

VETERINARY cancer care



www.vetcancercare.com

Take a **BITE** Out of Cancer!



ANNOUNCEMENTS

We are proud to announce that Dr. Jeannette M. Kelly has been granted the highest certification awarded for veterinary oncology. She is now a diplomate of the American College of Veterinary Internal Medicine in Oncology.

Congratulations Dr. Kelly!

A big **“THANK YOU”** to all of our clinical trials participants. If your dog was treated for Acanthamatus epulis, they are officially part of the scientific literature. This means that many other animals with the same cancer may be helped due to your trust and courage. To all other clinical trials participants, more publications are on the way!



EARLY DETECTION AND PREVENTION OF CANCER IN DOGS AND CATS

There is no doubt that we are taking better care of our pets than ever before. Every day huge advances are being made in medicine for both humans and animals. Unfortunately, research tells us that nearly 50% of pets over the age of 10 will have a battle with cancer. Early detection and prevention of cancer in our pets can potentially do more to save their lives than any medicine used to treat cancer.

As pet owners we all must become knowledgeable and active in our pet's healthcare. Here are 5 ways that you can become involved...

- 1) **See your veterinarian regularly.** The best time to establish a relationship with a veterinarian is when your pet is healthy, not during a time of crisis. By seeing your veterinarian regularly, it is more likely that abnormalities, whether they are in blood work or new lumps, will be detected early.
- 2) **Feed your pet a high quality, well balanced diet,** free of fillers, that includes Omega 3 fatty acids, like fish oil. This, plus **regular exercise** will help your pet maintain a healthy weight.
- 3) **Decrease or eliminate your pet's exposure to environmental risks** including: pesticides, flea collars, sun exposure, second hand smoke, and asbestos.
- 4) **Spay your female pets at an early age.** Studies show that dogs spayed after just one heat cycle have a dramatic increase in mammary gland tumors.
- 5) **Know your pet.** Learn how to perform **at-home examinations** of your pet and always **see your veterinarian** if you believe that something is not right with your pet, no matter how small. **Never ignore a symptom!**

If you are a groomer or trainer and are interested in having a Veterinary Cancer Care staff member come to your place of work and show you how to help monitor your clients' animals for cancer, e-mail Amy at amy@vetcancercare.com

Please look for upcoming dates announcing our Spring lecture series. These lectures will focus on at-home examinations and other things you can do to keep your pet free from cancer.



See our website, www.vetcancercare.com, for much more information regarding cancer and pets.

You may also subscribe to this newsletter via a link on our website.



Grief Support Group

When you've lost a beloved pet it is very important to take good care of yourself. Let yourself grieve. Feel the sorrow and loss. Be sure to eat well, exercise and get enough sleep. It can also be very helpful to talk to others who identify with your loss and are going through the same experience.

Veterinary Cancer Care P.C. holds a pet loss support group at our clinic every other **Monday at 6:30pm**. Please contact the clinic for more information at 505-982-4492.

THE ATHENA FUND

With the help of a generous donation, an emergency fund has been established to help defer the cost of care for those in our community who's pets have been diagnosed with cancer, yet cannot afford even the base cost of care. For more information regarding donating to this fund or receiving a grant to help with your pet's medical bills, please call The Santa Fe Community Foundation at 988-9715. **If you would like to read more about Athena, the cat that inspired this foundation, please visit www.vetcancercare.com**

Would like to see your pet's story and photo in print?

If your pet was or is being treated by us for cancer write their story, attach some photos and send it to amy@vetcancercare.com We will put them on the website and you may see them in the next newsletter. You have all touched our lives so much, we want to let your stories inspire, move, and empower other people.

If you have questions or comments about this newsletter, please e-mail Amy at amy@vetcancercare.com



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