

CVCA

Cardiac Care for Pets

Marketing Portfolio

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CHARITIES



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Veterinarian For a Day Certificate

Pediatric Picnic Bag

Pediatric Picnic Map

When Pets Need a Board-Certified Cardiologist

CVCA Cardiac Care for Pets
www.cvcavets.com

Early diagnosis and appropriate treatment by a board-certified veterinary cardiologist, before heart disease becomes symptomatic or life threatening, are key to your pet living a longer, healthier life.

EXCELLENCE • COMPASSION • INTEGRITY

- We see over 24,000 patients per year
- Since 1987, largest practice of board-certified veterinary cardiologists
- Collaboration with primary care veterinarians for optimal outcome and care
- 24/7 availability by phone for emergency and primary care veterinarians
- Over 99% of our clients would recommend us to a friend or family member
- Payment options available
- A full cardiac initial consultation includes:
  - Complete review of medical records, history, labs, and radiographs
  - Blood pressure
  - Echocardiogram by board-certified cardiologist
  - Owners accompany their pet for echocardiogram
  - Accurate and immediate diagnosis
  - Ample time with each family for a comprehensive discussion on all aspects of the cardiac patient



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CVCA Locations in Kentucky, Maryland, Texas and Virginia

Why CVCA

CVCA Cardiac Care for Pets
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Both dogs and cats hide outward signs of heart disease and typically do not appear sick until they are in a crisis situation. **Early diagnosis and appropriate treatment by a board-certified veterinary cardiologist, before heart disease becomes symptomatic or life threatening,** are key to your pet living a longer, healthier life.

EXCELLENCE • COMPASSION • INTEGRITY

- Since 1987, largest practice of board certified veterinary cardiologists
- We see over 21,000 patients per year
- Over 99% of our clients would recommend us to a friend or family member
- Partnership and collaboration with primary care veterinarians for optimal outcome and care
- 24/7 availability by phone for your emergency and primary care veterinarians
- The majority of cardiac diseases are treated with generic medications
- Patients with congestive heart failure live 75% longer when co-managed by a board certified veterinary cardiologist and primary care veterinarian.
- A full initial cardiac consultation includes:
  - Complete review of medical records, history, lab work, and radiographs
  - Echocardiogram, performed by board certified cardiologist
  - Owners accompany their pet for echocardiogram
  - Blood pressure
  - Accurate and immediate diagnosis
  - Unlimited time for one-on-one discussion and questions during and after the consultation at no additional cost



CVCA supports our local swim teams!

VIRGINIA - **Fairfax | Leesburg | Richmond | Springfield | Vienna**
MARYLAND - **Annapolis | Columbia | Frederick | Gaithersburg | Rockville | Towson**

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When Pets Need a Board-Certified Cardiologist

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Early diagnosis and appropriate treatment by a board-certified veterinary cardiologist, before heart disease becomes symptomatic or life threatening, are key to your pet living a longer, healthier life.

EXCELLENCE • COMPASSION • INTEGRITY

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  - Accurate and immediate diagnosis
  - Ample time with each family for a comprehensive discussion on all aspects of the cardiac patient



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CVCA Locations in Kentucky, Maryland, Texas and Virginia

Swim Team Ad

Pawject Runaway Ad

Loudoun County Ad

CLIENT HANDOUTS



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Here's what our clients are saying...

This service is nothing short of amazing. I now know the exact medications and doses my Rosie needs to extend her life and preserve the quality of her life. I watched her echocardiogram, which was seriously cool! Dr. Tim Cain fully explained Rosie's issues, including the way a dog's heart works, what to expect, what to watch for but more importantly, he gave me a lot of hope. It was unknown how far her heart disease had progressed, but now we know, and she can be treated accordingly. Thank you, CVCA!
-Julie H.

I highly recommend CVCA. Our vet cardiologist retired (and was well-loved around the city), so we were a bit apprehensive, but we had heard great things about the CVCA practice (shares space with AVES). We absolutely loved Dr. Bordelon. She is personable, takes her time, and s great and gentle with both animals and was as quick and as painless as it could be, sty. Glad that she found a home in Austin!

nce here today! When I arrived for my dog's e sign with his name (like at the airport) l, Taryn, and the resident took incredible s explained to us thoroughly, and everyone r was given lots of love and comfort ion. The pet and owner experience is really t's clear that they've taken time and effort ts' experiences and make them as positive o much, CVCA!

staff at CVCA in Austin, Texas, are always welcoming. It certainly makes for a less omma and her little Pooh.

Although I never wish for anyone to have to bring their pet here, it is an incredible facility if an emergency pet situation should arise. It is state-of-the-art care with outstanding, caring hands. They emailed me a report of my pet's scans and diagnosis, which I greatly appreciated. We promptly got my dog back on the road to recovery. Thank you, CVCA!
-Lili C.

I took my 4-week-old Olde English / English Bulldog puppy in for an evaluation of a heart defect that showed up on X-ray at our primary's office. I have no idea how they were able to get an echo on that tiny, wiggly body, but they did an amazing job! Dr. Rosenthal explained everything that he found as we went, was extremely knowledgeable about her condition, and made me comfortable knowing that my baby girl Jasmine couldn't be in better hands. The staff were very friendly and caring. Wonderful facility!
-Cathy T.

They go above and beyond to make sure your pet is receiving the best care possible. Unfortunately, my dog had heart failure months ago, and I took her to CVCA. I am very confident my dog is alive and doing well thanks to CVCA. They were very transparent about costs and gave me dedicated time and service for my dog, and any questions I may have. They have a dedicated team of staff and veterinarians that are able to provide the best possible treatment for your pet and answer any questions you may have. I highly recommend them, especially after your pet has suffered such an awful disease, such as congestive heart failure.
-Helen V.

Seriously amazing facility. My little Rocky seemed more comfortable here than he has at any other vet (though, of course, still slightly anxious!), but it felt really peaceful there. They do such thorough exams and really explain things in a way that makes it easy to understand.
-Sophia C.

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Here's what our clients are saying...

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"Today was our first visit to see Dr. Hickey. Kai was completely relaxed and we felt very welcome, and comfortable at this facility. Dr. Hickey and his staff were amazingly kind, informative, and patient with us. At no time did we feel rushed. The quality of care provided today, along with the great customer service, are not things that are easily found these days. We are so happy with everything! Thank you Dr. Hickey and your staff!"
Candy S.

"Dr. Tyrrell and staff, at both the Leesburg and Frederick locations, were excellent. They took great care of my cat Hugh for 10 years. After Hugh died at 17 years of age this past November, I received a heartfelt letter handwritten by Dr. Tyrrell offering his condolences. I love that they care both for the pet and the owner. I HIGHLY recommend CVCA! Thanks for all that you do!"
Nicole C.

"Dr. Bell and her staff are amazing people. Each and every one of her staff has a heart as big as an ocean. I am always given their undivided attention and loving concern. On my first visit, I became family. Dr. Bell treats my dog, Holly, as if she were her own. I am so very thankful I do not have to go through Holly's heart disease alone."
M.

"I am not only one of the referring veterinarians for this practice, but my cat, Gus, is also a cardio patient. I am always impressed with the dedication and compassion that all the doctors show their clients and patients. My practice is over two hours away and they are always willing to consult over the phone if I need advice. My clients always come back with great reviews as well. You guys are awesome!"
Primary Care Veterinarian

"CVCA gave me an additional three year with my little buddy, Dusty, and I am eternally grateful for that because he was the best cat ever. I treasured every moment of that time, as did Dusty."
Lori H.

"I wanted to thank CVCA when we thought our 14-year-old Cashew was seeing his last days. They did some really sweet things that really helped comfort me when I was utterly stressed and distraught at his condition. Luckily because of the right care, Cashew is doing much better now. You all were so good with Cashew and in helping me get the right dosage of meds. We get to love Cashew and spend more time with him, and we couldn't ask for more. It's comforting to know you guys are there and that right next door is 24-hour urgent care. Thank you!!"
Leona

"The staff at CVCA made my pet feel at ease and were professional and courteous. Dr. Bell was so polite and took time to thoroughly explain my pet's disease state. She answered all my questions and provided me with very informative materials. During follow up phone calls, the staff continued to display a genuine concern for my pet's well being. I highly recommend CVCA for your pet's cardiology concerns."
JF

"My nine-year-old Weimaraner was referred to CVCA (Cardiology) by my regular vet. After an echocardiogram, he was diagnosed with dilated cardiomyopathy, with probable renal problems developing. I was told he might have 2 - 12 months depending on how the treatment went. He had a follow-up echo six months later, and another checkup visit six months after that. There were many, many phone conversations and medicine tweaks over his last 15 months. Everyone at CVCA was the utmost professional and understanding every time there was an interaction.
Bob

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CVCA Locations in Kentucky, Maryland, Texas and Virginia

Client Testimonials

Client Testimonials - Texas

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Meet CVCA's Austin, TX Board-Certified Cardiologists



Katie Meier, DVM, Diplomate, ACVIM (Cardiology)

Dr. Meier graduated from the University of California at Davis School of Veterinary Medicine in 2003. She then went on to complete a year-long rotating post-graduate internship at Texas A&M College of Veterinary Medicine.

She completed her residency in Cardiolog
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CVCA in
7300



Sara Beth Bordelon, DVM, MS, Diplomate, ACVIM (Cardiology)

Dr. Sara Beth Bordelon obtained her DVM degree from Louisiana State University College of Veterinary Medicine in 2005. She completed a one-year rotating internship in Los Angeles, CA prior to beginning her Cardiology residency. She completed her Cardiology residency at Washington



Julie Andrie, DVM, Diplomate, ACVIM (Cardiology)

Dr. Julie Andrie received her Doctor of Veterinary Medicine degree from Ross University School of Veterinary Medicine in St. Kitts. She completed her clinical year at Oklahoma State University. After graduation, Dr. Andrie completed a one-year rotating internship at Kansas State

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Meet CVCA's Louisville, KY Board-Certified Cardiologists



Sarah Clay Bell, DVM, MS, Diplomate, ACVIM (Cardiology)

Dr. Bell graduated from the University of Georgia College of Veterinary Medicine in 2009, and completed a rotating internship at North Carolina State University the following year. She then moved to Pittsburgh to practice emergency medicine before deciding to pursue a residency in cardiology. Dr. Bell completed her residency at the University of Missouri and achieved Diplomate status with the American College of Veterinary Internal Medicine (Cardiology) in 2015.



Steven Rosenthal, DVM, Diplomate, ACVIM (Cardiology)

Dr. Rosenthal joined CVCA in 1994. A graduate of the University of Maryland, he went on to receive his Doctorate in Veterinary Medicine from the University of Florida College of Veterinary Medicine. He completed both his small animal internship and cardiology residency at the Animal Medical Center in New York, after which he was a staff cardiologist for one year. Dr. Rosenthal is the cardiology consultant for the Smithsonian Institute National Zoo in Washington DC, the Maryland Zoo in Baltimore, and the National Aquarium and has been part of numerous cardiac publications in reference to zoo animal cardiac disease.

CVCA inside BluePearl Specialty & Emergency Pet Hospital
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Fax: 502-771-6036
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esse Miller, newest resident!

, Resident in Cardiology

er! We are excited to welcome
nside of the Pet E.R. in Towson,
peake Veterinary Referral Center
esse is a great addition to our
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disease,
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e Maryland area.
include lacrosse,
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Fax: 443-588-5666
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Fax: 410-828-5315
Email: cvcatowson@cvcavets.com

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s | Columbia | Frederick | Gaithersburg | Rockville | Towson

Meet Cardiologists - Texas

Meet Cardiologists - Kentucky

Meet Newest Resident

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Welcome to CVCA

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Registration

Owner ______________________ Date ______________

Address ______________________________________

City ______________________ State ____________ Zip ______________

Phone: Home ______________ Work ______________

Mobile ______________ Email address ______________

Occupation ______________________

Would you like to sign up for text message reminders? ☐ Y ☐ N

Does anyone else have permission to make decisions on behalf of your pet? ☐ Y ☐ N

Co-Owner:

Phone: Home ______________

Work ______________

Mobile ______________

Occupation ______________

Please list name and contact information: ______________________

How did you hear about CVCA? ☐ My Primary Care Veterinarian ☐ Veterinary Hospital ☐ Facebook ☐ Instagram ☐ Website ☐ Community Event ☐ Online Search ☐ Friend or Neighbor ☐ Have been seen with previous pet ☐ Other ______________

☐ Y ☐ N May we use a photo of this patient and information from the case for our marketing efforts including social media?

I understand that payment in full is due at the time of service. I agree to assume financial responsibility for all professional fees, and agree to pay CVCA when services are rendered. I understand that a fee of $35.00 will be incurred for all returned checks and a service fee of 1.5% will be charged on any unpaid balance. CVCA may also recover reasonable attorney's fees and court costs incurred as a result of my failure to pay in accordance with this authorization.

Signed ______________________ Date ______________

Primary Care Veterinarian

Name of Hospital ______________________

Veterinarian's Name ______________ Other Veterinarian or Specialist ______________

Pet Health History

______________ ☐ Dog ☐ Cat ☐ Other ______________

Color ______________ DOB/Approximate Age ______________ ☐ Male ☐ Female Altered? ☐ Y ☐ N

nned? ☐ Y ☐ N If yes, when? ______________ and what procedure ______________

we should be advised of? ______________________

et? ______________________

______________ City ______________

d Pressure:

At Home Respiratory Monitoring

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Frequently, the earliest sign of congestive heart failure is difficulty breathing secondary to the development of fluid within the lungs. Early detection of congestive heart failure is critical in making medical treatments more effective and avoiding hospitalization.

How To Take Your Pet's Respiratory Rate

- Always perform under similar conditions each time (for example, while sleeping or relaxed).
- To count your pet's respiratory rate, watch his/her chest—each in and out is one breath
- Count the number of breaths they take in 30 seconds and multiply by 2, this will be the breaths per minute.
- The normal resting respiratory rate in the dog and cat is less than 30-35 breaths per minute, although it can be lower in some individuals.
- Please record your dog or cat's respiratory rate 2-3 times per week

When To Call Us

If you notice a persistent or progressive elevation of more than 20% increase in the rate, recheck the respiratory rate again within 4-6 hours. **If two consecutive evaluations are elevated then please contact CVCA**. We may be able to adjust some medications or recommend re-evaluation of your pet at the office based on the patient's condition.

Please call us if you notice any of the following:

- Heavy breathing
- Progressive coughing
- Becoming short of breath with exercise
- Lethargy and weakness
- Episodes of collapse
- Abdominal distention

DAILY RECORD FOR ______________________

Date	Respiratory Rate	Date	Respiratory Rate

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New Patient Form

At Home Respiratory Monitoring



When Your Pet Needs a Cardiologist

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Early diagnosis, appropriate treatment with compassionate care and exceptional value, with payment flexibility, puts treatment within reach.

Both dogs and cats hide outward signs of heart disease and typically do not appear sick until they are in a crisis situation. Emergency visits with pets can be very expensive and traumatic for both the patient, and family, so **the "wait and see" approach is not recommended** for dogs or cats with heart disease. **Early diagnosis and appropriate treatment by a board-certified veterinary cardiologist, before heart disease becomes symptomatic or life threatening,** are key to your pet living a longer, healthier life with you and your family.

Over 99% of our clients would recommend us to a friend or family member. Since 1987 CVCA Cardiac Care for Pets has seen **over 24,000 patients per year** – more than any other board-certified veterinary cardiology practice.

Symptoms

10 Signs of Heart Disease that Dogs and Cats May Show

1. **Persistent Cough**
2. **Difficulty Breathing**
3. **Fainting/Collapsing**
4. **Abdominal Swelling/Distension**
5. **Less Tolerance to Exercise**
6. **Heart Murmur**
7. **Change in Heart Rate**
8. **Change in Body Weight**
9. **Restless or Hiding**
10. **Loss of Appetite**

Diagnosis

Early Diagnosis and Appropriate Treatment is Key

- ACVIM credentials reflect 3-5+ years of cardiac-specific training for board-certified cardiologists.
- The majority of cardiac diseases are treated with generic medications.
- Families report an improvement in their pet's quality of life and energy while on medications.
- Patients with congestive heart failure live 75% longer when co-managed by a board certified veterinary cardiologist and primary care veterinarian.

