

FLYER

March 2003

Please Take Note

Grading of Feline Mast Cell Tumors

While histopathologic grading of canine mast cell tumors (MCTs) may have some prognostic use, a recent JAAHA article reports **no correlation between histopathologic grades and prognosis of MCTs in cats.**



Hemobartonella Comment on Cat CBCs

When a feline CBC is ordered, we evaluate smears from those blood samples that meet criteria for slide review; i.e., anemia, low platelets, high white count, etc, for hemobartonella. If none are found, we have begun adding the comment stating "No Hemobartonella seen". This is at no additional charge to the clinic.

Mast Cell Tumors and Diff Quik

For those of you performing your own in-clinic cytology of skin masses, be warned that in a small percentage of mast cell tumors - probably the more anaplastic, aggressive ones - Diff Quik will not stain the characteristic cytoplasmic granules. However, the Wright's stain used here at Phoenix is able to pick up these granules, permitting the diagnosis.



Blood Glucose Measurement

What Sample to Send?

All of the following samples will provide an accurate blood glucose value:

- 1) A gray-top (GTT) sodium fluoride tube of whole blood, or
- 2) A serum separator tube (SST) of whole blood that has been well centrifuged, within an hour, providing good separation of serum from cells, or
- 3) Serum which has been manually separated within an hour from a centrifuged plain red-top tube (RTT) of whole blood.

Due to in vitro glucose consumption by RBCs, the following samples will give artifactually lowered blood glucose results:

- 1) EDTA or other anticoagulant tubes except sodium fluoride
- 2) Unseparated blood in a plain red-top tube (RTT) or a serum separator tube (SST) tube that has not been centrifuged.



PHOENIX
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Vesicular Stomatitis Virus

As you have probably heard, Washington and Oregon last summer experiences a Vesicular Stomatitis Virus (VSV) scare with 2 horses. These horses, from Oregon, eventually tested negative for this agent. However, a VSV outbreak in horses continued through the autumn in the southwest, and there are still currently a few active cases in Colorado.

To follow the weekly updates, check out the USDA APHIS web site:

www.aphis.usda.gov/vs/ep/



Education Corner

We are pleased to offer the following:

Hematology Wet Lab

Saturday, April 5, from 1:00 - 4:30 p.m.
Presenter: Dr. Chris Meshner

Hematology Wet Lab

Saturday, April 19, from 1:00 - 4:30 p.m.
Presenter: Dr. Faye Sturtevant

These sessions are intended for veterinarians and veterinary technicians. The fee of \$45.00 per person may be charged to your clinic account.

Please respond as soon as possible by phoning the Laboratory at 1-800-347-0043, or email to lindaj@pclv.net

Review of Avian Diseases:

Phoenix Central Laboratory hosts the Association of NW Avian Veterinarians on Tuesday, May 20th, from 7:30 p.m. until completion. The presenter for the program is Dr. Michael Garner

For membership information and RSVP contact Cathy Johnson Delaney by email to Cjdelaney@SNBLUSA.com