



Dr. Kate Boatright

Veterinarian. Author. Speaker.

Individual Topics

EMERGENCY STABILIZATION FOR THE GENERAL PRACTITIONER

This presentation will review common emergency presentations including blocked cats, trauma cases, and respiratory distress. Initial evaluation and stabilization that can be performed by the general practitioner prior to transfer to an emergency clinic will be the focus of this lecture. We will also discuss improving communication and relationships between emergency and general practice clinics.

THERE'S MORE THAN ONE WAY TO TREAT A CAT: A PRACTICAL APPROACH TO THE SPECTRUM OF CARE

Cases limited by client finances are a daily occurrence for many small animal practitioners. As pets are considered part of the family by their owners, conversations between pet owners and the veterinary team can become emotionally charged, especially when finances are limited and decisions about care become life or death. These cases and the discussions that go with them can create moral distress and contribute to burnout for many veterinarians. But it doesn't have to be this way. This lecture will explore the concepts of spectrum of care and incremental care in the context of client financial limitations and provide tools that can be used in financial conversations to maximize patient outcomes in clinical practice.

ISN'T THAT JUST MEDICINE? THE ART AND SCIENCE OF THE SPECTRUM OF CARE

Veterinarians are in the unique and challenging position of balancing the medical needs of their patients with the emotional, physical, and financial needs of their clients and their own moral and legal obligations to both. Embracing the spectrum of care can help to accomplish this delicate balancing act. The key to success in practicing along the spectrum of care is communication. Veterinarians and team members must work with clients to determine the best option for their circumstances. Join a practicing, rural small animal veterinarian in a case-based discussion to better understand the spectrum of care and how it can be applied in practice. We will examine the barriers that prevent us from offering a spectrum of care and how to overcome them as well as explore current evidence for spectrum of care options and communication techniques that allow us to connect with clients.

HOW TO PROVIDE MENTORSHIP FOR EARLY CAREER VETERINARIANS USING THE WHOLE CLINICAL TEAM

New and recent graduate veterinarians have unique needs for mentorship in order to thrive in practice. Join Dr. Boatright for a discussion of how to set up a mentorship program in your practice and the role that every team member can play in helping these young veterinarians gain confidence and become superstar clinicians.

ROADMAP TO MENTORSHIP

Mentorship is something all veterinary professionals seem to crave, and yet it can sometimes be difficult to find. In this lecture, we will create a personal roadmap to mentorship by exploring what makes a meaningful mentorship experience, how to identify a potential mentor, and different models of mentorship. We will develop networking skills to help connect with potential mentors and mentees. Regardless of where you are in your career, you can benefit from a mentor—and even offer mentorship to someone else!

SELF-CARE ISN'T SELFISH: BUILDING YOUR WELLNESS TOOLBOX

How do you thrive in your veterinary career for 5, 10, or even 50 years? You learn to make self-care a priority. This lecture will begin with a brief review of the state of mental health in the veterinary profession. A discussion of recognizing burnout in ourselves and our team will follow using Dr. Boatright's personal walk through professional burnout. We will explore tools and skills that can be used both to recover from and prevent burnout at the individual and team level, including setting boundaries and cultivating resilience.

THE DOUBLE-EDGED SWORD OF WORKPLACE COMMUNICATION

Dr. Boatright has completed the AVMA's Wellbeing Educator program to be able to offer this presentation, which was developed by the AVMA through an educational grant from Merck Animal Health. This session is approved for 1 hour of AVMA Continuing Education Credit.

Communication is considered a double-edged sword because of its power to move us closer to, or further away from, authentic, healthy connection. For example, 24/7 news coverage can be informative **and** increase anxiety, social media can be used for networking **and** cyberbullying, and how we communicate with each other in the workplace can induce more psychological distress **and** be a buffer to or help prevent psychological distress.