Consultation

What to Expect at the Initial Consultation

Initial consultations include a full and accurate cardiac workup by a board-certified cardiologist:

- Complete review and interpretation of medical history, radiographs and labs.
- Blood pressure.
- **Echocardiogram by a board certified cardiologist.**
- **Owners accompany their pet for echocardiogram.**
- **Accurate and immediate diagnosis.**
- **Ample time with each family for a comprehensive discussion** on all aspects of the management of your cardiac patient, including:
  - Treatment options and prognosis
  - Diet and nutritional supplements
  - Activity levels
  - Anesthesia risk management
  - Options for medication
- **24/7 Availability by phone:** A cardiologist is available by phone, 24 hours a day, 7 days a week, for emergency and primary care veterinarians.
- **Collaboration with Primary Care Veterinarians:** CVCA is committed to ensuring ongoing communication with your primary care veterinarian. We send a full report on the diagnosis of your pet and the established treatment plan, and continuously collaborate with your veterinarian in the best possible care of your pet.

Payment Options

Exceptional Value and Payment Flexibility

- 85% of our patients receive a full cardiac workup, including treatment options and prognosis, in the range of the mid-$600s. While the remaining patients may require additional diagnostics, almost all clients have a total cost below the mid-$700s.
- Payment flexibility consists of multiple options to help ease some financial concerns:
  - **Credit Cards**
  - **Personal Check**
  - **Cash**
  - **Care Credit**
    - 6-month deferred interest
    - Apply online prior to appointment
  - **Payment Banc**
    - 6-month interest-free
    - Account status accessible anytime
    - A minimum deposit due

CareCredit™
Payment | Banc
VISA MasterCard DISCOVER

**CVCA 2020 prices subject to change.*

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When Your Pet Needs a Cardiologist

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The toughest question we ever get from owners is, *'Could more have been done for my pet?'*

A Tale of Two Dobermans: Same Disease, Different Outcomes

- **Two Dobermans; both five years of age.**
- **Both presented to their primary care veterinarians for wellness care in October 2014.**
- **A new murmur and arrhythmia were found on both dogs.**
- **"Brutus", the first Doberman, was counseled by the family veterinarian and referral to CVCA was recommended due to the high level of suspicion for dilated cardiomyopathy (DCM).**
- **"Sinbad", the second Doberman, was told a mobile sonographer could come by the practice and perform the same echocardiogram as CVCA. The cost would be similar but the owner would not have to travel outside of their neighborhood.**
- **Both were asymptomatic in October 2014.**

Brutus

Brutus and his family came to see CVCA a few days after their wellness visit with their primary care veterinarian. Physical examination revealed a grade III/VI systolic murmur over the mitral valve along with occasional extrasystolic beats that ntricular premature contrac- EKG were recommended. A had already been performed re completely normal. Echo- M with mild left atrial and nd decreased left ventricular revealed single and couplet Brutus' family was counseled ognosis, a complete medical s thoroughly discussed with and therapeutic recommen- h were all based on current endations. Treatment with ronolactone and Sotalol was of congestive heart failure, risks for sudden death, and ll discussed with the family. emistry were recommended y care practice and a Holter o determine 24 hour global life threatening ventricular

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Sinbad

Sinbad received an echocardiogram by a mobile sonographer within a few days after his wellness visit to his primary veterinarian. His diagnosis was the same: early dilated cardiomyopathy. Notations were made by the mobile sonographer that arrhythmias were present during the echocardiogram and that further diagnostics to evaluate these arrhythmias would be prudent. The cardiologist who remotely interpreted Sinbad's echocardiogram made similar recommendations as well. The cardiologist gave the option to start Pimobendan but noted that he was not yet in congestive heart failure and this drug could be optional. Sinbad was started on Enalapril only, and a recheck echocardiogram was recommended in six months. The owners were never counseled as to the potential severity of his DCM and lethality of Sinbad's arrhythmia.



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Paladin And Hypertrophic Cardiomyopathy – A Success Story!

Early referral and appropriate treatment, with collaboration between the board-certified veterinary cardiologists at CVCA Cardiac Care for Pets (CVCA), and Paladin's primary care veterinarian, resulted in a longer, healthier life with his family.

Paladin, John Kennedy's beautiful, male, black kitty lived for 13 years with hypertrophic cardiomyopathy (HCM) thanks to the life-saving treatment he received at CVCA. Paladin walked into Mr. Kennedy's life in August 1997 as a cat living on the streets near Mr. Kennedy's home. During Halloween of that year, Mr. Kennedy became concerned for Paladin's safety, as a black cat wandering the streets on a high-traffic night could meet with unfortunate consequences. Reluctantly, Mr. Kennedy brought him inside where he successfully introduced him to Mr. Kennedy's other cats, Oliver and Mimi.

At six years of age, on a routine physical examination, Paladin was diagnosed with a heart murmur by his primary care veterinarian, Dr. Anne Sinclair at Cat Sense. His veterinarian recommended a consultation with the cardiologists at CVCA. At their first visit with Dr. McGregor Ferguson, Paladin was diagnosed with HCM, the most common heart disease in cats. This is a disease in which the heart muscle becomes thicker than normal and can cause irregular heartbeats, sudden death, heart enlargement, and congestive heart failure. It is usually a genetic/inherited condition and is common in young, male cats, like Paladin. Mr. Kennedy was frightened and worried when he heard the diagnosis—this was serious! He was concerned that Paladin only had a few months to live, but, thankfully, his first impression was wrong. Dr. Ferguson placed Paladin on medications that helped stabilize his heart disease, prevent blood clots and prevent progression of the heart enlargement.

It took a while to figure out how to administer the medications, but, fortunately, Paladin enjoyed taking his medications in baby food. Over the years, Paladin saw various cardiologists at CVCA Cardiac Care for Pets who worked with his primary care veterinarian, Dr. Sinclair, to optimize Paladin's therapy and his condition improved, and stabilized for many years.

Paladin eventually crossed the Rainbow Bridge on January 11, 2016 at 19 years of age, due to complications unrelated to his heart disease. Because of the prompt referral from his primary care veterinarian, Paladin was able to receive early and ongoing treatments. By co-managing Paladin's care with his primary care veterinarian, CVCA Cardiac Care for Pets helped Paladin survive HCM for 13 years. Fortunately, HCM does not have to be fatal – don't delay an early diagnosis and treatment.



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Two Dobermans Case Study

Paladin Case Study

CVCA is the leading choice for veterinary cardiology. Our team of board-certified cardiologists, residents, nurses, and client care representatives sees more pets with heart disease than any other practice worldwide. Our expertise and top of the line echocardiography equipment ensures accurate diagnosis and the best outcome for your pet.



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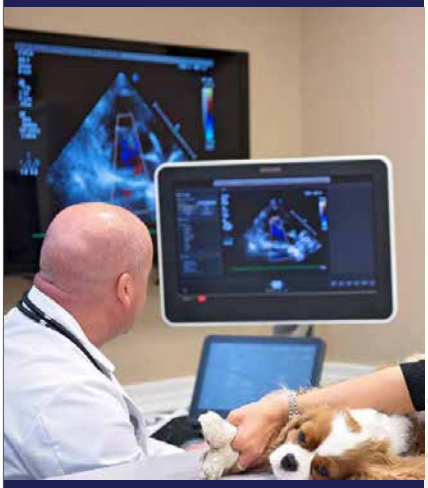
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on information

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CVCA's Doctors are Diplomates of the ACVIM within the College of Cardiology (www.acvim.org)

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Brochure - Texas

Brochure - MD & VA

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Tricuspid Valve Dysplasia

What is tricuspid valve dysplasia (TVD)?

- Tricuspid Valve Dysplasia is an uncommon congenital heart defect accounting for approximately 7% of all heart defects in dogs and is rare in cats.
- It is more commonly seen in Labrador Retrievers, Irish Setters, Great Danes, and German Shepherds, although any breed can be affected.
- It is a malformation of the tricuspid valve and its associated supporting structures that assist in proper valve closure. The tricuspid valve, or right atrioventricular valve, separates the right atrium from the right ventricle.
- TVD results in a lack of complete valve closure leading to a backflow of blood (regurgitation) up into the right atrium.
- If the regurgitation is severe enough, the right side (right ventricle and right atrium) of heart becomes enlarged.
- As the right side of the heart progressively increases in size, right sided congestive heart failure can occur. Fluid can accumulate within the abdominal and/or chest cavity as a consequence of right sided heart failure.

How is TV

- A prelimin
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- Often a he
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failure.
- An echoc
heart) per
a definitiv
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How is it treated?

- Therapy is usually not institute
sided heart enlargement are p
- Medical therapy is aimed at im
delaying the onset of congestiv
controlling fluid accumulation
developed.
- Occasionally, a simple in-office
to remove excess abdominal fl
immediate relief to any uncom
distention.

What is the prognosis?

- Pets with mild TVD live normal
medical intervention.
- Pets with severe TVD often dev
failure within the first several y
recent advances in medicatior
quality of life for many months
beyond the onset of symptoms



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Subaortic Stenosis

What is Subaortic Stenosis (SAS)?

- A relatively common congenital (inherited) heart defect in the dog and a rare defect in the cat.
- It is most often identified in large and giant breed dogs such as the Newfoundland, Golden Retriever, Boxer, Rottweiler, German Shepherd, English Bulldog, Great Dane, German Short-haired Pointer, and Bouvier des Flandres. It is reported in many other purebreds as well as mixed breeds of dogs.
- It consists of abnormal tissue located just below the aortic valve that creates an obstruction the heart has to overcome to pump blood out to the body.
- Stenosis makes the heart work harder than normal. As a result, the heart muscle can become thickened

How is it treated?

- Prophylactic antibiotics:
  - All dogs with SAS are at an increased risk for developing infections of their aortic valve (endocarditis) and should receive antibiotics when they have wounds or are undergoing surgery or dental procedures.
- Limited exercise:
  - Leashed walks and short trips to the back yard for dogs with moderate to severe disease.
  - Try to avoid vigorous burst type activity
- Cardiac medications:
  - Beta-blockers are often recommended for moderate to severely affected SAS dogs.
  - Additional therapy to treat specific arrhythmias and heart failure may also be required.
- Surgical and catheterization procedures:
  - Available at some university veterinary hospitals; however, they have not yet been shown to improve survival times.

What is the prognosis?

- Mildly affected dogs are expected to have normal life spans will usually remain asymptomatic.
- Severely affected dogs may die suddenly when young to middle-aged.
- It should be noted that SAS can be progressive in some dogs especially in the first few years of life. Thus, even mildly affected, asymptomatic dogs should be periodically reexamined as recommended by your cardiologist or your primary care veterinarian.



The abnormal tissue obstructing normal flow out of the left ventricle is shown.

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Systemic Hypertension

What is Systemic Hypertension?

- Blood pressure (BP) is the force exerted by circulating blood on the walls of blood vessels.
- Blood volume, constriction or dilation of the arteries, and heart rate all have an effect on blood pressure.
- In humans, measured as:
  - Systolic pressure (immediately following ejection of blood from the heart).
  - Diastolic pressure (just prior to ejection of blood from the heart).
  - It is represented as systolic pressure/diastolic pressure, e.g. 120/80 mmHg.
- In pets, we typically only measure the systolic pressure (top number).
- Normal systolic pressure in dogs and cats is in the 120-130 mmHg range.
- An allowance of up to 160 mmHg systolic is often used since many of our patients are quite anxious in the hospital setting ("white coat effect"). Just like in humans, pets can have high blood pressure or systemic hypertension.

How is Systemic Hypertension diagnosed?

- A CVCA nurse will usually measure your pet's blood pressure at each visit. Blood pressure measurement in a pet is similar to the method used at your doctor's office, but instead of a stethoscope, we use a Doppler probe to listen for pulses.
- Blood pressure measurement is usually recommended in:
  - Any dog or cat over the age of 7-8.
  - Any pet who has been prescribed cardiac medications.
  - Pets with certain underlying diseases that may predispose them to high blood pressure.
- Systemic hypertension is diagnosed by repeatable measurements of an elevated blood pressure.
- When blood pressure is chronically increased, it has negative effects on many of the body's organs including the eyes, brain, spinal cord, kidneys, and heart.
- Symptoms directly attributable to hypertension include:
  - Sudden blindness
  - Nose bleeds
  - Behavioral changes
  - Congestive heart failure
  - Lethargy
  - Stroke-like symptoms
- Blood work and a urinalysis are indicated to help determine a potential primary cause for your pet's systemic hypertension.
- Additional diagnostic testing such as an abdominal ultrasound may also be recommended to help find an underlying disease condition that is responsible for the high blood pressure.

What are the causes?

- Primary or Essential Hypertension (not resulting from an underlying disease) is uncommon.
- Secondary hypertension may result from concurrent endocrine disorders like Cushing's disease, diabetes mellitus and hyperthyroidism. In addition hypertension is commonly associated with chronic kidney disease in dogs and cats.

Treatment

- Treatment of the underlying disease may result in lowering of the blood pressure to a point where anti-hypertensive medications are not required.
- Medications may be used to lower blood pressure and to prevent damage to other body organs.
- Modification of dietary habits and body condition may be helpful in the management of hypertension.
- In every case, regular monitoring of blood pressure with your primary care veterinarian and/or CVCA is required to ensure adequate reduction of your pet's blood pressure to a safe range.



Tricuspid Valve Dysplasia Handout

Subaortic Stenosis Handout

System Hypertension Handout

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Pulmonic Stenosis

What is Pulmonic Stenosis (PS)?

- Pulmonic Stenosis is one of the most commonly reported congenital heart defects in dogs, yet rarely reported in cats.
- It can occur in any breed, but is seen more frequently in Chihuahuas, Boxers, Labradors, Newfoundlands, West Highland White terriers, with known patterns of inheritance in both Beagles and English Bulldogs.
- Pulmonic stenosis is a defect involving the pulmonic valve and/or the surrounding structures of the right ventricle and pulmonary artery. The pulmonic valve normally opens during ventricular contraction allowing deoxygenated blood to be pumped from the right ventricle to the lungs. PS is a narrowing of this region (stenosis) resulting in an increased workload on the right ventricle causing hypertrophy (excessive heart muscle thickening).
- The most common form of the defect involves thickened, immobile pulmonic valve leaflets, however some forms of this disease are more complicated. One such defect involving an aberrant right coronary artery in both English Bulldogs and Boxers is important to recognize, as this form of PS is not as amenable to the most common interventional procedures.

and chest radiographs, however, a d
requires an echocardiogram by a vet
- An echocardiogram provides impo
on the severity of the defect, detec
cardiac abnormalities that may co
surgical intervention, and helps to

Severity of Pulmonic Stenosi

- Mild PS: Pets usually live normal live
the need for medications.
- Moderate to severe PS may result in:
  - exercise intolerance
  - shortness of breath
  - fainting
  - fatal arrhythmias (rare)
  - cong
  - (rare
  - seen
  - effus

How is it treated?

- For moderate to severe disease the t
is usually balloon valvuloplasty.
  - Minimally invasive catheterization
a balloon is guided by fluoroscopy
of stenosis and inflated under pres
in stretching or tearing open of the
improving blood flow.
  - In patients with severe disease, th
clinical signs, improves quality of l

Normal Heart | Pulmonic Stenosis



How is it

- Dogs with
- A murmur
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Pulmonary Hypertension

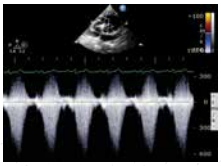
Pulmonary hypertension is defined as high blood pressure within the vessels of the lungs. Primary pulmonary hypertension (meaning not resulting from another disease process) is rare in veterinary medicine and is diagnosed by ruling out all other causes of pulmonary hypertension.

Most common causes of pulmonary hypertension in dogs include:

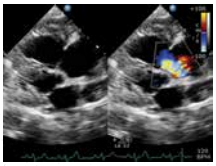
- Chronic lung disease and low blood oxygen concentration
  - Chronic bronchitis (COPD)
  - Pulmonary fibrosis (scarring of the lung tissue)
- Obstruction of the blood vessels
  - Pulmonary thromboembolism (PTE, blood clot to the lungs)
    Typically dogs with PTEs have another disease process that predisposes them to spontaneously forming blood clots within the body. These processes most commonly include a recent history of major trauma, Cushing's disease, protein-losing intestinal or kidney disease, and cancer.
  - Heartworm disease
    Obstruction by the worms themselves and reaction of the blood vessels to the worms' presence.
  - Cancer
- Long-standing left-sided heart disease and heart failure
  - Degenerative mitral valve disease
  - Dilated cardiomyopathy

Clinical signs and physical exam findings common in pulmonary hypertension patients:

- Coughing
- Changes in breathing - increased respiratory rate and/or effort
- Exercise intolerance
- Fainting (syncope)
- Heart murmur
- Abnormal lung sounds (crackles +/- wheezes)
- Cyanosis of the tongue or mucous membranes (blue/purple color to the tongue or gums)
- Signs of right-sided congestive heart failure (most commonly free abdominal fluid)



The speed of the tricuspid valve leak can be used to estimate lung pressures.



