



## October, 2011

### Feline Parvovirus

Posted: 04 Oct 2011 03:46 PM PDT

[Battilani M, Balboni A, Ustulin M et al: Genetic complexity and multiple infections with more Parvovirus species in naturally infected cats, Veterinary research 42:43, 2011.](#)

The parvoviruses affecting dogs and cats are very closely related and cause similar disease. Several strains of canine parvovirus (CPV) can infect and cause disease in cats, including CPV-2a, -2b, and -2c. This opens up the possibility that a cat could be infected with feline parvovirus (FPV) as well as CPV. These researchers in Italy analyzed the parvoviruses infecting 24 cats. While 22 of the cats had FPV, there was evidence of CPV infection in two of the cats. One cat had CPV-2c, while the other had both FPV and CPV-2a – co-infection with two different viruses. In addition, it was noted that the CPV strains infecting both cats were relatively genetically diverse; that is, these viruses appeared to be re-adapting to the feline host. The researchers speculate that infected cats could potentially be a source of new parvovirus variants. [MK]

Related articles:

[Kruse BD, Unterer S, Horlacher K et al: Prognostic factors in cats with feline panleukopenia, J Vet Intern Med 24:1271, 2010.](#)

Source: Winn Feline Health Foundation

### Shelter Closes After Dogs Die From Distemper

Galax, Virginia. Empty kennels are a rare sight for any animal shelter, but the one in Galax which also serves both Carroll and Grayson counties is down to bare bones. Animal control says the shelter is temporarily closed because of a Distemper outbreak, a disease that is nearly 100% fatal.

Five dogs are now quarantined because of the illness, while seven others had to be put down because they were too sick. A local vet says she knows of at least twenty other sick pooches who were adopted out.

Animal control officials say it is relatively easy to clean up and wipe out the disease. It just takes a little bit of clorox and water, but they also say it is just as easy to vaccinate your dogs.

While Jenkins says the majority of shelters vaccinate dogs when they take them in, the shelter in Galax does not, but they plan on doing it soon. "We're actually going to start looking for some opportunities for grant dollars that may assist where we can vaccinate animals that are coming in," said Barker. "If you vaccinate these dogs on intake the minute they walk in to your facility you can actually break the cycle of spreading Distemper," said Dr. Jenkins. Source: WSLs 10

## **D. Paul Lunn Named CVM Dean at NCSU**

Dr. D. Paul Lunn, professor of equine medicine and head of the Department of Clinical Sciences at Colorado State University's College of Veterinary Medicine and Biomedical Sciences, has been named dean of the College of Veterinary Medicine at North Carolina State University, effective Feb. 15, 2012. NC State Provost Warwick Arden announced the appointment.

"I am extremely pleased we have been able to attract Dr. Lunn to lead the College of Veterinary Medicine," Provost Arden said. "I believe he has the experience, skill and vision to continue to move this outstanding program to a position of international eminence."

NC State's College of Veterinary Medicine is one of the top colleges of its type in the United States, ranking third in the most recent U.S. News & World Report survey of the nation's 28 colleges of veterinary medicine. The NC State CVM includes 312 DVM students, 146 graduate students, 81 residents and interns, 155 faculty members, and 400 staff members.

"It's a great privilege and a challenge to have the chance to take up the position of dean at the College of Veterinary Medicine at NC State," Dr. Lunn said. "Above all, I have been hugely impressed by the enthusiasm and positive attitude of the faculty of the college, and I look forward to working with them to accomplish their ambitious goals."

Dr. Lunn is an expert in equine immunology and infectious disease; his lab researches equine influenza and equine herpesvirus (EHV-1), a highly infectious virus that can cause abortion and neurological disease in horses.

Dr. Lunn has served at Colorado State since 2003. From 2000 to 2003, he served as associate dean for clinical affairs and director of the University of Wisconsin-Madison's Veterinary Medical Teaching Hospital. He also was a professor in the University of Wisconsin-Madison's School of Veterinary Medicine from 1991 to 2000.

