



**Feline VMA**  
**September 18 - 21, 2025**  
**Portland, OR**



## **Royal Canin-Sponsored CE Sessions**

Thursday, September 18th

### **Feline Veterinarian Bootcamp for New Graduates**

#### **Bootcamp, Pre-conference Day**

7:45 AM – 11:45 AM

Portland Ballroom 256

Description:

This Bootcamp is designed to provide you with real-world experience, learning from top experts, and connecting with fellow new graduates who share your passion for cats. Navigating the path to a diagnosis, subsequent management, and treatment involves critical thinking and methodically working through cases. This Bootcamp is tailored for new graduates to help you understand where to begin with common diagnoses and how to approach the diagnostic process effectively. Enhance your knowledge and practical skills in a supportive and collaborative environment, setting the stage for a successful and fulfilling career in feline medicine.

Speakers

- **Lacie Lee, DVM**, Cat Care Center of Baton Rouge; Baton Rouge, LA
- **Autumn McBride, DVM**, Classic City Kitty; Winterville, GA
- **Ashlie Saffire, DVM, DABVP (Feline)**, Faithful Friends Veterinary Clinic & Cat Specialty Center; Dublin, OH

Friday, September 19th

### **The Gut-kidney Connection: Clinical Implications**

#### **Veterinarian Track A**

11:00 AM – 11:50 AM

Portland Ballroom 252

Description:

This session will explore the gut-kidney axis, emphasizing challenges of diagnosis, and how disruptions in gut health, such as chronic enteropathy and constipation, can potentially influence the progression and management of kidney disease. Understanding this interplay opens avenues for individualized therapeutic strategies to improve outcomes in feline patients with chronic kidney and gastrointestinal disorders.

Speaker

- **Jessica Quimby, DVM, PhD, DACVIM**, The Ohio State University; Columbus, OH

Friday, September 19th

### **Recurrent Urethral Obstruction: Tips & Tricks**

#### **Veterinarian Track A**

3:05 PM – 3:55 PM

Portland Ballroom 252

Description:

This lecture will provide practical tips and tricks on how to pass a urinary catheter in males and females, how to deal with urethral tears, how to perform antegrade catheterization, and percutaneous cystostomy catheter placement. How to perform and interpret a diagnostic cystourethrogram will be presented in detail with lots of case-based examples. A review of how and when to use various lower urinary tract medications (including prazosin!) will be discussed. When is it time to perform a perineal urethrostomy? We will discuss pros and cons and when to intervene.

Speaker

- **Marilyn Dunn, DVM, MVSC, DACVIM (SAIM)**, University of Montreal; Shefford, QC

Saturday, September 20th

### **Practical Lower Urinary Tract Tips & Tricks**

#### **Veterinarian Track B**

11:15 AM – 12:10 PM

Portland Ballroom 251

Description:

A number of procedures, easily accessible in general practice, can be performed on male and female cats. Bladder mass biopsy without surgery, bladder clot dissolution, and percutaneous cystostomy catheter placement will all be covered. How to perform cystocentesis on a very tiny bladder, how to see urethral stones without contrast, and how to perform successful urohydropulsion on female cats will be discussed. This presentation will be heavily image-based, and specifics on catheters and equipment needed to perform the procedures will be provided.

Speaker

- **Marilyn Dunn, DVM, MVSC, DACVIM (SAIM)**, University of Montreal; Shefford, QC



Saturday, September 20th

### **Nephroliths: What Am I Supposed to Do with These?**

#### **Veterinarian Track B**

1:35 PM – 2:30 PM

Portland Ballroom 251

Description:

Nephroliths in cats are often an incidental finding on abdominal radiographs, and very little exists in the feline literature on what to do when they are diagnosed. A critical review of what to do when nephroliths are discovered, why they form (new and evolving concepts will be brought forward), and their relationship to kidney disease will be discussed. A practical approach to the treatment and management of nephroliths in young and older cats will be covered, along with their relationship to biofilm and infection (even with calcium oxalate stones!).

Speaker

- **Marilyn Dunn, DVM, MVSC, DACVIM (SAIM)**, University of Montreal; Shefford, QC

Saturday, September 20th

### **Subtleties of Feline CKD Management**

#### **Masterclass**

3:00 PM – 5:00 PM

Oregon Ballroom 204

Description:

Attendees of this Masterclass will benefit from a focused learning environment with limited participants, ensuring interactive discussions. This exclusive setting allows for in-depth exploration and analysis of the complex subtleties in management, expert insights, and real-life case studies of chronic kidney disease in cats. Participants will have ample opportunities to engage with the speakers, ask questions, work through cases, and share experiences, enhancing their ability to provide optimal care for feline patients.

Speakers

- **Jessica Quimby, DVM, PhD, DACVIM**, The Ohio State University; Columbus, OH
- **Stacie Summers, DVM, PhD, DACVIM (SAIM)**, Oregon State University; Corvallis, OR



Saturday, September 20th

### **Urinary Tract Infection or Asymptomatic Bacteriuria? To Treat or Not to Treat?**

#### **Veterinarian Track B**

3:15 PM – 4:05 PM

Portland Ballroom 251

Description:

Using an evidence-based approach, this lecture will differentiate: a urinary tract infection, pyelonephritis, and subclinical or asymptomatic bacteriuria. A practical approach to understanding the bladder microbiome and the consequences of antibiotic use will be presented, followed by a case-based management approach to individual felines.

Speaker

- **Marilyn Dunn, DVM, MVSC, DACVIM (SAIM)**, University of Montreal; Shefford, QC

Sunday, September 21st

### **Best Kept Secrets in Healthy Cat Nutrition**

#### **Breakfast Symposium**

7:00 AM – 7:50 AM

Portland Ballroom 251

Description:

As practitioners, we often feel more confident in our therapeutic nutritional recommendations than in our nutritional recommendations for healthy cats. Navigating the broad range of food options for healthy cats in an ecosystem rife with myths, misinformation, and misunderstanding can feel overwhelming even for the most experienced clinician. In this session, we will highlight key nutritional considerations for different life stages, lifestyles, breeds, and health predispositions, with practical tips for how to use available resources to develop appropriate, individualized, “OTC” diet recommendations for your patients.

Speakers

- **Annette Louviere, DVM**, Royal Canin; Saint Charles, MO
- **Anne Ward, DVM**, Royal Canin US; Issaquah, WA