Color-compare image showing severe right heart enlargement and moderate tricuspid regurgitation.



Short axis view of the ventricles showing severe right ventricular dilation and flattening of the septum.

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Preanesthetic Evaluation of the Canine Patient"Knowing is Half the Battle"

General anesthesia is an everyday occurrence in all of our practices. Despite the repetition of this procedure in practice, the loss of a patient can occur anytime. CVCA wants to help avoid any unexpected anesthetic related complication or even death by providing this outline of preanesthetic recommendations in preparation for Dental Month in February.

Several large scale studies of anesthetic related morbidity and mortality in small animal patients have revealed a mortality rate between 1 and 4 deaths per 1,000 anesthetic events[1,2,3,4]. This rate is relatively low,

frequently dependent on our physical exam skills. *The detection of a murmur, arrhythmia, or extra heart sound requires further evaluation of the pre-anesthetic patient prior to induction.*

Diagnostics for the Canine Cardiac Patient

Thoracic radiography

Thoracic radiographs assess cardiac silhouette size, the vascular pattern and provide information regarding the hemodynamic significance of a murmur[6]. Radiographic interpretation of the cardiac silhouette is a subjective assessment that is influenced by patient position, radiographic technique, phase of respiration, and chest conformation. Utilization of the vertebral heart scale (VHS) adds an objective measurement to aid in our assessment[7]. VHS can also be affected by patient positioning and breed[8,9].

Electrocardiography

An electrocardiogram is indicated for any patient with an arrhythmia and will identify conduction abnormalities which should prompt further evaluation.

Blood assays

N-terminal pro-B-type natriuretic peptide (NT-proBNP), a biomarker of ventricular wall stress, has become available as a potential screening tool for cardiac disease. This test is useful to delineate between cardiac and respiratory causes of dyspnea[10]. Its clinical utility in the staging of patients with valvular disease is uncertain due to overlap between groups of patients with or without heart enlargement[11,12] as well as significant day to day variability in the individual patient[13].

In large breed dogs, particularly breeds at risk for the development of dilated cardiomyopathy, NT-proBNP may prove to be a useful screening tool in the detection of occult disease[14]. These patients frequently have more subtle abnormalities on physical exam, resulting in decreased detection and frequent underestimation of occult cardiac disease. Thus, based on signalment and

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Pulmonic Stenosis Handout

Preanesthetic Evaluation Handout

Pulmonary Hypertension Handout

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Nutritional Supplements for Cardiac Patients

NUTRITION FOR CARDIAC PATIENTS

- Diet can slow disease progression, minimize medication requirements, and in some cases, cure the underlying disease.
- Individualize the diet of your patient based on type and extent of heart disease, other health concerns, and what the patient will eat.
- Change diet gradually (over approximately one month) to avoid GI upset.
- When starting medications, avoid changes to the diet for the first two weeks **and** until the pet is eating well.
- Consultations with a veterinary nutritionist are available with the help of your primary veterinarian at: http://vetnutrition.tufts.edu.

SODIUM AND DIETS

Salt (sodium chloride) restriction is important to decrease the retention of water and help control blood pressure.

Heart Disease	Category	Allowable sodium as a % of DRY matter	mg of Sodium per 100 kCal of food
Asymptomatic patient (i.e., no active heart failure, but at risk)	Mild sodium	0.3-0.4	80-100
Symptomatic patient (i.e., history of heart failure)			
Not recommended			

For information about content of various foo
http://vetmed.tufts.ed

L-CARNITINE

- L-carnitine is an ess production of energ
- Carnitine deficiency dilated cardiomyop
- The L-form of carni

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OMEGA-3 FATTY ACIDS (FISH

- Dogs with heart failure have been s omega-3 fatty acids.
- Commercial fish oil supplements va EPA and DHA they contain.
  - A common formulation is a one g 180 mg EPA and 120 mg DHA. recommended dose is one capsu
  - Avoid cod liver oil, flax, flaxseed added vitamins A and D (vitamin antioxidant).
- Beneficial cardiovascular effects sh
  - Improved energy metabolism in
  - Anti-inflammatory (heart failure i inflammatory disease)
  - Reduced potential for arrhythmia
  - Combats weight loss related to a

TAURINE

- Taurine is an amino acid found in h heart and is necessary for normal h

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Pericardial Effusion

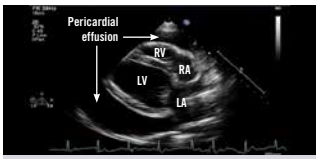
What is pericardial effusion?

- Pericardial effusion is the abnormal accumulation of fluid within the sac surrounding the heart (pericardium).
- There is normally only a very small amount of fluid in that sac to protect the heart and provide lubrication to prevent friction between the moving heart and surrounding organs.
- Pericardial effusion usually causes fluid accumulation in the belly and causes symptoms of weakness, breathing difficulties, and sometimes collapse.

How is it diagnosed?

What is the prognosis?

- The outcome is widely variable and depends on the cause of the problem.
- We are actively researching the utility of cardiac biomarkers to help discern the underlying cause of pericardial effusion.



Echocardiogram image of heart with pericardial fluid surrounding the heart with all four chambers shown. (RV– right ventricle, RA- right atrium, LV– left ventricle, LA– left atrium)

How is it treated?

- Removal of the fluid within the pericardial sac (pericardial tap) may be required.
  - This is done by inserting a catheter through the chest wall via ultrasound guidance and withdrawing the abnormal fluid present within the sac around the heart.
- Surgical removal of the pericardium may be recommended in cases of recurrent pericardial effusion. This procedure results in a significant improvement in quality of life and long-term survival in these types of patients.



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Patent Ductus Arteriosus

What is Patent Ductus Arteriosus (PDA)?

- PDA is the failure of a large blood vessel (ductus arteriosus) to close just after birth.
- In a fetus, this vessel is normal and allows blood to bypass the lungs since the lungs are not used in utero.
- At birth, the vessel should closes within hours, directing blood to flow into the newly inflated lungs.

Who gets this defect?

- PDA is the most frequently seen congenital defect of dogs and is sometimes seen in cats.
- The most commonly affected breeds are Maltese, Poodle, Pomeranian, Keeshond, Bichon Frise, Chihuahua and German Shepherds.
- PDA is more common in females than males in most breeds.

Effects of PDA

- Pets have a greater than 50% mortality rate for patients with a PDA by one year of age if left untreated.
- Heart enlargement that can result in secondary left sided congestive heart failure (fluid in lungs).

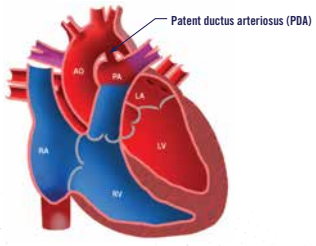
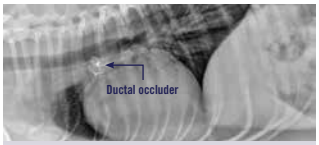


Diagram showing abnormal flow from the aorta (AO) to the pulmonary artery (PA) across the PDA.



Thoracic radiograph revealing Amplatz ductal occluder device after successful deployment.

Treatment available for PDA

- Based on the size of the patient at time of diagnosis and severity of complications, we will recommend one of two procedures:
  - **Transvenous Catheterization:**
    - In many patients we use non-invasive occlusion of the PDA.
    - A long catheter is placed in a hind leg and passed into the abnormal vessel using fluoroscopic guidance.
    - A device called an Amplatzer ductal occluder is then deployed to stop the abnormal blood flow through the PDA.
  - **Surgical Ligation:**
    - Smaller dogs and cats require open chest surgery to tie off the vessel itself.
    - The procedure requires surgery in the chest cavity but does not require opening the heart itself.
    - We collaborate with board certified veterinary surgeons who have experience with this procedure to ensure a high success rate and minimize the incidence of complications.

Fortunately, with appropriate diagnosis and successful correction of a PDA under the care of a board certified veterinary cardiologist, the vast majority of treated pets will live a full and healthy life.

Nutritional Supplements Handout

Pericardial Effusion Handout

Patent Ductus Arteriosus Handout

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Hypertrophic Cardiomyopathy in Cats

What is Hypertrophic Cardiomyopathy (HCM)?

- HCM is the most common form of heart disease in cats and is the result of a genetic mutation(s).
- HCM causes progressive thickening (hypertrophy) of the heart muscle (left ventricle) and dilation of the left atrium. (See Figure).
- Over time the thickening can create a stiff heart possibly resulting in congestive heart failure (fluid in or around the lungs).
- Signs of congestive heart failure in cats are increased breathing rate or effort, lethargy, decreased appetite, and/or reclusive behavior.
- Younger cats often develop a more aggressive form of the disease than older patients.
- Older cats can develop a thickened heart muscle from other conditions such as overactive thyroid, kidney disease, or high blood pressure.

How is it diagnosed?

- Your primary care veterinarian will refer you to a board certified v
a heart mu
a blood te
annual or



Echocardiogram image of heart affecte
picts the same anatomy as the above
heart now laying on its side. Black area
blood. Note the severely thickened left
small LV lumen (black area) that are h

- An echocardiogram (ultrasound
heart) by a board certified veter
gold standard for definitive diag

How do you treat HCM?

- Most patients benefit from med

Normal He



Note the inc
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Feline Hyperthyroidism

What is hyperthyroidism?

- Feline hyperthyroidism is a common disease in middle aged to older cats.
- It is caused by an enlarged and overactive thyroid gland(s) – usually a benign tumor that causes production of excessive thyroid hormone (T4).
- Signs of an overactive thyroid can include:
  - Weight loss/muscle wasting

How is it treated?

Treatment options include:

- Methimazole an oral medication that blocks the production of thyroid hormone. Some cats can be treated using this therapy as a lotion/gel absorbed through the skin.
- I-131 (radioactive iodine) treatment is used in both cats and people. This therapy entails giving the patient radioactive iodine which concentrates in and selectively destroys the overactive thyroid tissue/tumor.
- Diet: Hill's pet food now offers a diet to treat cats with hyperthyroidism called Y/D diet. Iodine is an essential component of thyroid hormones. Hill's Y/D diet is a severely iodine restricted food, thus preventing the thyroid glands from producing excessive thyroid hormone.
- Your primary care veterinarian will help determine the best course of therapy for your cat. The ideal treatment for each patient depends on the severity of the hyperthyroidism, concurrent illnesses (most importantly the heart and kidney), and the ability of your cat to be medicated. Our goal is open collaboration with you and your primary care veterinarian. Together, we develop individualized treatment to improve the quantity and quality of your feline companion's life.



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Feline Arterial Thromboembolism

What is Feline Arterial Thromboembolism (FATE)?

- FATE is one of the most devastating consequences of cardiac disease in the feline patient.
- It occurs secondary to an enlarged left atrium seen commonly in feline heart disease resulting in poor blood flow.
- Blood clots can form within the left atrium. These clots (emboli) can break loose and enter the body's circulation resulting in complete blockage of blood flow to limbs, other organs or the brain.

What happens with FATE?

- Most commonly the clot will exit the heart, travel down the aorta, and lodge in the iliac arteries resulting in complete interruption of blood flow to the rear legs.
- Cats will develop a sudden onset of weakness and an inability to use the rear legs often accompanied by pain, vocalization, and respiratory difficulties.
- This is a medical emergency and prompt veterinary care should be obtained.
- Clots can potentially travel to any part of the body. Clinical signs can vary including front limb lameness, inappropriate mentation, or even sudden death.

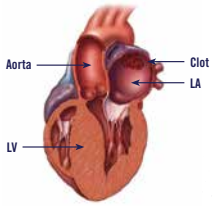


Figure of heart depicting thickened left ventricular walls (LV), enlarged left atrium (LA) and clot within left atrium.



Echocardiogram revealing an oval clot within the outpocketing of the left atrium known as the left auricular appendage (outlined).

How is it prevented?

- If your cat has an enlarged left atrium, your cardiologist may prescribe medications to help prevent the occurrence of an inappropriate blood clot (most commonly Aspirin and/or Clopidogrel (Plavix)).
- Choice of medication is dependent on the individual patient's risk factors.
- There are likely certain genetic factors that affect your cat's risk for forming blood clots. Some of this is sadly unpreventable and beyond current medical therapies.

What is the prognosis?

- If the clot enters the circulation, the overall prognosis for the patient is poor.
- With aggressive medical therapy and supportive care to control pain, treat heart failure if present, and promote circulation data suggests that 15-50% of cats can survive an initial clot event.
- The road to recovery in these patients can be long and we are unable to predict how quickly or completely an individual cat will regain function of the affected limb(s).
- Some cats that survive the initial episode will never have an additional event, however, most cats will have another clot event within 6-12 months despite aggressive anti-platelet therapy.
- Our goal is an open collaboration with you and your primary care veterinarian in order to optimize the quantity and quality of your feline companion's life.

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Hypertrophic Cardiomyopathy in Cats Handout

Feline Hyperthyroidism Handout

Feline Arterial Thromboembolism Handout

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Arrhythmogenic Right Ventricular Cardiomyopathy

What is Arrhythmogenic Right Ventricular Cardiomyopathy (ARVC)?

- ARVC a primary disease of the heart muscle.
- It most commonly affects the Boxer, however, it is also reported in the English Bulldog, American Staffordshire, and rarely in cats.
- It is characterized by the progressive replacement of normal heart muscle cells by fat and/or fibrous tissue.
- In more advanced cases, ARVC may also affect the left ventricle resembling another common cardiac disease: dilated cardiomyopathy.
- ARVC is an adult-onset inherited disease, with the presenting age and range of clinical symptoms in the offspring of affected parents being quite variable.
- The incidence of ARVC typically increases with age, with clinical signs often becoming apparent around middle age.
- Patients with the disease may present with asymptomatic cardiac arrhythmias that are noted on routine examination, fainting spells (syncope), congestive heart failure (coughing, respiratory difficulties, abdominal distention) or even sudden cardiac dea



Figure 2
Three lead ECG consistent with right sided orig
premature beats which is commonly noted in d
This rhythm can be particularly dangerous and
life threatening arrhythmia.

- History of syncope (fainting) or exe
- Exclusion of other diseases that ma
responsible for similar clinical sign
- An arrhythmia, and/or heart murm
noted by your family veterinarian d
wellness visit prompting further tes
- Symptoms of congestive heart failu

- An electrocardiogram (ECG) demons
electrical activity of the heart. It is a c
invasive test, useful for its ability to d

How is it di

- Definitive di
based on a
- Family hi
- Presence
heart rhyt



Figure 1
Boxer dog show

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Dilated Cardiomyopathy in Dogs

What is Dilated Cardiomyopathy (DCM) ?

- Heart muscle disease that causes loss of heart muscle strength, enlargement of the heart, and a decreased ability to pump blood through the body(heart failure).
- Affects any age dog, but occurrence increases with age.
- Heart failure can be compared to a common pump. If the sump pump in your basement fails, water backs up into the basement; if the left heart fails, fluid backs up into the lungs; if the right heart fails, fluid backs up in the belly.
- Irregular heartbeat (arrhythmias/abnormal electrical

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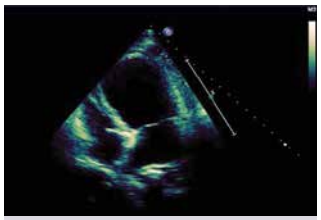
re often

How is DCM Diagnosed?

- Through a cardiac evaluation and echocardiogram (sonogram of the heart) performed by a board certified veterinary cardiologist such as those at CVCA.
- Holter monitors are often required to check the heart rhythm over 24 hours. These devices are worn by the patient in a small backpack and usually are well tolerated.

How is it treated?

- The specific treatment is tailored to the individual patient.
- Oral medications are most commonly used and many are the same as those used for people with heart disease.
- Therapy improves the heart's ability to pump and controls the signs of congestive heart failure.
- Treatment extends the life of the patient while allowing the pet excellent quality of life.
- Some patients also need medications to improve their heart rhythm. These medications are crucial to minimize the risk of arrhythmias and sudden death.