He is a member of several veterinary societies and organizations, including the Royal College of Veterinary Surgeons, the American College of Veterinary Internal Medicine, the American Association of Veterinary Clinicians, and the American Veterinary Medical Association of Veterinary Immunologists.

Among his awards and honors, Dr. Lunn received the Faculty Achievement Award from the American Association of Veterinary Clinicians earlier this year, and the Sir Frederick Smith Lecture & Medal at the British Equine Veterinary Association annual meeting in 2009.

Dr. Lunn serves on a number of boards, committees and review panels in his academic field. He is past president of the American Association of Veterinary Clinicians and has served on a U.S. Dept. of Agriculture review panel titled "Sustaining Animal Health and Well-being: Immunology and Parasitology." He is currently the chairman of the Research Advisory Committee of the Grayson-Jockey Club Research Foundation.

A productive scholar and noted speaker, Dr. Lunn authored or co-authored more than 90 papers in refereed journals. He has authored or co-authored 16 book chapters, and has delivered numerous presentations in his field. He also serves as a reviewer for a number of academic journals and research-granting agencies.

Dr. Lunn, 53, was born in Wales and received his bachelor's degree in veterinary science with honors at the University of Liverpool in 1982. Before returning to school for his advanced degrees, Lunn worked as a

practicing veterinarian from 1983 to 1985. He earned a master's degree in veterinary medicine from the University of Wisconsin-Madison in 1988 and his Ph.D. from the University of Cambridge in 1991. He became a diplomate of the American College of Veterinary Internal Medicine in 1992.

Dr. Lunn becomes the fourth dean of the NC State CVM, which graduated its first class in 1985. Founding Dean Terrence Curtin retired in 1992, Dr. Oscar Fletcher stepped down in 2004 to join the faculty of the CVM Department of Population Health and Pathobiology, and Dr. Warwick Arden was appointed NC State's Interim Provost in 2009, becoming Provost in 2010.

Dr. David Bristol, Associate Dean and Director of Academic Affairs, has been serving as the Interim Dean of the CVM since 2009. *Source: <http://www.cvm.ncsu.edu/news/>*

## **Cleveland County Man Charged with Beating Dog**

September 29, 2011. A Cleveland County man is behind bars accused of beating his dog to near death. It is an animal cruelty case the likes of which officers haven't seen before. And now they're using a new law, called "Susie's Law," to go after the owner. And if he's convicted it could land him in prison. The law gets its name from a dog that was tortured and set on fire.

Officers were called to the home when a passerby called 911 and reported seeing Mullinax beating his dog with a broomstick.

"It was obvious this was a malicious beating. This wasn't someone who just was punishing a dog. This was a malicious beating," said Mebane.

Mullinax admitted to Cleveland County Animal Control that he beat the dog because it wouldn't obey his commands. Officers say his dog was so severely beaten it had a fractured skull, brain damage and had to be put down. The dog's puppies are now in the care of the Cleveland County Humane Society.

## **Vaccine Could Help Control Feral Cat Population**

*UF researchers test a long-acting contraceptive on feral cats.*

*By Drew Andersen*

*Posted: September 30, 2011, 3 a.m. EDT*

A study performed by University of Florida researchers could aid in the management of feral cat populations.

The researchers found that a single dose of the immunocontraceptive vaccine GonaCon controls fertility over multiple years in adult female cats.

"We're hoping this research will lead to a nonlethal method of control for feral cat populations that is less expensive, labor-intensive, and invasive than current methods, such as surgical sterilization," said Julie Levy, DVM, Ph.D., lead researcher and director of the Maddie's Shelter Medicine Program at UF.

Non-profit veterinary research organization Morris Animal Foundation funded the five-year study, which was published online in August in the scientific journal *Theriogenology*.

The UF researchers administered single dose vaccinations to 15 female cats and placebos to another five cats. The cats were then allowed access to a breeding male cat. All five placebo females became pregnant within seven to 28 days.

