



VETERINARY ONCOLOGY CONSULTANTS

helping veterinarians treat pets with cancer

Minicourse in Surgical Oncology for Veterinary Practitioners Port Macquarie, September 20, 2009 / Coogee Beach, September 27, 2009

9:00 – 10:30 am Oncologic Surgery: Challenging Cases, Surgical Solutions

This is a case-based, group discussion of common problems, new advances, and controversial topics encountered in oncologic surgery. This discussion will lead off the day and segue into more detailed descriptions of surgical techniques and strategies.

Morning Tea

10:50 am – 11:40 am Recent Advances in the Management of Intra-Operative Haemorrhage- Is Bleeding Really Necessary?

The last decade has seen an explosion in technology aimed at aiding management of intra-operative haemorrhage. We will discuss traditional as well as new and novel technologies to control bleeding; including various haemostatic sponges, surgical clips, and stapling devices, as well as compare and contrast haemostasis by electrosurgery, laser, and harmonic scalpel, focusing on equipment most useful for general private practice.

11:50 – 12:50 Getting the Most from Your Histopathology Report: A Users Guide (Tony / Angela)

The veterinary histopathologist influences management of cancer patients beyond establishing a diagnosis. This lecture will guide veterinarians in interpreting their pathology report for cancer grading and in requesting special stains and techniques to provide accurate prognosis and the best treatment for their cancer patients.

Lunch

1:50- 2:40 Managing the Surgical Wound I: Dealing With the Wound That Is Difficult To Close

The goal in oncologic surgery is generally to obtain maximum wide and deep margins. Depending on the surgical site, this frequently results in a wound that is difficult to close. This lecture will discuss practical surgical techniques to aid in closure of the large wound. Specific topics include tension relieving techniques, local flaps and simple skin grafts that actually work.

2:50 – 3:40 Managing the Surgical Wound II: Dealing With the Wound That Can Not Be Closed

Depending on the surgical site, obtaining maximum wide and deep margins may not be possible even after employing local flaps and tension relieving techniques. Sacrificing surgical margins to obtain skin closure risks tumour recurrence. This lecture will focus on the best methods to manage the open surgical wound, including new and novel dressings, vacuum assisted closure, and bandaging techniques.

Afternoon Tea

4:00 - 5:00 Minimally Invasive Oncologic Surgery: Can Diagnosis and Treatment of Cancer Be Accomplished with Less Pain?

The use of diagnostic and therapeutic laparoscopy has increased tremendously in both the human and veterinary surgical fields over the last 10 years. Advances in instrumentation and technique have progressed to the point where many surgical procedures that could previously only be performed using standard "open" techniques can now also be performed laparoscopically. The purpose of this lecture is to introduce basic laparoscopic instrumentation, discuss potential uses in oncologic surgery and evaluate the practicality of using laparoscopy as an additional income stream in small animal practice.

Robert McCarthy, DVM, Diplomate of the American College of Veterinary Surgeons

Rob has worked as a specialist surgeon at Louisiana State University and Tufts University, and owns a specialist surgery practice. He has a special interest in laparoscopic surgery. His unique and diverse background positions him perfectly to know the importance of excellent oncologic surgery to practicing veterinarians. Rob has spoken at international meetings as well as in the USA, but this will be his first trip to Australia.

Veterinary Oncology Consultants Pty Ltd

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Veterinary Oncology Consultants' mission is to assist other veterinarians in providing the highest possible quality of life for pets with cancer and their human families, by making evidence- and compassion-based recommendations for their care and providing educational materials.