Echocardiographic image of a heart affected by DCM. The view is upside down compare to figure 1. The heart muscle is thin and both of the chambers of the left heart are dilated.

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Complete (Third degree) AV Block

What is Third Degree or AV Block?

- A disease of the electrical system within the heart.
- Lack of conduction of the normal electrical impulse from the top to the bottom portion of the heart.
- The heart rate becomes too slow and also not able to increase with exercise or excitement.
- Causes weakness and/or collapse in many patients.

How do you treat a Third Degree or AV Block?

- This condition requires implantation of a permanent pacemaker.
- The generator is placed under the skin in the neck region and the lead is passed through the jugular vein into the heart.
- This procedure is typically well tolerated with low risk for complications.
- Potential problems with the procedure include anesthetic complications, dislodgment or fracture of the pacemaker lead, infection of the pacemaker site, or clot formation on the lead.





Normal



First-Degree AV Block



Second-Degree AV Block (2L1)



Third-Degree AV Block

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What are the risks without pacemaker implantation?

- There is a constant risk for sudden death.
- Non-paced patients are also at risk for left sided congestive heart failure, signs of which include:
  - Increased respiratory rate/effort at rest
  - Coughing
  - Exercise intolerance
  - Cyanosis (blue discoloration to the tongue or gums)
  - Weakness or collapsing

If I'd like to pursue surgery, what is the next step?

- To pursue surgery, please contact us and we will pair you with one of our surgery coordinators to schedule the pacemaker and answer your questions.

Is additional testing required prior to surgery?

- Yes. We will need:
  - Chest radiographs
  - Complete bloodwork (CBC/Chemistry/UA with UPC/T4)
  - In some cases, an abdominal ultrasound and/or a tick panel are also required

Fortunately, with appropriate diagnosis and successful pacemaker implantation under the care of a board certified veterinary cardiologist, the vast majority of treated pets have a good prognosis.

Arrhythmogenic Right Ventricular Cardiomyopathy Handout

Dilated Cardiomyopathy in Dogs Handout

Complete (Third degree) AV Block Handout

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Congestive Heart Failure - What is it and What to Expect

What is Congestive Heart Failure (CHF)?

- CHF occurs when heart disease is so severe that the cardiovascular system is no longer able to maintain its functions.
- Normally, blood returns from the body to the right side of the heart, is pumped to the lungs to be oxygenated, returns to the left side of the heart, and is finally pumped to the body again. A basement sump pump is analogous to the heart's function. If the basement sump pump fails to pump water away from the foundation during a rainstorm, the basement floods. When the left side of the heart fails as a pump, the lungs begin to "flood" and when the right side of the heart fails, the abdominal and/or chest cavities "flood."

How serious is CHF?

- A common misconception is that CHF is an end-of-life disease process.
- Fortunately, while the long-term prognosis for most cardiac diseases resulting in heart failure is guarded, most animals with congestive heart failure will live many months to even years on medical therapy while still maintaining a good quality of life.

How is it treated?

- CHF is a medically managed condition. As your pet's heart disease progresses and relapses or CHF occurs we will contin
veterinarian t
control of clin
- Congestive h
approach:
  - Decrease t
that it can
    - Diuretic
Hydroch
  - Decrease t
to pump o
and lungs
    - Vasodila
      - ACE i
      - Norva
      - Hydra
  - Increase the heart's force of contr
and improving the overall strength
more blood can be pumped out t
and its vital organs
    - Positive inotropic agents (impro
heart muscle)
      - Pimobendan
      - Digoxin

What to expect and monitor
congestive heart failure:

- Some pets may experience increase
If this seems excessive, please cont
often modify dosages to help improv
concern.
- Kidney function and electrolyte level
monitored while on these medicatio
performed by your primary care vete
provide instructions on the frequenc
tests to be performed.
- All drugs can have some side effect
people, all dogs and cats may react
medications. The medications we us
your pet feel much better. If you fee
depressed, has a decreased appetit

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When Your Pet Has a Heart Murmur...

What is a heart murmur?

- A heart murmur is an abnormal swishing noise in your pet's heart.
- Using a stethoscope, your primary care veterinarian determines if a heart murmur is present.
- The loudness of the murmur does not necessarily correlate with the severity of disease.

What does it mean for my pet?

- Most heart murmurs indicate underlying cardiac disease, the severity of which varies widely.

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What is my veterinarian's role?

- Your primary care veterinarian is an integral part of your pet's cardiac care and receive a report of your pet's cardiac evaluation the same day your visit occurs.
- CVCA works together with you and your doctor to form a team to care for your pet.
- Our goals are to delay or prevent congestive heart failure thus avoiding stressful emergency room visits.
- After your visit, we are available to emergency and primary care veterinarians 24 hours a day, 7 days a week for assistance with patient care.

Final note:

- At CVCA, we are passionate about your pet's well being and the human-animal bond. Please visit our website at www.cvcavets.com or call us to obtain more information regarding heart diseases in pets and the services we provide.



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Chronic Degenerative Valvular Disease

What is Chronic Degenerative Valvular Disease?

- It is the most common form of heart disease in dogs and usually affects the mitral valve.
- The condition is slowly progressive and is caused by abnormalities that develop along the edges of the heart valves.
- Over time, the heart enlarges and the heart muscle weakens secondary to the long term leaks (regurgitation) in the valves.
- When the heart can no longer accommodate the abnormal blood flow, the patient develops congestive heart failure - demonstrated by coughing and breathing difficulties.

Are certain breeds prone to this?

- Chronic degenerative valve disease most often affects older small breed dogs of all varieties.
- Large breed dogs and cats develop this condition less often and can sometimes be better tolerated in those patients.

How is it diagnosed?

- Your primary care veterinarian will hear a heart murmur - usually noted as a part of the pet's annual or every six month wellness evaluation.
- They would then refer you and your pet to a board certified veterinary cardiologist such as those of CVCA.

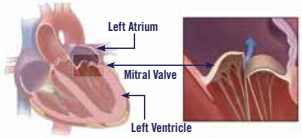


Diagram of the heart depicting close-up of mitral valve regurgitation

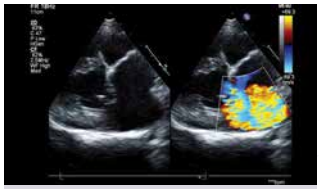
- An echocardiogram (ultrasound or sonogram of the heart) by a veterinary cardiologist is the gold standard for definitive diagnosis.
- Veterinary cardiologists are experts in pet heart disease and have 4 years of training beyond veterinary college including a series of exams to become board-certified.
- At CVCA, you are with your pet during the entire visit while we non-invasively diagnose your pet's condition and tailor the treatment specifically to your pet and family.

What treatment options are available?

- Most patients benefit from medical therapy - readily available heart medications of the same variety used in human patients.
- This condition is progressive in nature and requires vigilant monitoring and consistent follow-up to optimize treatment thus maintaining an ideal quality of life for your treasured family member.

How will my primary care veterinarian be involved?

We collaborate with you and your primary care veterinarian to prevent, delay, and eliminate signs of congestive heart failure while providing your pet optimal quality and length of life.



Echocardiogram images taken simultaneously. The left image shows the thickened mitral valve (MV) bowing backwards into the left atrium (LA). The mosaic of color shown on the right is Doppler technology revealing the turbulent regurgitant flow.

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Congestive Heart Failure - What is it and What to Expect Handout

When Your Pet has a Heart Murmur Handout

Chronic Degenerative Valvular Disease Handout

NAVIGATING YOUR CVCA VISIT DURING COVID-19

SAFETY FIRST

Clients showing signs of illness, related to COVID-19, should remain at home.
SYMPTOMS INCLUDE: Fever • Shortness of Breath • Dry Cough • Fatigue

PER CDC RECOMMENDATIONS, we ask that **clients wear a mask** during the handoff and return of the pet.



EMAIL OR CALL FOR AN APPOINTMENT



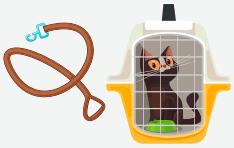
CLIENT COMPLETES ONLINE REGISTRATION FORM
New questions included, all clients need to complete



CALL UPON APPOINTMENT ARRIVAL
Inform staff on color/make/model of vehicle



STAY IN YOUR VEHICLE
Lobby and waiting rooms are closed



OWNERS SECURE PETS ON A LEASH OR IN A CARRIER
CVCA staff restricted from getting into vehicles to secure pets



CVCA STAFF MEET YOU FOR CURBSIDE CHECKIN
Clients step out of vehicle to hand off leash or carrier



OWNERS KEEP VEHICLES IN THE SAME SPOT USED FOR CURBSIDE CHECKIN
for ease of CVCA staff returning pets



STAFF WILL CALL OWNERS IF ANY ADDITIONAL TESTS ARE NEEDED
beyond the exam, blood pressure, echocardiogram and ECG's



PETS RETURNED TO OWNERS AT CURBSIDE



DOCTOR WILL CALL OWNERS TO GO OVER FINDINGS, RECOMMENDATIONS AND ANSWER ANY QUESTIONS YOU MAY HAVE
Calls will be then transferred to client service representatives to collect payment via credit cards



A COPY OF THE PET'S CARDIAC EVALUATION WILL BE EMAILED BY END OF THE DAY
Prescriptions will be faxed to the pharmacy of your choice and medications dispensed in-house will be brought to you at curbside checkout

#essentialbusiness
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Thank you for your patience and cooperation!