Among the cats treated with GonaCon, 93 percent remained infertile for the first year, 73 percent remained infertile in year two, 53 percent in year three, 40 percent in year four, and 27 percent in year five. Levy said researchers expected the decrease in the vaccine's efficacy as the cats' antibodies to the vaccine decreased.

“Although a permanent sterilant would be ideal, a long-acting contraceptive could be an effective tool for managing feral cat populations, especially where surgery is unavailable or impractical,” said Joyce Briggs, president of the Alliance for Contraception in Cats and Dogs, an advocacy group for nonsurgical birth control methods in animals.

Feral cats have recently come under attack as contributors to the spread of rabies. Many wild bird advocates consider feral cats a threat to bird populations, and consider more drastic measures than feral cat sterilization necessary.

Researchers at the USDA Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service National Wildlife Research Center developed GonaCon, and the UF researchers do not have any licensing agreements with the USDA or any commercial interests in the vaccine. The vaccine is registered by the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency for use on female white-tailed deer, and it been effective with other mammal species including feral horses, bison, elk, prairie dogs and ground squirrels.

The vaccine stimulates the production of antibodies that bind to GnRH, a hormone in an animal's body that signals the production of sex hormones, such as estrogen, progesterone and testosterone. By binding to GnRH, the antibodies reduce the animal's ability to stimulate the release of these sex hormones. All sexual activity is inhibited, and the animals remain in a non-reproductive state as long as a sufficient level of antibody activity is present. *Source: Cat Channel.com*

## **Washington County MD Outbreak of Canine Parvovirus**

In response to a local outbreak of canine parvovirus, the Humane Society of Washington County will help some pet owners pay to vaccinate their dogs against the deadly disease. Under the Animal Health Voucher program, vouchers for up to \$50 will be issued to qualifying applicants to go toward the cost of a veterinarian visit for the vaccination that includes the parvovirus inoculation, according to a news release from the shelter.

In a release the executive director of the humane society said the shelter fears that people are not vaccinating their dogs due to the expense.

To date, 10 dogs have been euthanized at the shelter as a result of the virus. All of the dogs had been recently brought to the shelter by the public. The first case is believed to have originated from puppies brought in from the Sharpsburg MD area. Until the disease is eliminated at the shelter, it will not be accepting owned dogs. *Source: herald-mail.com/*

# HSUS: No Friend to Purebred Dogs and Cats - Part 1

To understand the true agenda of this enormous animal rights organization, HSUS, one needs to examine the beliefs of its leaders, not the slick media ads for donations that claim to be for animal welfare or assisting shelter dogs. The HSUS agenda is not much different than that of PETA, only the tactics used separate these two groups.

Make no mistake, the ultimate goal is to end human use and contact with animals.

This goal was the sole reason the core animal rights groups in existence today were formed. In 1954 Cleveland Amory joined former American Humane Association National Humane Review editor Fred Myers, former American SPCA secretary Helen Jones, and several others in forming the National Humane Society to focus on fighting biomedical research use of animals. While remaining on the HSUS board, Amory in 1959 helped Jones to incorporate the National Catholic Humane Society, a far more militant voice for animals, which in 1977 became the International Society for Animal Rights. In 1968 Amory started the Fund for Animals to oppose hunting in hopes that HSUS, the AHA, and the ASPCA would all adopt similar positions. They soon did, so long ago that generations of activists no longer recall that they ever did not.

In the early '70s HSUS developed National Association for Humane Environmental Education (NAHEE) to ensure that "humane attitudes" become part of mainstream education. NAHEE prepared its own materials for distribution in classrooms. The main publication is Kind News published at three reading levels. Kind News indoctrinates the reader against hunting and trapping, use of animals in research, in zoos, and rodeos, and dog breeding.



**Breeding Moratorium Packet**  
Explains why The HSUS has called for a voluntary one-year moratorium on the breeding of dogs and cats and provides guidelines for drafting local or state legislation to temporarily halt such breeding.  
**PM12129**  
**\$4.00**

In 1991 HSUS launched its "Until There Are None, Adopt One" campaign urging the public away from both breeders and pet stores. "Don't breed dogs, don't buy, don't even accept giveaways" was cited by HSUS CEO John Hoyt.

