temporarily stabilised using an arthrodesis wire. A trans-articular lag screw was applied after packing the joint with cancellous bone graft. The pre-contoured 2.0mm locking SOP plate (Orthomed) was then applied across the joint.



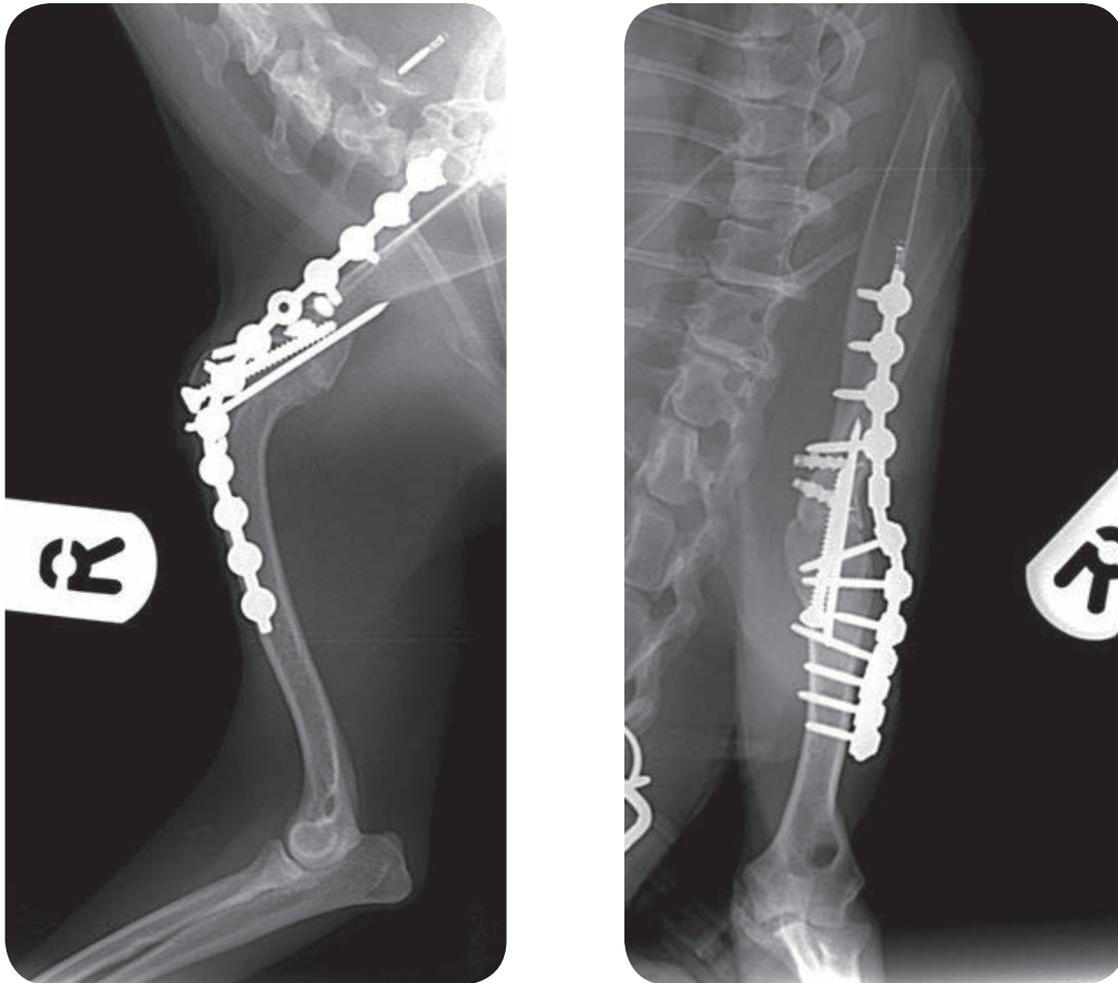
**Fig 1:** Bone model created from the CT scan.



**Fig 2:** A second model used to rehearse the surgery and contour the plate appropriately.

Within a few weeks of surgery the dog was bearing weight well on the operated leg and was comfortable enough to stop receiving NSAIDs.