Navigating Your CVCA Visit During COVID-19 flyer





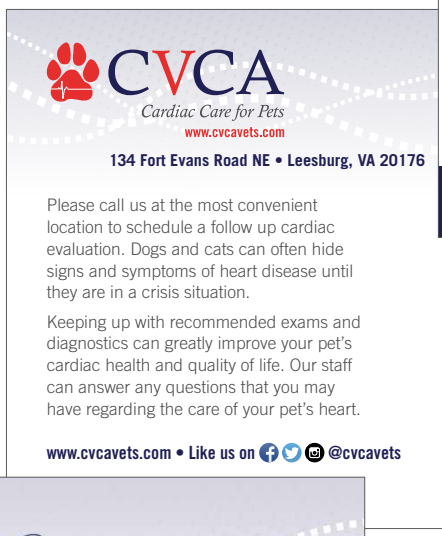
Core Values Mousepad - Dog

Core Values Mousepad - Cat











CVCA Appointment Card - Texas VCA

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Magnet

Appointment Reminder Card

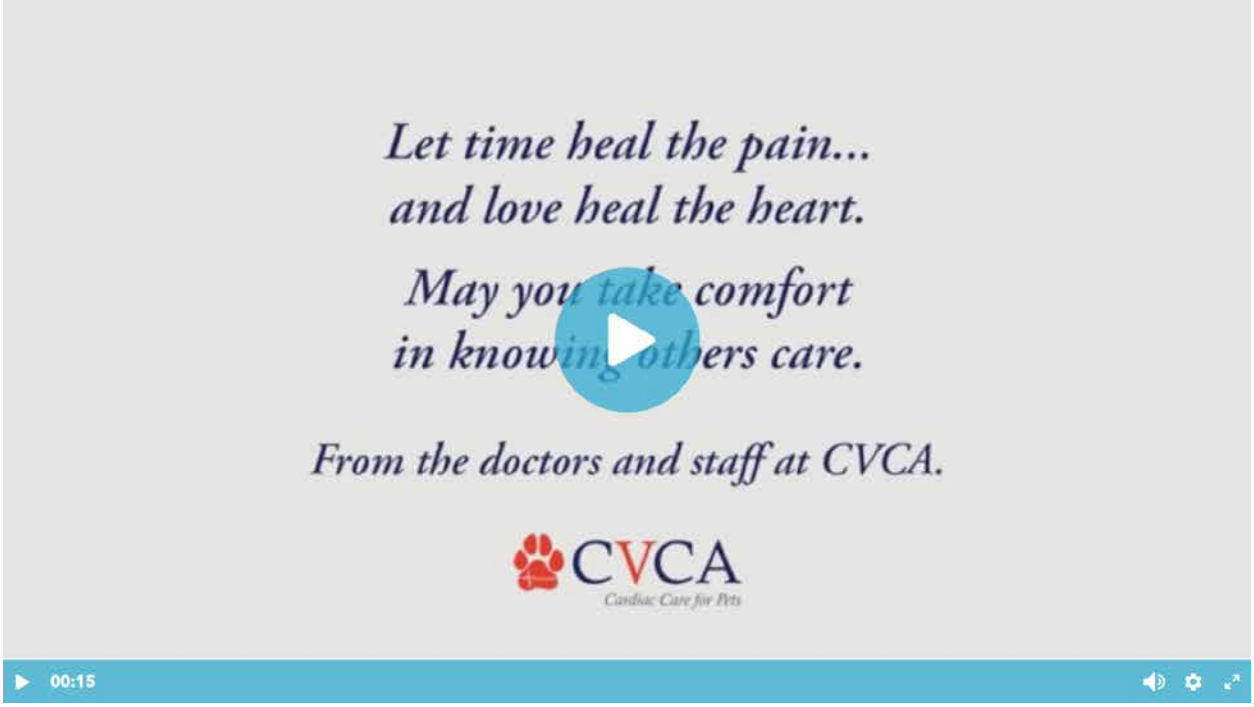
Thank You Email Graphic





Sympathy Video - Option 1

Sympathy Email - Option 1





Sympathy Video - Option 2

Sympathy Email - Option 2





Sympathy Video - Option 3

Sympathy Email - Option 3





2019 Calendar Flyer

2019 Calendar

2019 Calendar Social Post

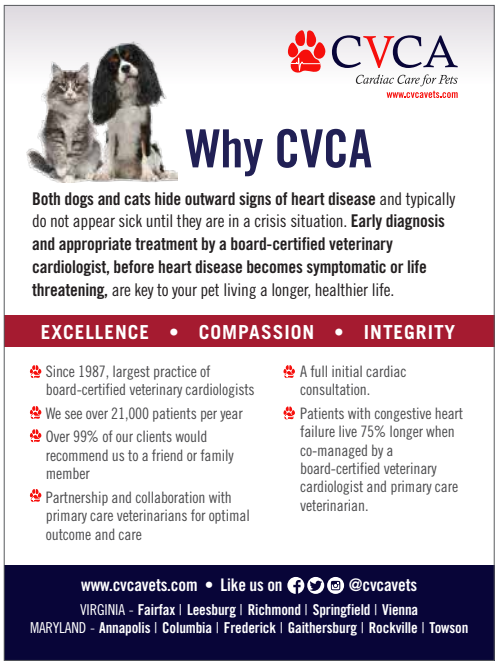




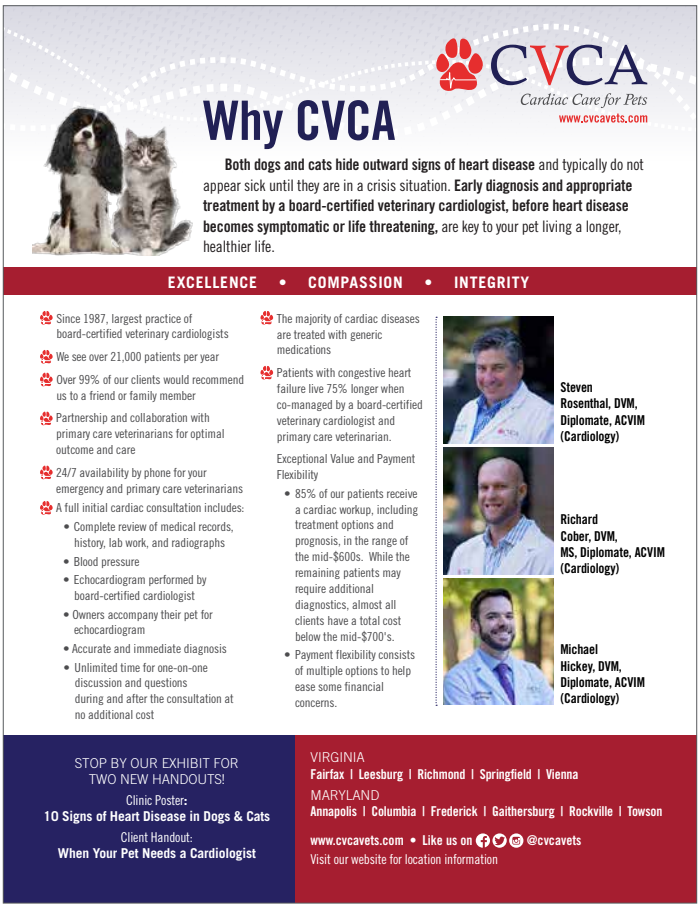
2020 Calendar Flyer

2020 Calendar

2020 Calendar Social Post







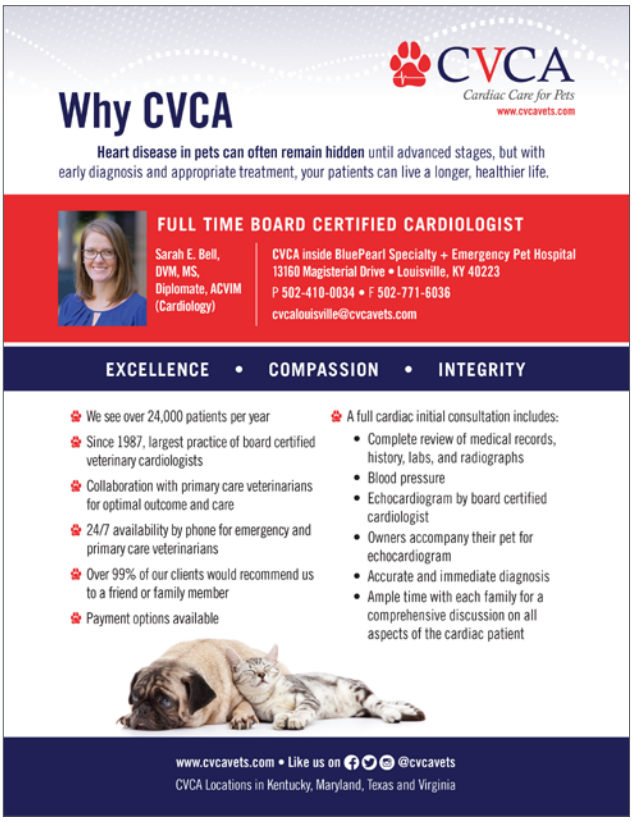


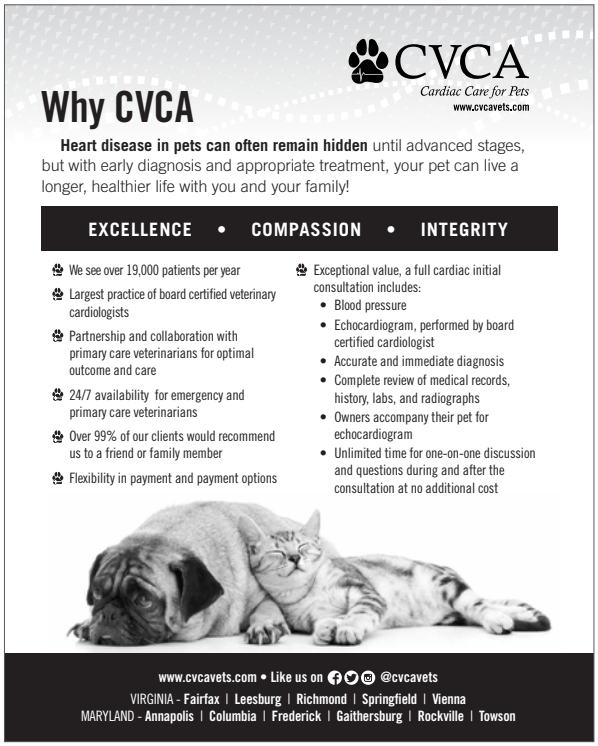
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Ad - KVC

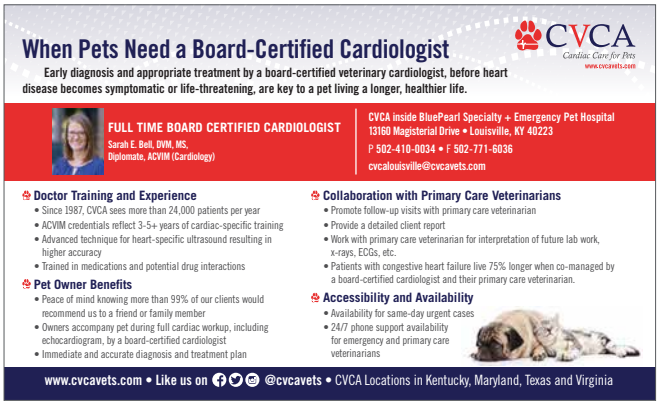
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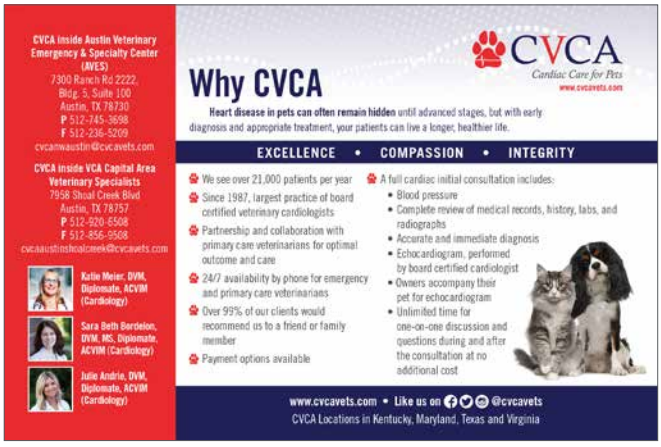
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Expiration Date: May 1, 2021

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Certificate

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CONTINUING EDUCATION





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Sunday, October 18, 2020

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Lunch & Learns

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Onsite Education Opportunities

What is involved in a Lunch & Learn?

- CVCA comes to you with lunch
- One (1) Lunch & Learn, per clinic, per year—due to a high number of requests.
- Up to 15 attendees
  - » Attendees are veterinary professionals that require CE credits—doctors, technicians and practice managers
- All attendees receive a certificate of completion

Time Management Goals

- We are as efficient as possible by starting and ending on time – enabling both the clinic and CVCA to stay on track with clients' appointments later in the day

Travel Distance

- Up to 45 minutes from a CVCA location

CE Verification Assistance, Upon Arrival

- Sign-in sheet: attendees are required to sign-in on a sheet provided by CVCA.
- Name, position, email are required to send a certificate of completion.
- Certificate of completion includes CE credits and program title, and will be emailed after the Lunch & Learn.

Primary Care Veterinarian Topics

1.0 CE Credit Hour (50-minute lecture with 10 minutes Q & A)

- Blood Pressure and Systemic Hypertension
- Cardiac Biomarkers
- Clinical Utility of NTproBNP
- Co-Managed Care of Congestive Heart Failure
- Congestive Heart Failure in Small Animal Practice
- Degenerative Mitral Valve Disease: The old, the new, and the Epic
- Dilated Cardiomyopathy
- Feline Myocardial Disease
- Management of Mitral Valve Disease
- Minding Your P's & Q's, Understanding Your ECGs (NEW)
- Pericardial Disease
- Practical Approach to Arrhythmias
- Pulmonary Hypertension in Canine Patients
- Syncope

Veterinary Technician Topics

1.0 CE Credit Hour (50-minute lecture with 10 minutes Q & A)

- Blood Pressure and Systemic Hypertension
- Co-Managed Care of Congestive Heart Failure
- Minding Your P's & Q's, Understanding Your ECGs (NEW)
- Practical Approach to Arrhythmias



Katie Meier, DVM, Diplomate, ACVIM (Cardiology)



Sara Beth Bordelon, DVM, MS, Diplomate, ACVIM (Cardiology)



Julie Andrie, DVM, Diplomate, ACVIM (Cardiology)

Austin

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Bldg 5, Suite 100
Austin, TX 78730

P 512-745-3698
F 512-713-0998
cvcanwaustin@cvcavets.com

CVCA inside VCA Capital Area Veterinary Specialists
7958 Shoal Creek Blvd
Austin, TX 78757

P 512-920-6508
F 512-856-9508
cvcaaustinshoalcreek@cvcavets.com

RACE

Courses meet the requirements for 1 or 3 total hour(s) of continuing education credit in jurisdictions which recognize AAVSB RACE approval; however participants should be aware that some boards have limitations on the number of hours accepted in certain categories and/or restrictions on certain methods of delivery of continuing education.

Please contact AAVSB RACE program at race@aavsb.org or 877-698-8482 should you have any comments/concerns regarding this program's validity or relevancy to the veterinary profession or if you have questions regarding this notification.

3 Options to Submit a Lunch & Learn Request:

1. Online at www.cvcavets.com under "For Veterinarians
   - » Go to: Lunch and Learn Request, fill out the form a
2. Fill out the form below and fax it to CVCA.
3. Contact either CVCA inside Austin Veterinary Emerger Veterinary Specialists.

Practice Name: _____

Practice Manager or Name of Contact: _____

Address: _____

City, State, Zip: _____

Phone: _____

Fax: _____

Email Address (Required) for easy verification: _____

Topic Interested in: _____

Best Days of the Week for Lunch and Learns: _____

Best Time of the Week for Lunch and Learns: _____

Submit the form and fax it back to 703-669-5141 or email michael.brasz@cvcavets.com.

Austin

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CVCA Locations in Kentucky, Maryland, Virginia and Texas

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Lunch & Learn Flyer

DIGITAL SOCIAL MEDIA









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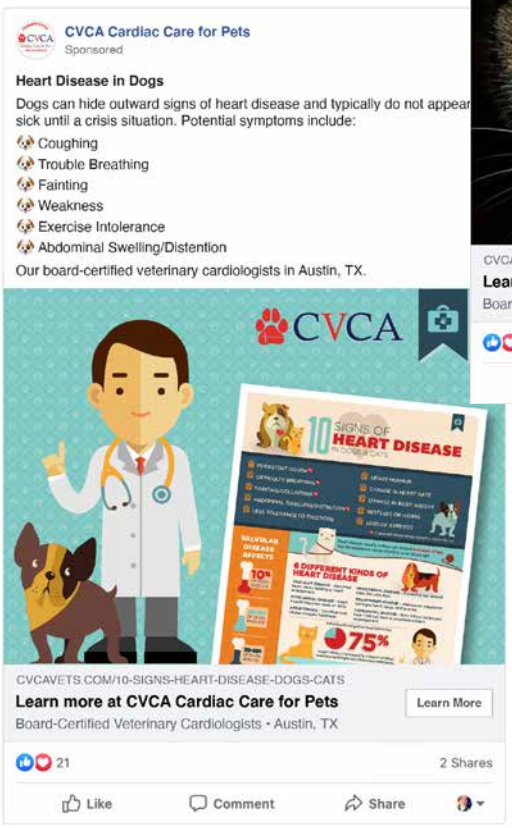


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Recruitment Online Graphics

DOCTOR RECRUITMENT





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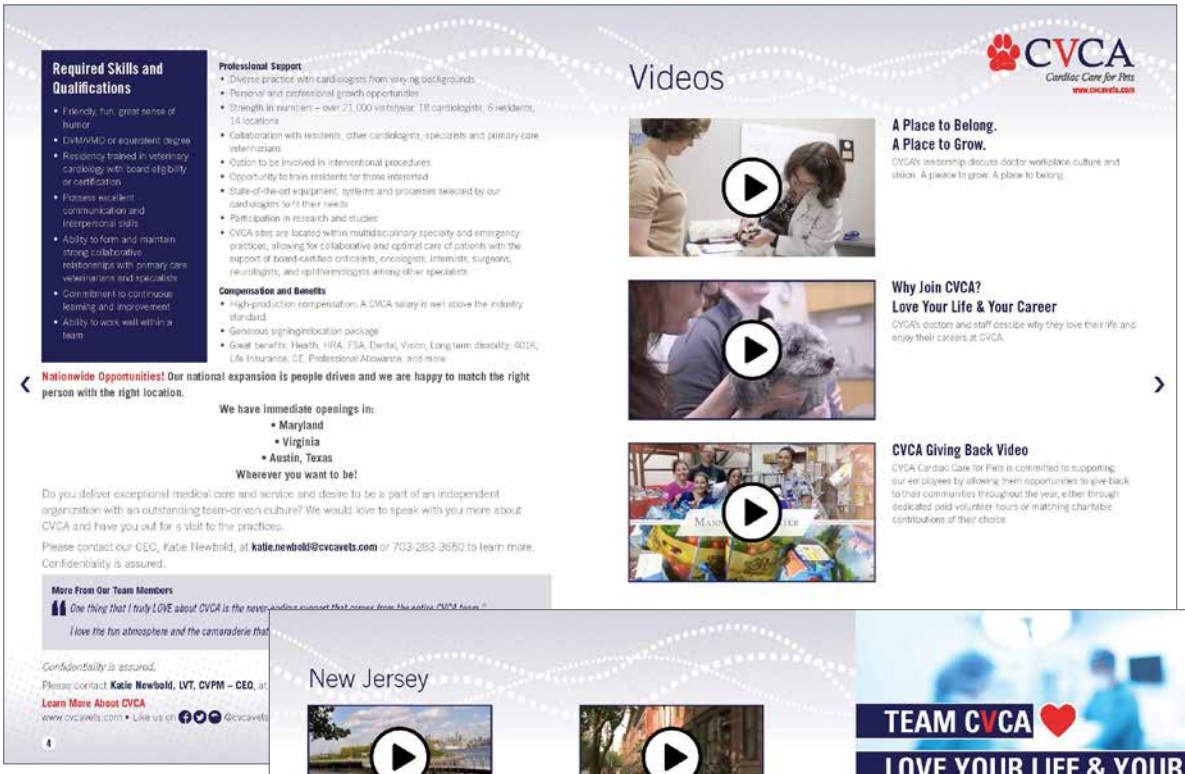
Why Join CVCA?

Nationwide Career Opportunities
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CVCA Digital Recruiting Scrapbook

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Discover CVCA's Core Values of Compassion, Excellence and Integrity



A Message from CVCA's Leadership – Workplace Culture and Vision

CVCA's leadership discuss doctor workplace culture and vision. A place to grow. A place to belong.



Why Join CVCA? Love Your Life and Your Career

CVCA's doctors and staff describe why they love their life and enjoy their careers at CVCA.



CVCA Giving Back

CVCA Cardiac Care for Pets is committed to supporting our employees by allowing them opportunities to give back to their communities throughout the year either through dedicated paid volunteer hours or matching charitable contributions of their choice.

View videos at www.cvcavets.com/careers

View our core values at www.cvcavets.com/about-us/core-values



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CVCA
Cardiac Care for Pets
www.cvcavets.com

Why Join CVCA?

Part-Time and Full-Time Nationwide Opportunities for Board-Certified or Board-Eligible Cardiologists

Since 1987, CVCA Cardiac Care for Pets has been offering board-certified veterinary cardiology services to more than 24,000 clients per year—more than any other cardiology practice nationwide—with over 99% of our clients highly recommending us to family and friends.

Who We Are

CVCA is a value-driven, independently owned organization committed to an exceptional work environment. Our culture is unsurpassed in the veterinary industry. Every CVCA member supports one another and is committed to offering optimal patient care, providing superior services to our referring veterinarians, and collaborating with our associated services departments.

Our goal for each cardiologist:

- To be successful at work as evidenced by the ability to deliver a high level of care and service
- Maintain an outstanding quality of life
- Have fun!

Benefits of Joining CVCA

Amazing Culture

- Independently owned – we are run by, and for, our team
- Fun, collaborative environment that welcomes and encourages your voice, opinions, and ideas
- Work-life balance:
  - 4-day or fewer work week
  - Weekends and holidays off
  - Schedule flexibility
  - Generous vacation time and coverage so you can truly relax
  - Volunteer time provided
  - Infrequent on call (phone support only)

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Residency with CVCA

Approved Residency Program by ACVIM

At CVCA, we are committed to providing a residency training program that supports our residents academically, personally and professionally.

The mission of CVCA's residency program is to mentor residents to function as highly competent clinical cardiologists who provide the highest level of service and compassionate care to their patients, clients and referring veterinarians.

It is also our goal for cardiologists graduating from our program to become leaders in the veterinary community. With CVCA's support, at the completion of the residency, the trainee will have the framework to successfully complete all requirements for board certification by the ACVIM specialty of cardiology.

