

Unified by Nutrients: A Cross-Specialty Perspective
Live Virtual Course | Date: October 13, 2026

Sponsored by



Tuesday, October 13, 2026		
Time (Mountain Time)	Topic	Presenter(s)
8:00-8:15 am	Welcome and Introductions	<i>Dr. Aarti Kathrani</i>
8:15-10:15 am	Tryptophan: • Nutrition Perspective • Gastroenterology Perspective • Nephrology Perspective • Behavior Perspective • Panel Discussion Learning objectives: • Understand the role tryptophan and its metabolites play in the body. • Recognize the importance of meeting dietary requirements of tryptophan in dogs and cats. • Learn about the varieties of microbial tryptophan derivatives generated from different gut microbiota. • Understand how tryptophan derivatives of gut microbiota regulate intestinal barrier function and inflammation. • Know how studying tryptophan pathway dysregulation in disease states can lead to new diagnostic and therapeutic insights. • Compare the roles of indole metabolites in promoting tubulointerstitial fibrosis and oxidative stress in feline kidneys. • Evaluate the clinical significance of the gut-kidney axis as a therapeutic target for managing feline CKD progression. • Describe the role of tryptophan in neurotransmitter synthesis. • Identify the limitations of current clinical evidence regarding its efficacy in behavioral modification.	<i>Dr. Aarti Kathrani</i> <i>Dr. Patrick Barko</i> <i>Dr. Stacie Summers</i> <i>Dr. Niwako Ogata</i> <i>All Speakers</i> <i>Panel moderation:</i> <i>Dr. Valerie Parker</i>
10:15 - 10:30 am	Break	

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Tuesday, October 13, 2026 (cont.)		
Time (Mountain Time)	Topic	Presenter(s)
10:30 - 12:30 pm	Magnesium: • Nutrition Perspective • Gastroenterology Perspective • Nephrology Perspective • Emergency & Critical Care Perspective • Panel Discussion Learning objectives: • Recognize the limitations of total serum magnesium measurement. • Understand how deficiency can lead to refractory derangements of other electrolytes. • Identify common internal medicine conditions associated with magnesium disturbances (e.g., protein-losing enteropathy and endocrine disorders). • Outline safe and effective supplementation protocols for acute and chronic management. • Understand the impact of kidney impairment on magnesium concentrations. • Describe the potential benefits of magnesium supplementation in cats with CKD. • Recall several clinically relevant conditions of particular importance with respect to dysmagnesemia. • Outline the role of magnesium as an emergency therapy in the ER and ICU.	<i>Dr. Maryanne Murphy</i> <i>Dr. Romy Heilmann</i> <i>Dr. Rebecca Geddes</i> <i>Dr. Tom Greensmith</i> <i>All Speakers</i> <i>Panel moderation:</i> <i>Dr. Aarti Kathrani</i>
12:30 - 1:30 pm	Lunch Break	

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Tuesday, October 13, 2026 (cont.)		
Time (Mountain Time)	Topic	Presenter(s)
1:30 - 3:30 pm	Vitamin D: • Nutrition Perspective • Gastroenterology Perspective • Nephrology Perspective • Immunology Perspective • Panel Discussion Learning objectives: • Understand the nutritional role of vitamin D in the health and disease of dogs and cats. • Explore the relationship between Vitamin D and gastrointestinal health in small animals. • Discuss current evidence for Vitamin D as a diagnostic and therapeutic tool in small animal gastrointestinal disease. • Identify alterations in vitamin D metabolites with chronic kidney disease (CKD). • Review vitamin D supplementation strategies for dogs and cats with CKD. • Describe the key mechanisms by which vitamin D influences innate and adaptive immune responses. • Summarize current evidence regarding vitamin D and immune function in dogs and cats and discuss potential clinical relevance in veterinary medicine.	<i>Dr. Nadine Paßlack</i> <i>Dr. Sara Jablonski</i> <i>Dr. Valerie Parker</i> <i>Dr. Jared Jaffey</i> <i>All Speakers</i> <i>Panel moderation:</i> <i>Dr. Coretta Patterson</i>
3:30 - 3:45 pm	Break	

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Tuesday, October 13, 2026 (cont.)		
Time (Mountain Time)	Topic	Presenter(s)
3:45 - 5:45 pm	Thiamine: • Nutrition Perspective • Neurology Perspective • Emergency & Critical Care Perspective • Cardiology Perspective • Panel Discussion Learning objectives: • Identify dietary sources, requirements, and factors affecting thiamin status. • Understand diagnostic considerations for thiamin deficiency. • Discuss prevention and management strategies for thiamin deficiency in practice. • Describe the role played by thiamine in metabolism. • Describe the neurological signs and MRI findings associated with thiamine deficiency in dogs and cats. • Recall which critically ill patients are at risk of thiamine deficiency. • Understand the association between thiamine and disease severity. • Describe how thiamine impacts cardiac systolic function. • Outline the findings from studies in human and veterinary medicine that evaluate the role of thiamine deficiency in cardiac dysfunction.	<i>Dr. Jen Larsen</i> <i>Dr. Natasha Olby</i> <i>Dr. Laura Cole</i> <i>Dr. Jake Wolf</i> <i>All Speakers</i> <i>Panel moderation:</i> <i>Dr. Valerie Parker</i>
5:45 - 6:00 pm	Closing Remarks	