

AETC NEWS



Animal Emergency
and Trauma Center



Hospital Happenings

Dr. Carolynn Zimmers retired in December. She was one of the founders of AETC in 1993.

Dr. Shelby Watson has changed career tracks and is now practicing in a general practice and practicing holistic veterinary medicine.

We wish both doctors the best on their new journeys. (cont.)

Case of the Quarter

Luggage is packed, the house is clean Mia's health certificate is complete, and finds a foam ear plug, begins playing with it and suddenly swallows it. A foam ear plug this size in a 10 week old Chihuahua can easily cause a gastrointestinal blockage and ruin a three week vacation. (cont.)

Seasonal Tips

The holiday season is a time for celebration and togetherness. It also a time when we see an increase in chocolate ingestion by dogs. The active ingredient in chocolate can cause gastrointestinal upset, (cont.)



Salmon Poisoning

The Pacific Northwest is known for its salmon runs and fishing. Most dog owners have heard of salmon poisoning but are not aware of the complex nature of the disease. The disease is not caused by salmon directly but rather by a rickettsia (a microorganism) which is carried by an intestinal fluke (worm) found in some fish. Ingestion of an infected fish or fish parts by a dog allows the fluke organism to mature and the rickettsial organism carried by it to cause disease. Incubation is typically 5-7 days. Affected dogs become lethargic, febrile, exhibit severe vomiting and diarrhea (often bloody), and may have enlarged lymph nodes. Diagnosis is confirmed by finding eggs of the fluke in the dog's feces.

Treatment consists of hospitalization, aggressive IV fluid therapy, lab work, and appropriate antibiotics and other medication.

Salmonoid fish (salmon, trout) as well as the Pacific Giant salamander can carry the organisms which cause this disease. Cats are not affected. (cont.)

Happenings (cont.)

We welcome new staff members Gwen, Susan, Lizz and Nicole to our team. Lizz recently passed her Veterinary Technician licensing exam!

Case of the Quarter (cont.)

A call to AETC, a quick visit to the hospital, and an injection of apomorphine resolved the potential problem. Mia and her family were able to enjoy their trip minus one ear plug.



Seasonal Tips (cont.)

heart arrhythmias, hyperexcitability and possibly death. Treatment is determined by the type of chocolate, the amount ingested, the size of the dog, the time elapsed since ingestion, and the symptoms present. If your dog has ingested chocolate or you suspect exposure has occurred, seek veterinary advice immediately!

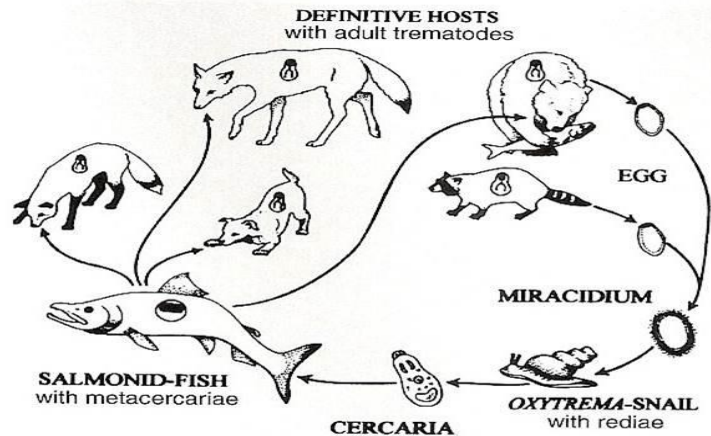


Fig. 22a. *Nanophyetus salmincola* prepatent period is 5–7 days. (See also Fig. 52j.)



Dogs should never be allowed to contact, eat or lick, raw fish. Freezing fish at -20 degrees Celsius for 24 hours or thoroughly cooking infected fish will kill both the fluke larva and the microorganism that causes the disease.

If your dog exhibits any of the symptoms listed above, contact AETC immediately. Delaying treatment can prove fatal!!

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