CVCA Offers Residents

- Founded in 1995, all of our residents have chosen to stay with CVCA as a cardiologist and are still with us today.
- 4-day workweek, with weekends and holidays off.
- Strength in Numbers: high caseload of over 20,000 patients per year, 18 cardiologists, 5 residents and 13 locations.
- Weekly journal club/ECG/case rounds with all doctors.
- Didactic training within CVCA and through associated departments.
- State of the art equipment, systems, and processes selected by our cardiologists to fit their needs.
- Support for research.
- Personal and professional development support and opportunities.
- CVCA sites are located within a multidisciplinary specialty and emergency practices, board-certified criticallists, oncologists, internists, surgeons, neurologists and ophthalmologists among other specialties, allowing for the opportunity to collaborate with colleagues and opportunities for out rotations.

Upcoming Interview Timeframes

- We will be interviewing for our 2019 Residency positions in the Fall of 2018.

Interested, Please Contact
Katie Newbold, LVT, CVPM, CEO
katie.newbold@cvcavets.com
Mobile: 703-283-3650

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Meet CVCA

CVCA
Cardiac Care for Pets
www.cvcavets.com

LEADERSHIP TEAM


Katie Newbold, CEO, LVT, CVPM


Shannon Fairbanks, CVPM, Practice Manager


Carrie Massey, RVT, Regional Manager


Kelly Cromwell, CPT, Regional Manager


Michael Brasz, Executive Assistant


Mila Comer, LVT, SHRM-CP, Human Resources Manager


Denise Kessler, Marketing Director


Nikki Salopa, Sr. Marketing Associate


Amy Hutchinson, MBA, Financial Controller


Shawn Hawes, Financial Manager

DOCTORS


Steven Rosenthal, DVM, Diplomate, ACVIM (Cardiology)


Bonnie Lefhom, DVM, Diplomate, ACVIM (Cardiology)


William Tyrrell, DVM, Diplomate, ACVIM (Cardiology)


Kristin Jacob, DVM, Diplomate, ACVIM (Cardiology)


Neal Peckens, DVM, Diplomate, ACVIM (Cardiology)


Richard Cober, DVM, MS, Diplomate, ACVIM (Cardiology)


Katie Meier, DVM, Diplomate, ACVIM (Cardiology)


Gina Pasieka, DVM, Diplomate, ACVIM (Cardiology)


Tim Cain, DVM, Diplomate, ACVIM (Cardiology)


Jennifer Sidley, DVM, Diplomate, ACVIM (Cardiology)


Jess Weidman, DVM, Diplomate, ACVIM (Cardiology)


Kacie Schmitt Felber, DVM, Diplomate, ACVIM (Cardiology)


Michael Hickey, DVM, Diplomate, ACVIM (Cardiology)


Sara Beth Bordelon, DVM, MS, Diplomate, ACVIM (Cardiology)


Sarah Clay Bell, DVM, MS, Diplomate, ACVIM (Cardiology)


Emily Westphal, DVM, Diplomate, ACVIM (Cardiology)


Julia Shih, VMD, Diplomate, ACVIM (Cardiology)


Sarah Lehman Holdt, VMD, Diplomate, ACVIM (Cardiology)


Julie Andrie, DVM, Diplomate, ACVIM (Cardiology)


Brett Boorstin, DVM, Resident in Cardiology


Stephanie Savino, DVM, Resident in Cardiology


Matt Boothe, DVM, Resident in Cardiology


Elizabeth Turner, DVM, Resident in Cardiology


Jesse Miller, VMD, Resident in Cardiology


Jennifer Welter, DVM, Resident in Cardiology

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Go to www.cvcavets.com/staff-category/admin-team

Recruitment Video Flyer

Why Join CVCA Flyer

Residency with CVCA Flyer

Meet CVCA Flyer











2018 ACVIM Postcard

2018 ACVIM Mousepad

2018 ACVIM Email

2018 ACVIM Business Card Invite

2018 ACVIM Box

2018 ACVIM Invite

Doctor Recruitment Continued

















2019 ACVIM Card

2019 ACVIM Seed Packet

2019 ACVIM Invite

2019 ACVIM Sign

2019 ACVIM Email

2019 ACVIM Business Card Invite

DVM HANDOUTS

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CVCA Take a Walk in Your Client's Shoes

AUSTIN, TX

Date attended: _____

Name of hospital/clinic: _____

Attendee name: _____

1. What is your role in the practice?
   ☐ **Owner** ☐ **Veterinarian** ☐ **Technician** ☐ **Other (please specify):**

2. How did you hear aout Take a Walk in Your Client's Shoes?
   ☐ **Email** ☐ **Fax** ☐ **Website** ☐ **Colleague** ☐ **Other (please specify):**

3. Which of the following were important to you when you signed up for this CE? (check all that apply)
   ☐ **Staff training** ☐ **Protocol implementation** ☐ **CE credit** ☐ **Relationship with CVCA** ☐ **Other (please specif**

4. How many times per month do you refer a patient in your practice?
   ☐ **0-2**
   ☐ **3-5**



Board-Certified Veterinary Cardiologists in 2 Austin Locations

Top 3 Frequently Asked Questions

1 Does it take 3-4 months to get an appointment with CVCA?

No. We are excited to have three board-certified veterinary cardiologists, in 2 Austin locations, available to see cases within 1-2 weeks. And, we always have availability for same-day urgent cases and can work with you to get patients seen sooner if required.

2 Does a CVCA board-certified cardiologist do a full cardiac workup, including echocardiogram, with the client and pet in the room?

Yes. This has been our business model since 1987. We have found it beneficial for clients to be in th room so they can receive an immediate and accurate diagnosis and treatment plan.

3 What does the cost of an appointment with CVCA include?

- 85% of our patients receive a full cardiac workup by a board-certified cardiologist, including treatment options and prognosis, in the range of the mid-$600s. While the remaining patients may require additional diagnostics, almost all clients have a total cost below the mid-$700s.
- **24/7 Phone Support Availability**: A board-certified cardiologist is available by phone, 24 hours a day, 7 days a week, for emergency and primary care veterinarians.
- Clients may contact the office with any questions, concerns, and potential side effects of drugs, or if the patient is not doing well.
- CVCA continues to work with primary care veterinarians, for interpretation of future lab work, x-rays, ECGs, etc.

3 Board-Certified Veterinary Cardiologists

- Katie Meier, DVM, DACVIM (Cardiology)
- Sara Beth Bordelon, DVM, MS, DACVIM (Cardiology)
- Julie Andrie, DVM, DACVIM (Cardiology)

CVCA inside Austin Veterinary Emergency and Specialty Center
7300 Ranch Rd 2222, Bldg 5, Suite 100, Austin, TX 78730
P 512-745-3698 • F 512-713-0998 • cvcanwaustin@cvcavets.com

CVCA inside VCA Capital Area Veterinary Specialists
7958 Shoal Creek Blvd, Austin, TX 78757
P 512-920-6508 • F 512-856-9508 • cvcaaustinshoalcreek@cvcavets.com

Payment Flexibility
CareCredit
Payment Banc
VISA MasterCard
DISCOVER

Pet insurance: Recommend clients contact provider for coverage details, prior to appointment.

**CVCA prices subject to change.*

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CVCA Locations in Kentucky, Maryland, Texas and Virginia

CVCA
Cardiac Care for Pets
www.cvcavets.com



Why CVCA

Heart disease in pets can often remain hidden until advanced stages but with early diagnosis and appropriate treatment, pets can live a longer, healthier life.

Expert Care for Your Patients
- CVCA Cardiac Care for Pets has been the leading choice for veterinary cardiology since 1987. **We see over 24,000 patients per year** – more than any other board-certified veterinary cardiology practice worldwide.
- **Largest practice of board-certified veterinary cardiologists** with routine case reviews and team approach to case management.
- **ACVIM credentials reflect 3-5+ years of cardiac-specific training for board-certified cardiologists.**

Exceptional, Compassionate Service
- **Over 99% of our clients would recommend us to a friend or family member.**
- Initial consultation includes a full cardiac workup by a board-certified cardiologist:
  - Blood pressure
  - Review and interpretation of medical history, radiographs and lab work
  - **Echocardiogram by board-certified cardiologist**
  - Owners accompany their pet for echocardiogram
  - **Ample time with each family for a comprehensive discussion** on all aspects of the management of your cardiac patient, including:
    - Treatment options and prognosis
    - Diet and nutritional supplements
    - Activity levels
    - Anesthesia risk management
    - Options for medicating
    - Immediate diagnosis

Exceptional Value, Payment Flexibility
- 85% of our patients receive a full cardiac workup, including treatment options and prognosis, in the range of the mid-$600s. While the remaining patients may require additional diagnostics, almost all clients have a total cost below the mid-$700s.
- **Flexible payment options include**: All major credit cards, checks, cash, Payment Banc, and 6-month deferred interest with CareCredit.

Accessibility
- **24/7 Availability by phone:** A cardiologist is available by phone 24 hours a day, 7 days a week to emergency and primary care veterinarians for assistance with patient care.
- Availability for **same day urgent cases**.

Partners in Care
- **Partnership for optimal outcome and care:** Patients with congestive heart failure **live 75% longer when co-managed** by a CVCA board-certified veterinary cardiologist and their primary care veterinarian.
- **Collaboration with Primary Care Veterinarian:** CVCA is committed to ensuring ongoing communication and repeat client visits with you, including ongoing follow-up communication regarding your patients.

Leading-Edge Diagnostics and Treatments
- CVCA doctors have **extensive training in the proper techniques and interpretation of echocardiograms,** and other cardiac diagnostics – resulting in higher accuracy in imaging and measurements for the best chance of successful treatment for patients.
- Top of the line **Philips pediatric echocardiography units** maximize the latest technology and software for accurate measurements, and images, and is geared for the higher heart rates of our pets.
- CVCA also offers **opportunities to participate in cutting-edge cardiac drug trials and research**, providing more opportunities for treatment for your patients.



** CVCA 2020 prices subject to change

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Survey

Why CVCA Flyer

Top 3 Questions Flyer

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Meet Jennifer Welter, CVCA's newest reside

Jennifer Welter, DVM, Resident in Cardiology

Introducing Dr. Welter! We are excited to welcome Jennifer to our office inside of The LifeCentre in Leesburg, VA. Jennifer is a great addition to our team and is committed to a partnership with family veterinarians in offering the highest level of care and service to our clients and their pets.

Jennifer graduated with a Bachelor's degree from

Meet Dan Stern, a CVCA Resident ir

Dan Stern DVM, Resident in Cardiology

Dr. Stern received both his Bachelor of Science (BS) and graduated in the College of Veterinary Medicine from Michigan State University. He then went onto Oregon State University to complete his rotating internship. After completing his internship, he moved back to Michigan and worked in general practice before starting his residency. Dan has loved cardiology since veterinary school, and he is excited to continue his training at CVCA Cardiac Care for Pets.

Outside of work, Dan enjoys any type of physical activity and spending time with family and friends. He looks forward to living in the Annapolis, MD area with his wife, Molly and their retired racing greyhound, Rocky.

CVCA inside of Chesapeake Veterinary Referral Center
808 Bestgate Road • Annapolis, MD 21401
Phone: 410-224-0039
Fax: 410-224-3735
Email: cvcaannapolis@cvcavets.com

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VIRGINIA - **Fairfax | Leesburg | Richmond | Springfield | Vienna**
MARYLAND - **Annapolis | Columbia | Frederick | Gaithersburg | Rockville | Towson**

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Cardiac Care for Pets
www.cvcavets.com

Meet Jesse Miller, CVCA's newest resident!

Jesse Miller, VMD, Resident in Cardiology

Introducing Dr. Miller! We are excited to welcome Jesse to our office inside of the Pet E.R. in Towson, MD and the Chesapeake Veterinary Referral Center in Columbia, MD. Jesse is a great addition to our team and is committed to a partnership with family veterinarians in offering the highest level of care and service to our clients and their pets.

Jesse graduated with a Bachelor's degree from St. Mary's College of Maryland with a major in Biology. He then attended the University of Pennsylvania in Philadelphia, PA for veterinary school. After graduation, he completed a one-year small animal rotating internship in San Antonio, TX. Jesse's cardiology interests include the long-term management of degenerative valve disease, congenital heart disease and interventional cardiac procedures.

Dr. Miller is excited to be back in the Maryland area. In his free time, Dr. Miller's interest include lacrosse, hockey, exercising, playing guitar, reading, trying coffee shops and breweries, and he loves spending time with his cat, Penny. He looks forward to exploring the Baltimore area and completing his residency with CVCA!



CVCA inside of CVRC Columbia
10,000 Old Columbia Road • Columbia, MD 21046
Phone: 443-583-3131
Fax: 443-588-5666
Email: cvcacolumbia@cvcavets.com

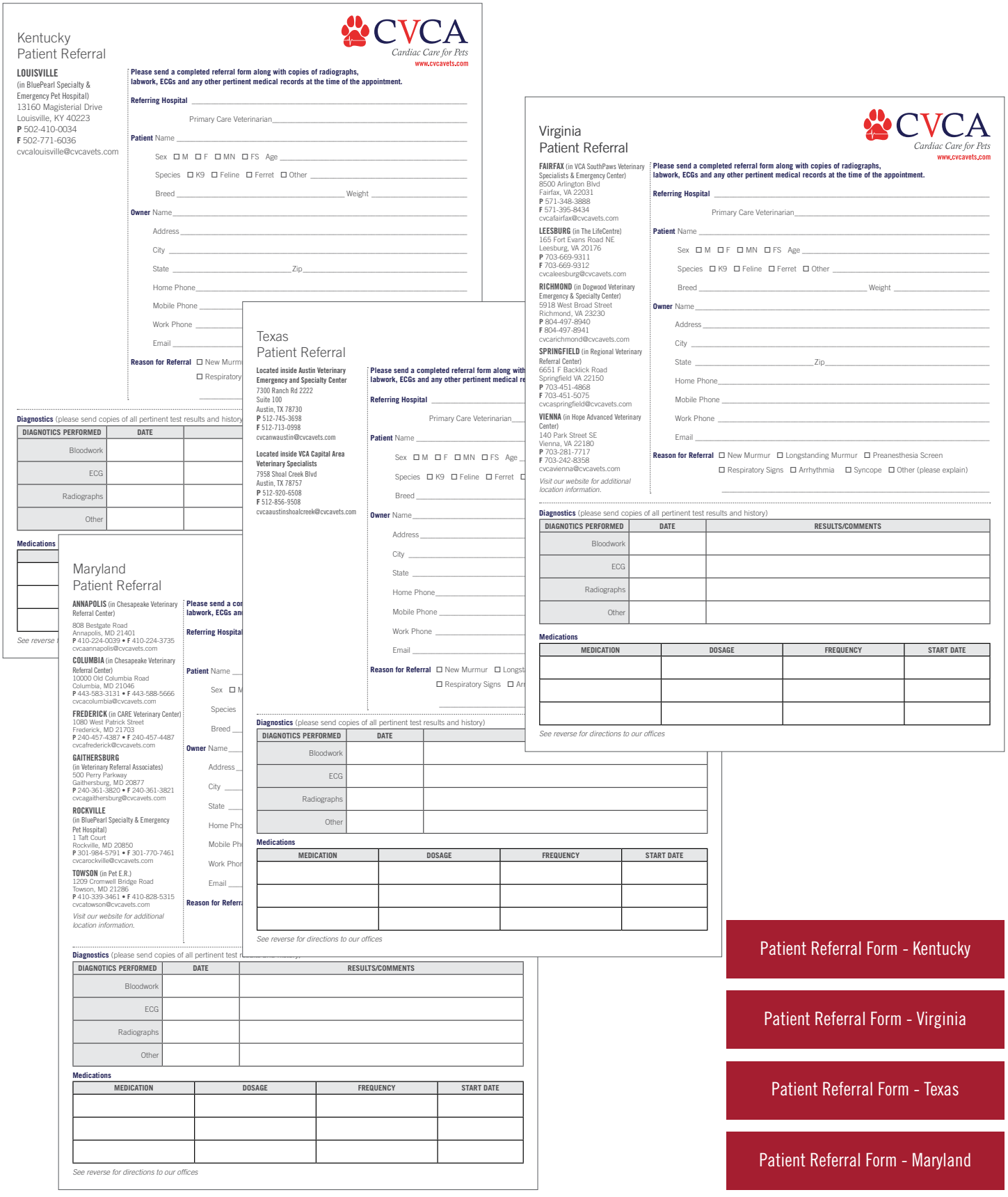
CVCA inside Pet E.R.
1209 Cromwell Bridge Road • Towson, MD 21286
Phone: 410-339-3461
Fax: 410-828-5315
Email: cvcatowson@cvcavets.com

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VIRGINIA - **Fairfax | Leesburg | Richmond | Springfield | Vienna**
MARYLAND - **Annapolis | Columbia | Frederick | Gaithersburg | Rockville | Towson**

Resident Bio - Dr. Welter

Resident Bio - Dr. Miller

Resident Bio - Dr. Stern



Kentucky Patient Referral

CVCA Cardiac Care for Pets
www.cvcavets.com

LOUISVILLE
(in BluePearl Specialty & Emergency Pet Hospital)
13160 Magisterial Drive
Louisville, KY 40223
P 502-410-0034
F 502-771-6036
cvcalouisville@cvcavets.com

Please send a completed referral form along with copies of radiographs, labwork, ECGs and any other pertinent medical records at the time of the appointment.