In 1993 HSUS took the anti breeder campaign to a whole new level with the announcement of a new campaign calling for a **Moratorium** on dog and cat breeding.

HSUS would like the general public to believe that they are not against pet ownership or pet breeding but only against the worst forms of cruelty. One of the most demanding tasks that dog and cat breeders face is to unmask the true HSUS agenda. HSUS does not change its mission to eliminate animal use and ownership – only its tactics.

The September 1993 HSUS "Close-Up Report noted that the HSUS Legislation, Education, and Sterilization campaign had spread the message that work in all three of those areas is necessary to effectively curb pet overpopulation. The article continues, "In March of this year we took that approach one step further. We called for a voluntary national moratorium on **all** breeding of dogs and cats. "

"Beginning today, The HSUS is calling for a temporary moratorium on the breeding of dogs and cats. This means everyone-pet owners, shelter workers, legislators, and even professional breeders- must stop allowing animals to breed until this crisis has passed. This may seem like an extreme step,



but we are convinced that the only way to relieve the suffering of companion animals is to take extreme and immediate action. These strong words were spoken by HSUS President Paul G. Irwin at the March press conference announcing the HSUS breeding moratorium.”

The report goes on to explain the HSUS moratorium proposal and claim that their announcement received unprecedented coverage from both national and local media. It is important to note that the moratorium is called “temporary” yet urges that pets be spayed/neutered to ensure they do not breed. There is nothing temporary about spay/neuter.

“The HSUS proposal for a breeding moratorium is two-fold. First, we ask that, during the moratorium everyone-all pet owners and breeders-stop allowing their dogs and cats to breed. (The best way to ensure that your pets do not breed is to spay or neuter them, as The HSUS has always urged.) If everyone participates in this voluntary moratorium for just one year it will significantly reduce the number of homeless dogs and cats. Second, we support the enactment of breeding moratoria, mandatory-sterilization laws, and other animal-control ordinances at the local level. The HSUS has prepared legislative guidelines, and we will work with individuals or groups wishing to initiate legislation directed at ending the suffering of dogs and cats.”

HSUS reinforces its position against breeding even purebred dogs during this moratorium stating that although the public believes buying a certain breed allows one to know what a dog will be like when grown, there are no guarantees that the purchased dog will possess any specific breed qualities. HSUS wraps up the moratorium article saying that “Each birth of a dog or cat contributes to overpopulation. It’s that simple.” and, of course, with a plea for money.

In 2008 HSUS was a driving force behind the Chicago mandatory spay neuter ordinance. HSUS issued a press release via their website in support of the proposed ordinance that read, “Spaying and neutering, at this time, is the only permanent, 100-percent effective method of birth control for dogs and cats, and this legislation provides an incentive for people to sterilize their animals and reorients public policy to expect that animal caretakers will see that their animals are sterilized.”

This year HSUS helped pass Texas legislation that established a new state bureaucracy to write excessive regulations for home dog and cat breeders mandating inspections of private property, large fees and enormous fines. The new law allows the right of entry into citizens' homes without warrant and without the owners' presence and establishes a "bounty fund" to pay activists for reporting dog and cat breeders.

**We repeat,** HSUS does not change its mission to eliminate animal use and ownership or to stop pet breeding – only the tactics change.

*Sources: Animal People. The Fund, HSUS and merging packs; Humane Society of the United States Close-Up Report 9/93; HSUS press release 7/302008 Statement of The Humane Society of the United States on Chicago*

***Protecting your right to responsibly own and breed animals.***

[Join NCRAOA. See our home page for membership information and application](#)

North Carolina Responsible Animal Owners Alliance, Inc. (NCRAOA) is a statewide organization of animal owners and professionals dedicated to animal welfare, responsible animal ownership, and maintaining the rights of responsible citizens to breed and own animals. NCRAOA, a 501(c)3 organization, provides education and information to the public and supports reasonable and humane animal welfare laws. Permission granted to copy and distribute NCRAOA News and Views in its entirety as is.