

**DNA Deep Dive: Incorporating Genetics into Veterinary Cardiology  
to Enhance Diagnosis, Prognosis, and Treatment  
On Demand**

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Agenda		
Session Description	Topic	Presenter(s)
60 minutes	<p>Myxomatous Mitral Valve Degeneration – Heritability, Breeding Practices and Our Improved Understanding of Genetic Influences</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>To describe the proposed mode of inheritance of myxomatous mitral valve disease and to evaluate the implications of complex inheritance for genetic research in this disease.</li> <li>To discuss the impact of different breed screening programs on myxomatous mitral valve disease severity.</li> <li>To review the current evidence for genetic variants associated with myxomatous mitral valve disease and to evaluate their likely impact on disease inheritance.</li> </ul>	<i>Dr. Melanie Hezzell</i>
60 minutes	<p>DCM – Understanding the Role of Genetics and its Place in Breed Screening, Disease Prognostication, and Therapy</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Be able to identify currently known genetic mutations associated with dilated cardiomyopathy in dogs.</li> <li>Understand the increased risks for developing clinical disease associated with genetic markers.</li> <li>Recommend appropriate diagnostic evaluation and treatment options for dogs with dilated cardiomyopathy.</li> </ul>	<i>Dr. Ryan Fries</i>

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Session Description	Topic	Presenter(s)
60 minutes	<p>ARVC – Understanding the Role of Genetics from Humans to Dogs</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Recall the key genetic mutations commonly linked to ARVC in humans and dogs, defining essential terms such as desmosomes, gap junctions, and pathogenic variants to establish a foundational understanding of the genetic basis of ARVC.</li> <li>Differentiate the phenotypic presentations of ARVC in humans and dogs using diagnostic criteria and genetic findings.</li> <li>Assess the value of cross-species genetic studies in advancing ARVC research, reflecting on their implications for improving diagnosis, prognosis, and treatment strategies in veterinary cardiology.</li> </ul>	Dr. Luis Dos Santos
60 minutes	<p>Panel Discussion Canine Focus</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Compare and contrast the genetic etiologies of canine cardiac disease</li> <li>Utilize genetic data to generate a case management plan that includes disease screening, risk stratification, and intervention.</li> <li>Discuss the role of genetics in breed screening practices for Boxers, Dobermans, and other at risk dog breeds.</li> </ul>	<p>Dr. Melanie Hezzell, Dr. Ryan Fries, Dr. Luis Dos Santos, Dr. Josh Stern</p> <p>Moderator: Dr. Sara Bordelon</p>
60 minutes	<p>HCM – Genetic Etiologies and Future Therapies</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Recall the genetic variants currently understood in feline HCM; how these variants are transmitted; and their utility in prognostication and case management.</li> <li>Discuss novel therapies for HCM and how they capitalize on the genetic etiology of this condition across species.</li> <li>Provide non-directive genetic counseling for pet owners with cats that have positive genetic test results which may implicate current or future HCM status.</li> <li>Describe how genetic variants can physiologically result in an HCM phenotype.</li> </ul>	Dr. Josh Stern

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Session Description	Topic	Presenter(s)
60 minutes	<p>Pharmacogenetics – Leveraging Genetic Data to Predict Drug Response</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Implement genetic testing for variants that impact a cardiac patient's response to common drug therapies.</li> <li>Provide individualized medical plans for patients with pharmacogenetic variants and cardiovascular disease that benefit the patient and maximize appropriate response to therapy.</li> <li>Recognize the likely influence of yet to be describe pharmacogenetic variants in clinical practice and devise strategies to overcome these obstacles and contribute to discovery.</li> </ul>	Dr. Josh Stern
90 minutes	<p>Panel Discussion – Using Genetic Testing in Practice and Breed Screening</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Interpret HCM genetic test results and provide an example of non-directive counseling for your client.</li> <li>Explain the role of genetics in drug responses and opportunities to employ genetic testing when determining the best therapeutic strategy for a patient.</li> <li>Interpret genetic testing results to aid in disease prognostication</li> </ul>	<p>Dr. Steve Rosenthal, Dr. Melanie Hezzell, Dr. Ryan Fries, Dr. Luis Dos Santos, Dr. Josh Stern</p> <p>Moderator: Dr. Katie Nadolny</p>