In the process of managing our day-to-day work life, we often lose sight of how communication patterns and the ways we interact with each other impact our wellbeing and the wellbeing of our colleagues. Effective communication is a cornerstone of healthy workplaces, and yet it is often an afterthought. Under duress, communication can become transactional—focused on short term gains, alleviating symptoms rather than addressing root causes of conflict, and prioritizing winning over problem resolution and relationships. Teams that communicate effectively are more likely to have higher psychological safety, encourage innovation and timely decision-making, create goodwill, minimize miscommunication, and be better equipped to successfully navigate difficult situations.

This interactive seminar teaches core communication skills to promote connection, support a strong sense of belonging to the team, increase trust in the organization, and facilitate candid and open communication among team members.

Collaborative Lecture Topics

with Lauren Forsythe, PharmD, DICVP

NAVIGATING THE MUDDY WATERS OF PHARMACY: IMPROVING COMMUNICATION AND REDUCING ERRORS WHEN WORKING WITH COMMUNITY PHARMACIES

This session will discuss causes of tension between veterinarians and retail pharmacists, review common types of errors, provide suggestions for prevention, and discuss new challenges related to online pharmacies. Techniques for building a successful working relationship with local pharmacists and improving client education will be the focus of this lecture. **(Ideally a 2-hour session but can be done in 1 hour)**

SUBSTITUTION PERMISSIBLE? A DISCUSSION ABOUT GENERIC MEDICATIONS

One of the veterinarian's key responsibilities in patient care is selecting and prescribing the appropriate medication. In cases where cost is a concern, generic medications may be a reasonable choice, but do they always have equal efficacy as brand name medications? During this interactive webinar, participants will gain a better understanding of the key differences between brand name and generic medications and how to make the most evidence-based decisions possible for appropriate use. We will explore case-based examples of specific medications including insulin, antibiotics, and NSAIDs.

With Heather Kvitko-White, DVM, DACVIM (internal medicine)

MAXIMIZING COLLABORATIVE CARE TO IMPROVE PATIENT OUTCOMES

Collaboration between specialists and general practitioners is vital for successful patient outcomes. Primary case responsibility can move from general practitioner to specialist and back again. With continuous collaboration, patient outcomes can be improved, client resources can be used judiciously, and veterinary teams can maximize use of their time. Join a boarded internist and general practitioner for an interactive, case-based discussion of ways to improve communication and maximize efficiency to successfully co-manage cases.

With Alyssa Mages, CVT

REVETILIZATION: HOW TO BE A LEADER TO ENACT POSITIVE CHANGE

There is a revolution in the veterinary profession—a movement toward positive change and the creation of a sustainable career and healthy individuals. But how do you become a part of this change? It's time to step out of your comfort zone and become a leader. Join two changemakers and entrepreneurs in the veterinary profession as we share our personal leadership journeys. We will guide participants through exercises to identify personal values, opportunities for leadership, and the creation of personal growth through education. Attendees will leave this session with an action plan and the materials to make change happen. (This is an interactive workshop)

PUTTING THE TEAM INTO TEAMWORK

The most successful veterinary practices are not those with the most technically skilled employees but those with the most cohesive team. These successful teams embody many characteristics, most notably, TEAM: Trust, Empathy, Accountability, and Mentorship. Bringing TEAM into our practices will help to improve client satisfaction, workplace culture, and staff retention. Join a credentialed veterinary technician and veterinarian as we discuss how to elevate your team into its best self and put the TEAM back into teamwork.

Speaker Biography:

Dr. Kate Boatright has been in small animal practice since graduating from the University of Pennsylvania in 2013. After nearly 8 years of full time practice in both general practice and emergency clinics, she moved to part-time clinical work to pursue her passion for educating veterinary professionals as a freelance speaker and author. Dr. Boatright enjoys discussing mentorship, the unique challenges facing recent graduates, wellness, and the spectrum of care. She believes deeply in the role of organized veterinary medicine and holds leadership positions in the AVMA and her local and state VMAs. In her remaining time, she stays busy chasing her toddler, running, reading, and watching movies with her husband and cats.