Veterinary telemedicine consulting: the future of in-practice collaboration

Case study
This case study is based on a consultation and diagnosis by IDEXX Telemedicine Consultants.

Kaya, 4.5 years old, FeS, Chihuahua
Presenting: History of vomiting and lethargy for one week. A CBC and chemistry profile were within normal limits.

Findings:
- The lumbar spine is normal. Most of the left femur has been amputated. The pelvis and right coxofemoral joint appear normal. The liver appears normal sized with smooth margins. The spleen is normal sized with smooth margins. The kidneys are partially obscured, but do not appear enlarged and the visible margins are smooth.
- There is a small amount of gas in the colon.
- There is gas and fluid in the left femur.

Abdominal detail is normal except for some gas and fluid in the duodenum with a plicated appearance (red circle). There is fluid throughout the remaining small intestines.

Urinary bladder is only partially full. Abdominal detail is retained. The caudal thoracic structures appear normal.

Conclusions:
The square gas-filled structure in the pylorus is consistent with foreign material. In conjunction, the appearance of the pylorus is irregular with foreign body and possible pyloric dilatation. There is fluid throughout the remaining small intestines.

Recommendations:
A contrast study or abdominal ultrasound might be considered to confirm the gastric foreign body and possible pyloric duodenal linear foreign body prior to surgical intervention, especially if the patient does not improve with symptomatic and supportive treatment.

Society reaches membership milestone
INTERNATIONAL Cat Care reports that the nurse and technician membership of its veterinary division, the International Society of Feline Medicine (ISFM), has reached 10,000 nurses and 72 countries across the globe.

Membership is free and provides nurses with the monthly online Feline Focus journal and a monthly webinar which can be watched live or viewed as a recording.

Internationally-known authors and speakers contribute to both webinars and the journal and articles range from “Back to Basics” to “State of the Art” topics – ISFM’s usual selection of educational material written or presented especially for veterinary nurses and technicians. The 34 webinars delivered so far have been watched over 33,000 times.

Veterinary nurses and technicians are vital to good cat care and their knowledge and enthusiasm can help to develop cat awareness and friendliness in clinics, ICC states; many have been instrumental in helping their clinics to achieve Cat Friendly Clinic status and many have commented that the knowledge they have gained has given them confidence in dealing with cats and in helping clients.

To sign up for free ISFM nurse and technician membership, visit https://icatcare.org/nurses/membership.