

## Abstract for RACE Program

**Program Title: Preventive Medicine: Promoting the health of our veterinary patients proactively**

**Program Description:**

*Early detection: Proactive medicine; The purpose of this presentation is to discuss the benefits of routine wellness assessment in our veterinary patients. We will discuss what the evidence suggests about routine wellness assessment by reviewing 2 recent studies in dogs and cats. We will discuss how to successfully institute proactive medicine in the veterinary hospital. We will discuss the involvement of all team members from reception to the doctors role in explaining the WHY to clients. Proactive medicine diagnostics will be discussed including the minimum database (cbc, chemistry, urinalysis and VBD testing), fecal analysis, retroviral testing, and thyroid testing. We will review two tests involving the urogenital system as part of early disease detection (CADET BRAF and SDMA) and one predictive diagnostic test (RenalTECH in felines). The use of imaging as a screening tool will also be reviewed. The benefits of partnering with a diagnostic laboratory will be outlined including the availability of specific diagnostic tests, technical support, client services and specialist consultations. We will use a case example highlighting the use of various diagnostics in the evaluation of a cat with hyperthyroidism. At the end of the talk we will entertain specific questions with regards to wellness testing.*

**Program Agenda:**

- 1. Early Detection: Proactive Medicine**
  - a. In this segment we will discuss the difference between proactive and reactive medicine. We will review the evidence based on two published studies in dogs and cats**
- 2. How do we put a pro-active approach into practice?**
  - a. We will discuss how every team member has a responsibility with regards to our messages about wellness. We will discuss how we must alter our way of practicing. We need more time in our appointments. We can leverage our technical support for education. We need to explain the WHY! Based on patient age may need biannual assessment. We need to explain the importance of a routine minimum database and fecal examination. In some cases imaging will be needed. Maximizing the minimum database- with excellent client follow through will be the focus**
- 3. Routine Wellness testing**
  - a. To review diagnostic tests involved in routine wellness including a minimum database (CBC, chemistry,urinalysis and VBD screening), fecal analysis, and as indicated feline retroviral testing, and thyroid testing. Additionally predictive and early detection tests will be discussed including RenalTECH and the SDMA and CADET Braf. The utility of diagnostic imaging as a screening tool will also be discussed. Maximizing the benefits of being associated with a diagnostic laboratory will be reviewed including what ANTECH can offer with regards to diagnostic testing, technical support and specialized consultation.**
- 4. Clinical case Example**

- a. **To review a clinical case example of hyperthyroidism in a cat that illustrates the application and interpretation of preventative wellness testing**
- 5. Frequently Asked Questions**
  - a. **To provide guidance in responding to commonly asked questions regarding early detection and preventative testing**

**Learning Objectives:**

To understand the importance of preventive medicine and early detection testing in dogs and cats

To be able to discuss the benefits of wellness testing to pet parents

To provide information that will help veterinary professionals integrate current diagnostic protocols and imaging to elevate the standard of care

To review a clinical case example of hyperthyroidism in the cat that illustrates the application and interpretation of preventive wellness testing

To provide guidance in responding to commonly asked questions regarding early detection and preventive medicine testing