



A little bit about me...

Signalment

An important part of taking and giving a history to your doctor or talking to another doctor/clinic on the phone

SIGNALMENT

- 51 year old
- Female intact
- Human being
- Over 30 years experience in the Veterinary field
- General practice, Zoo med and Specialty medicine, including orthopedic, soft tissue surgery, Oncology, Internal medicine/I-131 and currently in Ophthalmology

Do I sound like I should be a toasted marshmallow?

I've been the raw marshmallow, the lightly toasted marshmallow, the flaming marshmallow over and over again.
#adulting #it's hard

It's gonna be OK

SIGNALMENT

When talking to a doctor about a patient, in person or on the phone, be sure to include a signalment.

Name
Age
Sex
Species/Breed

Having a correct signalment can contribute to creating a rule out list and a diagnosis

Makes the job a little easier for your doctor, they appreciate this



PATIENT ADVOCACY

- No matter who you are, TA, DA or CVT, please advocate for your patient!
- Just because an animal is "being so good and letting us do this" does not mean it's OK to make that animal endure whatever it is you're doing.
- Ask for drugs! "Life is better through chemistry" theory
- Passionate for making my patients feel safe. Feel safe from who? What?
- "Get into their head", have compassion, have confidence and EXHALE

PATIENT ADVOCACY

Be confident

"I've got you"
attitude

Signs of acceptance
Walk with confidence

Face forward

Don't coax/face
them

Transportation

Walk smoothly with
cats in carriers

Never trust client
collars/harnesses

Short leashes – bent
elbow

Be very aware of
surroundings

Treatment area

"Fear free" the best
we can do

If possible, have a
quiet room just for
patient restraint







SPEAKING OF INITIALING AND DATING...

Many reconstituted drugs have an expiration date. Cefazolin, Propofol-28, Unasyn, Ampicillin, Vancomycin, Apomorphine inj, Darbepoetin, Convenia, Insulin and Sodium Thiopental

Some drugs require the concentration to be noted

Please initial and date bottles – critical to patient safety

Bacterial growth and flocculence (particles) occur, also loss of efficacy

LET'S TALK A LITTLE BIT ABOUT EYEBALLS

All...The...Time... We are the Brachycephalic service in Ophthalmology



Non-healing corneal erosion



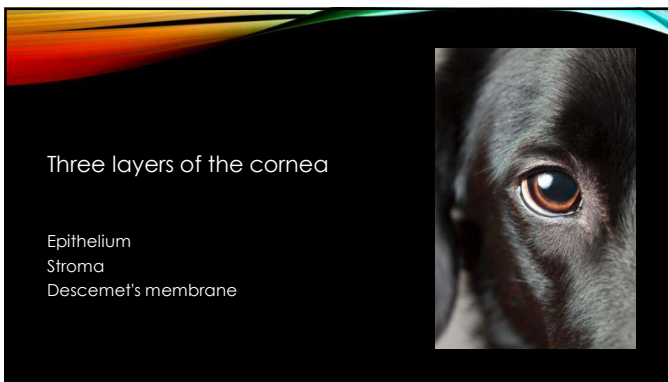
Indolent corneal ulcer

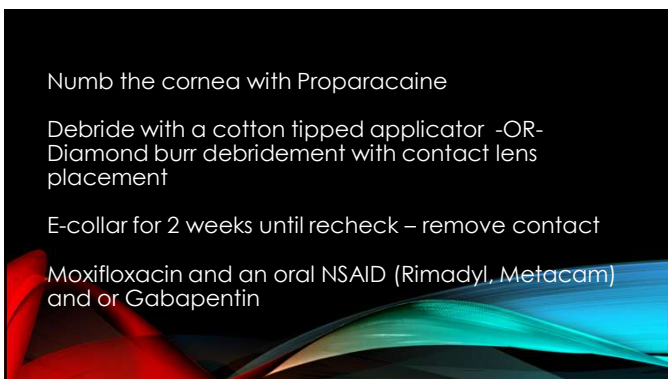


"Boxer ulcer"

What's the difference?







BITES SCRATCHES LIFTING

BITES AND SCRATCHES



Aaaaand.....Exhale.....breathe deep.....exhale...

As we know, animals key off of us.

Instill confidence (aka "fake it til ya make it")

Talking and singing songs.

Blankies and towels are your friend. Don't remove a leash from a dog, never put a leash on a cat.

Make sure you have a secure room – "treatment room" is your enemy. Use an exam room if able.


Drugs Drugs Drugs

No matter the breed, be careful lifting.

OSHA's recommendations are no more than 30 pounds.

Lift together 1-2-3 Lift
 don't lift on 1
 don't lift on 2
 don't lift on 3

Lift with your legs
 Lift with a lift table – ideally a mechanical one!
 Stretch often!
 Tell the pet you are lifting them. Explain




The alternative is working down on the floor with larger dogs and sometimes cats too.

There can also be disadvantages of that....

Remember this...?

It's real....

There are many video's on YouTube that describe how to properly get up off the floor safely. Talk to your doctor, physical therapist, chiropractor, massage therapist, whomever your hero is for the health of your body.



Let's go back to eyeballs
for a minute...

GLAUCOMA

Increased pressure in the
eye(s)

Primary and secondary
glaucoma

Holy hejebus!!



PRIMARY GLAUCOMA

Aqueous fluid is always forming. Glaucoma is a drainage problem. The eye is
like a sink with a clogged drain.

Two ways to control glaucoma; turn the faucet down and open up the drain

MEDICATIONS

Dorzolamide – Decreases aqueous production (turning down the faucet)

Timolol – Decreases aqueous production (weaker medication – usually used in conjunction with Dorz)– works on different pathways but both do the same thing

Latanoprost – Opens the drain (uveal scleral outflow tract)

*** Make sure your practice has a tonometer! (Schiotz tonometer does not count – if you know what this is, you are old like me)

Be the S'more! Appreciate the variety and multiple layers of Vet med.



- Don't be this marshmallow every day



Every day is another opportunity to learn, to teach, to love, to laugh, to grow and pet a dog or cat.

Even if it's a few minutes every day.