Referring Hospital _____
Primary Care Veterinarian _____
Patient Name _____
Sex ☐ M ☐ F ☐ MN ☐ FS Age _____
Species ☐ K9 ☐ Feline ☐ Ferret ☐ Other _____
Breed _____ Weight _____
Owner Name _____
Address _____
City _____
State _____ Zip _____
Home Phone _____
Mobile Phone _____
Work Phone _____
Email _____
Reason for Referral ☐ New Murmur ☐ Respiratory

Diagnostics (please send copies of all pertinent test results and history)

DIAGNOTICS PERFORMED	DATE	
Bloodwork		
ECG		
Radiographs		
Other		

Medications

Texas Patient Referral

Located inside Austin Veterinary Emergency and Specialty Center
7300 Ranch Rd 2222
Suite 100
Austin, TX 78730
P 512-745-3698
F 512-713-0998
cvcanwaustin@cvcavets.com

Located inside VCA Capital Area Veterinary Specialists
7958 Shoal Creek Blvd
Austin, TX 78757
P 512-920-6508
F 512-856-9508
cvcaaustinshoalcreek@cvcavets.com

Please send a completed referral form along with labwork, ECGs and any other pertinent medical re

Referring Hospital _____
Primary Care Veterinarian _____
Patient Name _____
Sex ☐ M ☐ F ☐ MN ☐ FS Age _____
Species ☐ K9 ☐ Feline ☐ Ferret ☐
Breed _____
Owner Name _____
Address _____
City _____
State _____
Home Phone _____
Mobile Phone _____
Work Phone _____
Email _____
Reason for Referral ☐ New Murmur ☐ Longst
☐ Respiratory Signs ☐ Ar

Diagnostics (please send copies of all pertinent test results and history)

DIAGNOTICS PERFORMED	DATE	
Bloodwork		
ECG		
Radiographs		
Other		

Medications

MEDICATION	DOSAGE	FREQUENCY	START DATE

See reverse for directions to our offices

Virginia Patient Referral

CVCA Cardiac Care for Pets
www.cvcavets.com

FAIRFAX (in VCA SouthPaws Veterinary Specialists & Emergency Center)
8500 Arlington Blvd
Fairfax, VA 22031
P 571-348-3888
F 571-395-8434
cvcafairfax@cvcavets.com

LEESBURG (in The LifeCentre)
165 Fort Evans Road NE
Leesburg, VA 20176
P 703-669-9311
F 703-669-9312
cvcaleesburg@cvcavets.com

RICHMOND (in Dogwood Veterinary Emergency & Specialty Center)
5918 West Broad Street
Richmond, VA 23230
P 804-497-8940
F 804-497-8941
cvcarichmond@cvcavets.com

SPRINGFIELD (in Regional Veterinary Referral Center)
6651 F Backlick Road
Springfield VA 22150
P 703-451-4868
F 703-451-5075
cvcaspringfield@cvcavets.com

VIENNA (in Hope Advanced Veterinary Center)
140 Park Street SE
Vienna, VA 22180
P 703-281-7717
F 703-242-8358
cvcavienna@cvcavets.com

Visit our website for additional location information.

Please send a completed referral form along with copies of radiographs, labwork, ECGs and any other pertinent medical records at the time of the appointment.

Referring Hospital _____
Primary Care Veterinarian _____
Patient Name _____
Sex ☐ M ☐ F ☐ MN ☐ FS Age _____
Species ☐ K9 ☐ Feline ☐ Ferret ☐ Other _____
Breed _____ Weight _____
Owner Name _____
Address _____
City _____
State _____ Zip _____
Home Phone _____
Mobile Phone _____
Work Phone _____
Email _____
Reason for Referral ☐ New Murmur ☐ Longstanding Murmur ☐ Preanesthesia Screen
☐ Respiratory Signs ☐ Arrhythmia ☐ Syncope ☐ Other (please explain)
_____

Diagnostics (please send copies of all pertinent test results and history)

DIAGNOTICS PERFORMED	DATE	RESULTS/COMMENTS
Bloodwork		
ECG		
Radiographs		
Other		

Medications

MEDICATION	DOSAGE	FREQUENCY	START DATE

See reverse for directions to our offices

Maryland Patient Referral

ANNAPOLIS (in Chesapeake Veterinary Referral Center)
808 Bestgate Road
Annapolis, MD 21401
P 410-224-0039 • **F** 410-224-3735
cvcaannapolis@cvcavets.com

COLUMBIA (in Chesapeake Veterinary Referral Center)
10000 Old Columbia Road
Columbia, MD 21046
P 443-583-3131 • **F** 443-588-5666
cvcacolumbia@cvcavets.com

FREDERICK (in CARE Veterinary Center)
1080 West Patrick Street
Frederick, MD 21703
P 240-457-4387 • **F** 240-457-4487
cvcafrederick@cvcavets.com

GAITHERSBURG
(in Veterinary Referral Associates)
500 Perry Parkway
Gaithersburg, MD 20877
P 240-361-3820 • **F** 240-361-3821
cvcagaithersburg@cvcavets.com

ROCKVILLE
(in BluePearl Specialty & Emergency Pet Hospital)
1 Taft Court
Rockville, MD 20850
P 301-984-5791 • **F** 301-770-7461
cvcarockville@cvcavets.com

TOWSON (in Pet E.R.)
1209 Cromwell Bridge Road
Towson, MD 21286
P 410-339-3461 • **F** 410-828-5315
cvcatowson@cvcavets.com

Visit our website for additional location information.

Please send a cor labwork, ECGs an

Referring Hospital

Patient Name
Sex ☐ M
Species
Breed
Owner Name
Address
City
State
Home Pho
Mobile Ph
Work Phon
Email
Reason for Referra

Diagnostics (please send copies of all pertinent test r

DIAGNOTICS PERFORMED	DATE	RESULTS/COMMENTS
Bloodwork		
ECG		
Radiographs		
Other		

Medications

MEDICATION	DOSAGE	FREQUENCY	START DATE

See reverse for directions to our offices

Patient Referral Form - Kentucky

Patient Referral Form - Virginia

Patient Referral Form - Texas

Patient Referral Form - Maryland

CVCA
Cardiac Care for Pets
www.cvcavets.com

Supply Request Form

Request materials online at: **www.cvcavets.com** under **"For Veterinarians"**

CLINIC MATERIALS	Quantity
CVCA Brochure - Cardiac Care for Pets	
Clinic Poster: 10 Signs of Heart Disease in Dogs and Cats	
CVCA Patient Referral Forms - Maryland	
CVCA Patient Referral Forms - Virginia	
Location Magnets	
CASE STUDIES	
Paladin and Hypertropic Cardiomyopathy - A Success Story!	
A Tale of Two Dobermans: Same Disease, Different Outcomes	
CLIENT HANDOUTS	
When Your Pet Needs a Cardiologist (Information Piece for Clients)	
Arrhythmogenic Right Ventricular Cardiomyopathy	

	MARYLAND						VIRGINIA				
	Annapolis	Columbia	Frederick	Gaithersburg	Rockville	Towson	Fairfax	Leesburg	Richmond	Springfield	Vienna
Business Cards											

CVCA BINDER

- ☐ Send Pre-made Binder
- ☐ Send Binder with handouts selected
- ☐ Send handouts only

QUARTERLY MURMUR NEWSLETTER

- ☐ Yes, subscribe me today!

Practice Name: _____

Practice Contact: _____

Address: _____

City: _____

State: _____ Zip: _____

Phone: _____

Fax: _____

Email: _____

Comments: _____

Questions or to submit form, contact CVCA at
casey.donoho@cvcavets.com **FAX 703-669-5141**

s on @cvcavets
ocation information

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Supply Request Form

Request materials online at: **www.cvcavets.com** under **"For Veterinarians"**

CLINIC MATERIALS	Quantity
CVCA Brochure - Cardiac Care for Pets	
Clinic Poster: 10 Signs of Heart Disease in Dogs and Cats	
CVCA Patient Referral Form	
Location Magnet	
CASE STUDIES	
Paladin and Hypertropic Cardiomyopathy - A Success Story!	
A Tale of Two Dobermans: Same Disease, Different Outcomes	
CLIENT HANDOUTS	
When Your Pet Needs a Cardiologist (Information Piece for Clients)	
Arrhythmogenic Right Ventricular Cardiomyopathy	
At Home Respiratory Monitoring	
Chronic Degenerative Valvular Disease	
Congestive Heart Failure - What is it and What to Expect	
Dilated Cardiomyopathy in Dogs	
Feline Arterial Thromboembolism	
Feline Hyperthyroidism	
Hypertrophic Cardiomyopathy in Cats	
Nutritional Supplements for Cardiac Patients	
Patent Ductus Arteriosus	
Pericardial Effusion	
Pulmonary Hypertension	
Pulmonic Stenosis	
Subaortic Stenosis	
Systemic Hypertension	
Tricuspid Valve Dysplasia	
When Your Pet Has a Heart Murmur	

	Quantity
Business Cards	

CVCA BINDER

- ☐ Send Pre-made Binder
- ☐ Send Binder with handouts selected
- ☐ Send handouts only

QUARTERLY MURMUR NEWSLETTER

- ☐ Yes, subscribe me today!

Practice Name: _____

Practice Contact: _____

Address: _____

City: _____

State: _____ Zip: _____

Phone: _____

Fax: _____

Email: _____

Comments: _____

Questions or to submit form, contact CVCA at
casey.donoho@cvcavets.com **FAX 703-669-5141**

Kentucky
Louisville (inside BluePearl Specialty & Emergency Pet Hospital)
13160 Magisterial Drive • Louisville, KY 40223
P 502-410-0034 | **F** 502-771-6036 | **E** cvcalouisville@cvcavets.com
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Visit our website for location information

Supply Request Form - Texas

Supply Request Form - VA & MD

Supply Request Form - Kentucky

CVCA
Cardiac Care for Pets
www.cvcavets.com

OPEN FOR BUSINESS
BOARD-CERTIFIED CARDIOLOGY

Attn: Primary Care Veterinarians,

In the wake of the COVID-19 pandemic, CVCA plans to remain open to offer our **board-certified cardiology services** with altered protocols designed to keep within the Centers for Disease Control (CDC) and World Health Organization (WHO) guidelines regarding the transmission of COVID-19, to be followed until recommendations are no longer in place. We are doing all we can to ensure the safety of our clients and our team.

COVID-19 client protocols can be found on our website at

www.cvcavets.com/covid19

Available Payment Options

In the midst of this crisis, we know hov
medical expenses for a pet. We offer s
and PaymentBanc for qualified applica

CareCredit Payment B

Thank you for your patience and unde

CVCA Cardiac Care for Pets

Katie Meier, DVM,
Sara Beth Bordelon, DV
Julie Andrie, DVM

CVCA inside Austin Veterinary Emergency and Specia
7300 Ranch Rd 2222, Bldg 5, Suite 100 • Austin, T
Phone: 512-745-3698

CVCA
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www.cvcavets.com

Introducing Julie Andrie, DVM, DACVIM (Cardiology)

CVCA Austin's Third and Newest Board-Certified Cardiologist
Joins
Katie Meier, DVM, DACVIM (Cardiology) and Sara Beth Bordelon, DVM, MS, DACVIM (Cardiology)

Introducing Dr. Andrie! We are excited Dr. Andrie is joining our Austin, TX teams from our Northern Virginia area during her three-year residency where she was so loved, to expand our availability inside of Austin Veterinary Emergency & Specialty Center (AVES) and inside of VCA Capital Area Veterinary Specialists.

Dr. Julie Andrie, originally from a small town in Western Pennsylvania, graduated from the University of Pittsburgh with a Bachelor's degree in Rehabilitation Science and a minor in Chemistry. She received her Doctor of Veterinary Medicine degree from Ross University School of Veterinary Medicine in St. Kitts. She completed her clinical year at Oklahoma State University. After graduation, Dr. Andrie completed a one year rotating internship at Kansas State

CVCA inside
Austin Veterinary Emergency and Specialty Center
7300 Ranch Rd 2222, Bldg 5, Suite 100
Austin, TX 78730
Phone: 512-745-3698
Fax: 512-236-5209
Email: cvcanwaustin@cvcavets.com

CVCA inside
VCA Capital Area Veterinary Specialists
7958 Shoal Creek Blvd
Austin, TX 79757
Phone: 512-920-6508
Fax: 512-856-9508
Email:
cvcaaustinshoalcreek@cvcavets.com

@cvcavets
ion

NOW OPEN SATURDAYS, INCLUDING M-F – #ESSENTIALBUSINESS

#essentialbusiness CVCA Cardiac Care for Pets www.cvcavets.com

As an #essential business during the COVID-19 pandemic, CVCA remains **OPEN FOR BUSINESS** at both our Austin, TX locations. And, we are **NOW OPEN SATURDAYS** at our CVCA location inside Austin Veterinary Emergency & Specialty Center (AVES).

Safety remains a top priority for us and that's why we have made immediate changes with **NEW CVCA COVID-19 CLIENT PROTOCOL** for appointments.

In addition, we have reviewed Governor Abbott's Latest Executive Order and addressed some potential questions and/or

pecialty Center (AVES)

ialists

cavets.com/covid19

anc VISA DISCOVER

ns to pet owners?

If it is your primary care veterinarian's or your opinion that your pet is stable, we will be happy to reschedule your cardiology appointment to a later date. If you would like to further discuss delaying your pet's recheck evaluation with CVCA, please feel free to email us or use the **Reschedule An Appointment** form.

As you can imagine, it is very difficult to assess the apparent stability of our cardiac patients over the telephone or via email. Please know our team of doctors and technical staff are taking recommended precautionary measures, **NEW CVCA COVID-19 Protocol** so that you, your clients and their pets, and our team remain safe and healthy.

y Center
78730

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Like us on @cvcavets

CVCA
Cardiac Care for Pets
www.cvcavets.com

CVCA Cardiac Care for Pets

is excited to announce the opening of our second Austin, Texas location on Tuesday, April 30th!

Katie Meier, DVM, DACVIM (Cardiology) will be seeing patients

- **9:00AM–5:00PM - Mondays**
- **9:00AM–5:00PM - Tuesdays**
- **9:00AM–5:00PM - Thursdays**

CVCA Austin – Shoal Creek
located inside VCA Capital Area Veterinary Specialists (VCA)
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P 512-920-6508 | **F** 512-856-9508
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Katie Meier, DVM, Diplomate, ACVIM (Cardiology)
Sara Beth Bordelon, DVM, MS, Diplomate, ACVIM (Cardiology)

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www.cvcavets.com
Like us on @cvcavets and @CVCAVetsShoalCreek
CVCA Locations in Kentucky, Maryland, Texas and Virginia

Open for Business FAX

#EssentialBusiness FAX

Introducing Doctor FAX

New Location FAX

EXHIBIT MATERIALS



10x10 Tradeshow Booth

Tradeshow Banner

CVCA Cardiac Care for Pets

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Why CVCA board-certified veterinary cardiologists

CVCA Cardiac Care for Pets

Our team treats more patients with heart disease than any other practice worldwide since 1987.