Radiographs taken 8 weeks after surgery showed good progression of arthrodesis and no evidence of any implant associated problems.



**Fig 3 & 4:** Mediolateral and caudocranial radiographs of the arthrodesed shoulder 8 weeks after surgery, showing good progression of arthrodesis and good alignment of the shoulder and elbow joints with the shoulder at a standing angle.



**Duncan Barnes MA VetMB CertSAS MRCVS** is happy to discuss or give advice on all matters relating to small animal veterinary orthopaedics. Please phone **01793 528341** or email [referrals@eastcottvets.co.uk](mailto:referrals@eastcottvets.co.uk)



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# Upcoming CPD

## Puppies and kittens are not small dogs and cats

Come and meet Alenka our new Internal Medicine Referrals Vet at our free CPD evening.

The main objective of this course will be to teach delegates a '4 Simple Key Rules' approach to enable the successful stabilisation of an unstable paediatric patient. Even in a well managed practice the mortality rate of puppies and kittens can be high. This course will cover the basics of veterinary paediatric medicine, from physical examination particularities to the interpretation of blood work and the do's and don't of the management of a paediatric patient. Delegates will also learn the basic differences between the adult and paediatric patient care in regards to physical examination findings, blood tests and the use and abuse of commonly used drugs.

To book your place or to register an interest for more information, go to our website [www.eastcottreferrals.co.uk](http://www.eastcottreferrals.co.uk) alternatively email [referrals@eastcottvets.co.uk](mailto:referrals@eastcottvets.co.uk) or call Athena 01793 401884.

25th September 2014

7.30pm - 9.00pm

with buffet included

Tutored by

**Dr Alenka Hrovat Vernik**

DrVetMed PhD MRCVS

## Interesting cases can be viewed on our website blog pages such as:

**Keratomycosis in an 8 year old Border Collie dog caused by *Hormoglyphiella aspergillata*, the asexual reproductive form of the basidiomycete *Coprinosia cinerea*.**



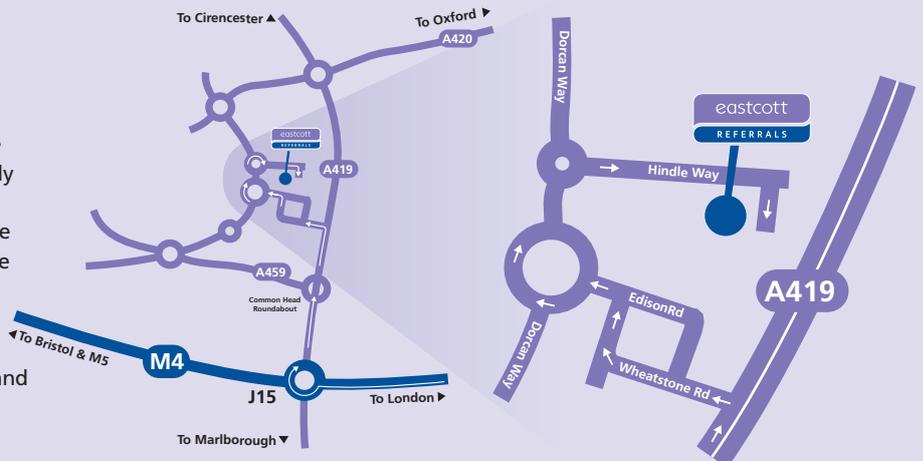
You can also test your knowledge with our quiz case: *Unusual Cause of Dyspnoea in a Dog*



## How to find us

From M4 westbound exit at junction 15 and take the 3rd exit onto the A419 signposted Swindon. Take the second turning from the A419 signposted Dorcan (B4006 - Wheatstone Road). At the end of Wheatstone Road keep right onto Liden Drive and then immediately left onto Edison road. At the roundabout take the 3rd exit onto Dorcan Way. At the next roundabout take the 2nd exit. Arrive at Edison Park, Hindle Way take the first road on the right to arrive at Eastcott Veterinary 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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