Expert and Compassionate Care for Your Patients

- ACVIM credentials reflect 3-5+ years of cardiac-specific training
- Caring for over 24,000 patients per year
- Over 99% of our clients would recommend us to a friend or family member
- Largest team of collaborative board-certified veterinary cardiologists

Pet Owner Benefits

- Owners accompany pet for echocardiogram with board-certified cardiologist
- Discuss exam in detail
- Receive an accurate and immediate diagnosis
- Ample time to discuss comprehensive treatment options

Collaboration with Primary Care Veterinarians

- Promote follow up visits with primary care veterinarian
- Commitment with ongoing communication and collaboration on best possible care of pets
- Comprehensive discussion on all aspects of the management of cardiac patients

Accessibility and Availability

- Availability for same day urgent cases
- 24/7 phone support availability











CVCA Cardiac Care for Pets

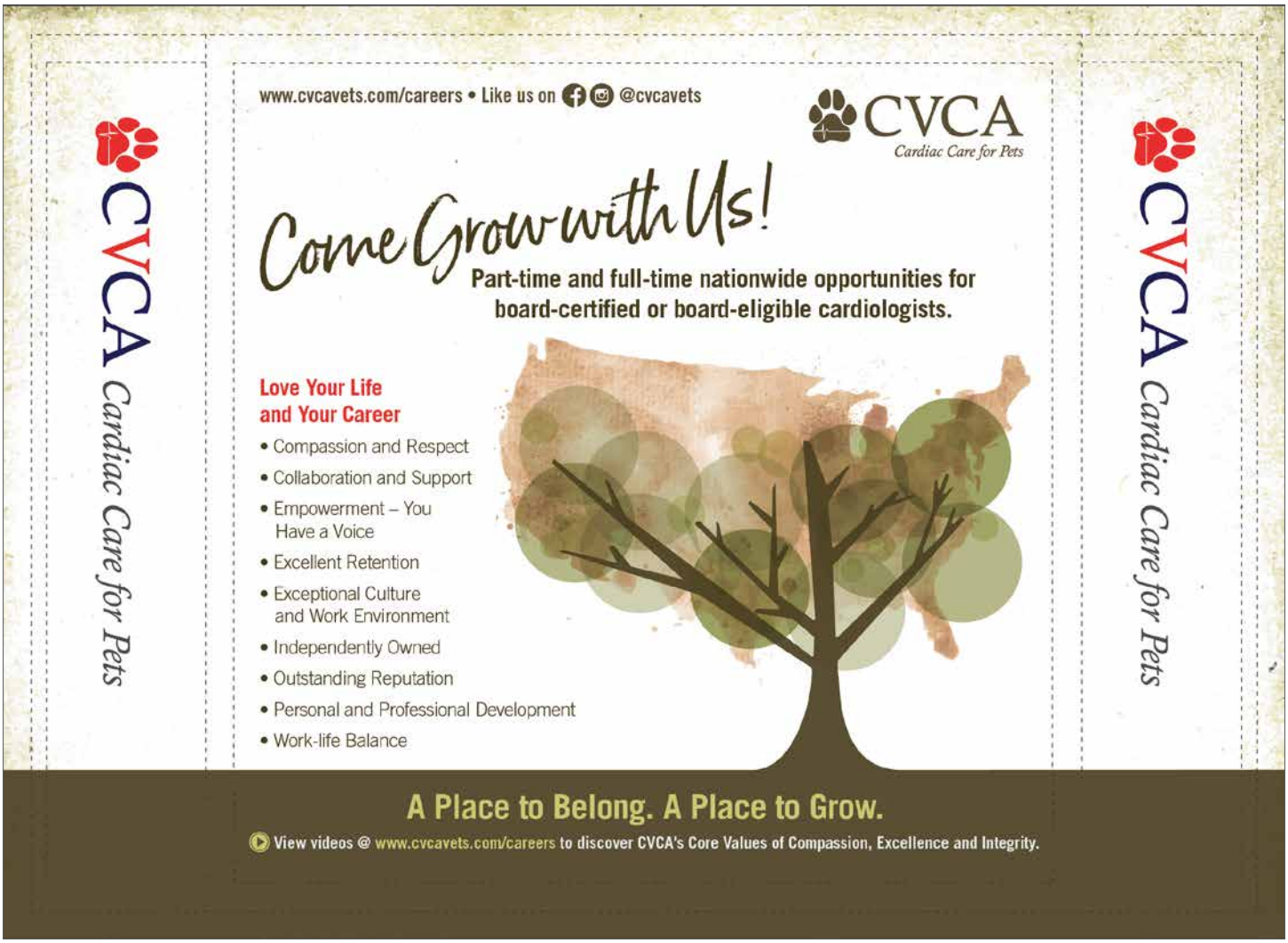
10x10 Tradeshow Booth





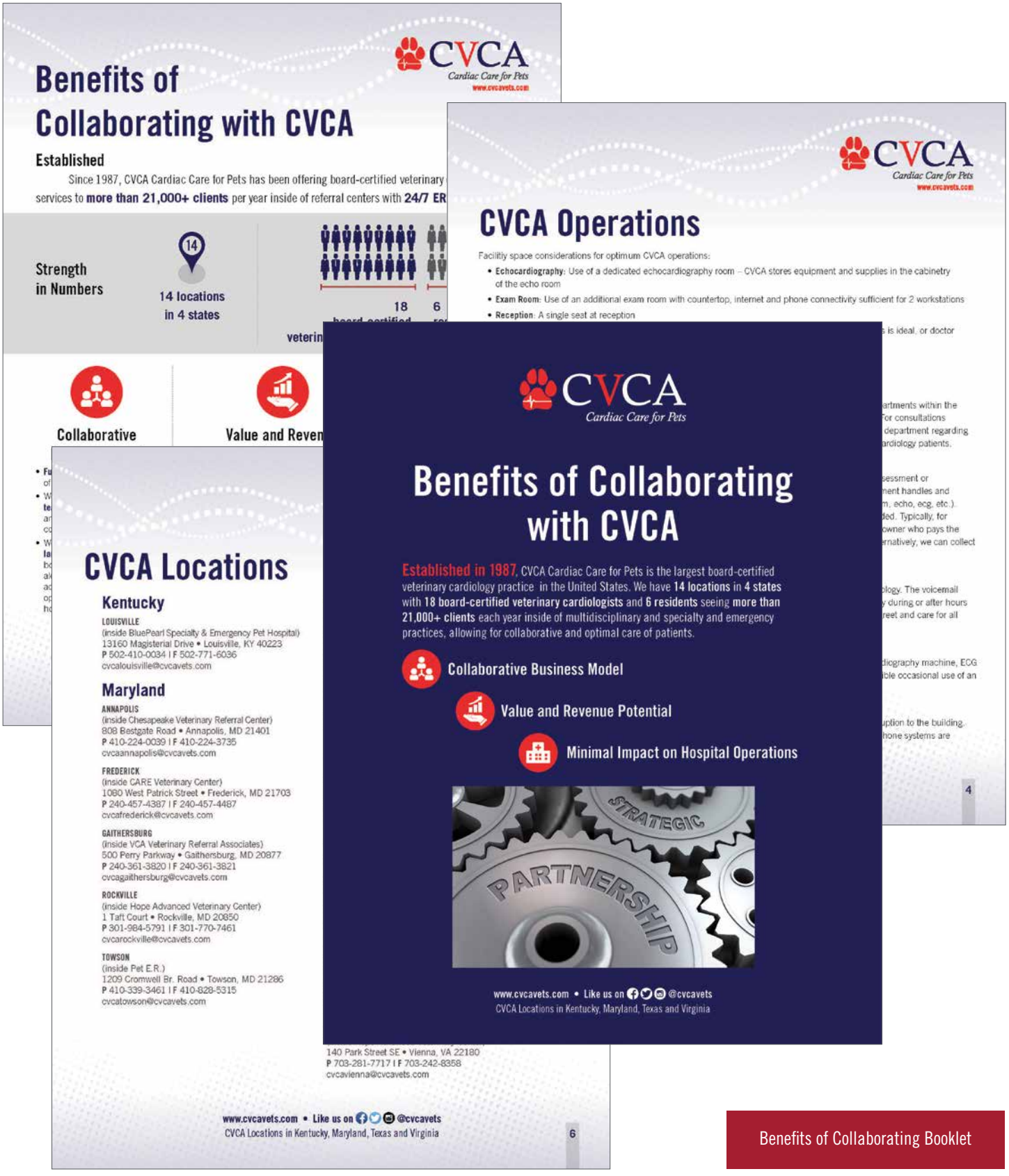
Tradeshow Tablecloth

Tabletop Sign



10x10 Tradeshow Booth

EXPANSION EFFORTS



Benefits of Collaborating Booklet

IN-HOUSE MATERIALS

CVCA
Cardiac Care for Pets
www.cvcavets.com

Controlled Substance Log



CVCA ER Resource Book

CVCA After Hours On-Call Support to Veterinarians

On-call number: 866-554-5673

A cardiologist will return your call within 30 minutes – if you do not hear back within that time frame, please call again.

The CVCA on-call cardiologist will be covering all CVCA locations. With this arrangement, we can guarentee a phone consultation with one of the CVCA doctors. The ability of a CVCA doctor to physically evaluate the patient will be determined on a case by case basis. Please note most patients will be handled with a phone consultation.

In order to best serve you with a phone consultation, please have ready:

- Brief history (or update if CVCA existing patient)
- Presenting complaint
- PE findings: murmur, heart rate, heart rhythm, BP
- ECG (if arrhythmia is present or there is any concern for arrhythmia). Please email ECG to **oncalldoctor@cvcavets.com** prior to calling on-call number. Email is preferred, but if a fax is the only option, please send to **800-787-4603**.
- Chest radiographs if coughing or difficulty breathing; please email to **oncalldoctor@cvcavets.com**.
- Most recent lab results
- Current medications



When to Contac

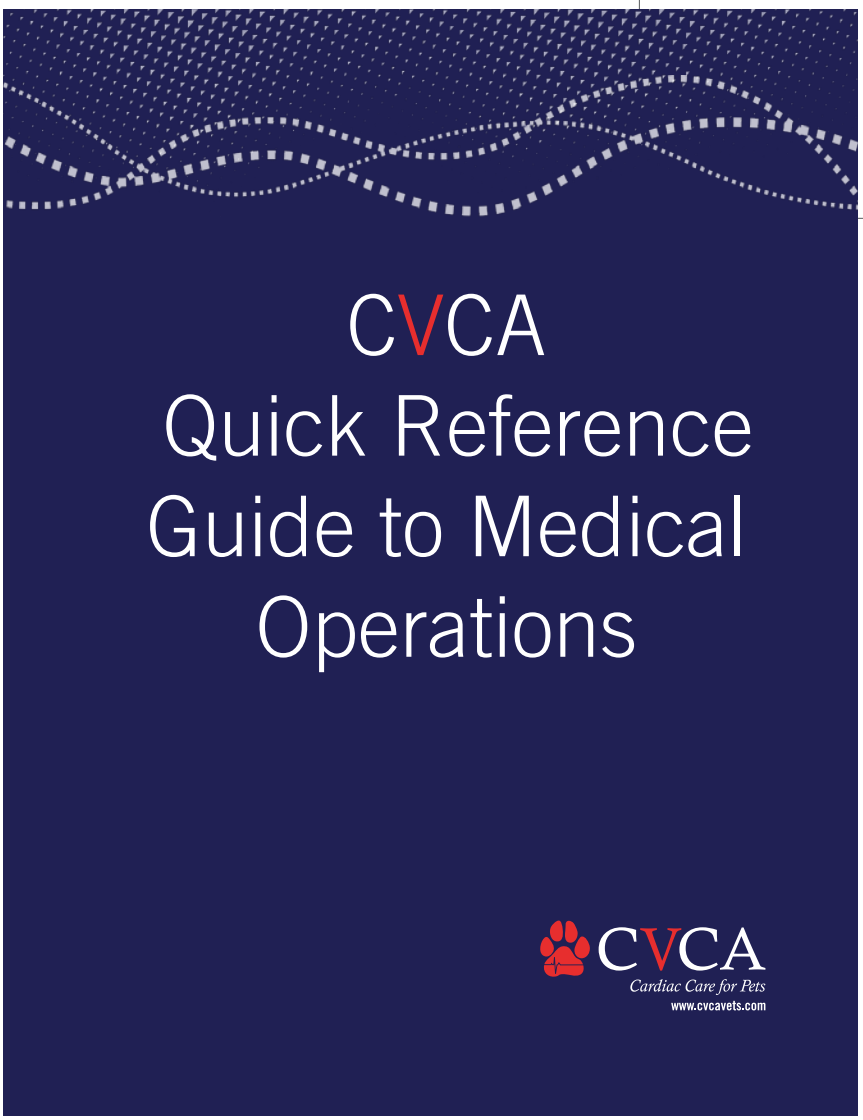
CVCA is always ava
or consults on eith
cardiac cases. Ho
managing a cardia
appropriately to th
call.

CVCA would prefe

- **Heart failure wit**
  - Current CVCA need of recom
  - Lack of impro within 2 to 3 h injectable furosemide)
  - Worsening RR/RE or other signs (low blood pressure, etc.) despite therapy
- **Ventricular arrhythmias**
  - Not responding to lidocaine
  - Worsening arrhythmia when CRI decreased or discontinued
  - Need for adjustment of therapy before patient is discharged
- **Supraventricular tachycardia (SVT)**
  - If not responding to treatment
  - Concurrent hemodynamic compromise (usually with heart rates >220-240 bpm in dogs and >260-280 bpm in cats)
- **Atrial fibrillation**
  - We do not expect conversion to a sinus rhythm – the goal is heart rate control, which may be gradual
  - If the heart rate is worsening despite the medications, or if the patient's hemodynamic status is declining
- **Significantly azotemic patients on cardiac medications**

Controlled Substance Log

ER Resource Book



CVCA
Quick Reference
Guide to Medical
Operations

CVCA
Cardiac Care for Pets
www.cvcavets.com

Quick Reference Guide to Medical Operations - Pocket Size

Quick Reference Guide to Medical Operations

SAFETY PROTOCOL FOR CVCA CLIENT ARRIVAL AND CHECKIN DURING COVID-19

STEP 1



CLIENT ARRIVES CURBSIDE
Client calls office

STEP 2



SPEAK TO CLIENT
Ask screening questions, get patient history, confirm phone number and parking space

STEP 3



TAKE A CVCA SLIP LEAD AND/OR CARRIER BARRIER
(i.e. towel, drape, etc.) with you to meet client. CVCA staff restricted from getting into vehicle to secure pets.

STEP 4



GREET CLIENT AT THE VEHICLE

STEP 5

DOG/LEASH

1. **TAKE** owner's leash with one hand
2. **MOVE AWAY** from the vehicle
3. **PLACE** CVCA slip lead on dog
4. **ENTER BUILDING**, still holding the leash with one hand – avoid touching doors with this hand
5. Once in CVCA's room – **PLACE** owner's leash/harness in designated area
6. **Avoid touching anything**. Wash hands (scrub fingertips, thumbs, back of hands) for 20 seconds while singing a song/use hand sanitizer
7. **CONTINUE** with Echo appointment – Doctors/Techs wear masks
8. **Avoid touching anything**. Wash hands (scrub fingertips, thumbs, back of hands) for 20 seconds while singing a song/use hand sanitizer
9. **REPLACE** owner's leash/harness on pet (avoid touching doors with this hand)
10. **TAKE** pet to owner, remove CVCA's slip lead
11. **RETURN** to the building.
12. **DISINFECT** designated area, echo table, equipment contacting pet
13. **Avoid touching anything**. Wash hands (scrub fingertips, thumbs, back of hands) for 20 seconds while singing a song/use hand sanitizer

CAT/DOG/CARRIER

1. **MOVE AWAY** from the vehicle
2. **COVER CARRIER** with a barrier (i.e. towel, drape, etc.)
3. **ENTER BUILDING** with the carrier - avoid contact with doors, floors, etc.
4. **SET CARRIER DOWN**, fold barrier with dirty side in, clean side out, place in designated area, and wipe all exposed surfaces, including handle and latch
5. **Avoid touching anything**. Wash hands (scrub fingertips, thumbs, back of hands) for 20 seconds while singing a song/use hand sanitizer
6. **REMOVE** pet
7. **CONTINUE** with Echo appointment – Doctors/Techs wear masks
8. **RETURN** pet to the carrier
9. **Avoid touching anything**. Wash hands (scrub fingertips, thumbs, back of hands) for 20 seconds while singing a song/use hand sanitizer
10. **COVER** the carrier touching clean side, dirty side to carrier
11. **RETURN** or bring pet/carrier to owner/vehicle
12. **REMOVE** barrier, fold dirty side in, clean side out, wipe all exposed carrier surfaces including handle and latch
13. **RETURN** to building
14. **PLACE** barrier in laundry
15. **Avoid touching anything**. Wash hands (scrub fingertips, thumbs, back of hands) for 20 seconds while singing a song/use hand sanitizer

Safety Protocol Flyer