


EDITORS REMARKS

Time flies. It is now the 2nd half of the year. For some it has been a good year while others it may have been a bad year thus far. However, all is not lost. It is at this time of the year that companies, businesses and individuals should take some time off to reflect on things that have been going in and around our daily lives. Take stock of all that has transpired. Take the good, improve on them to make it better. Look at the bad and rectify them. Recognized your strength and weaknesses and work on them.

With this in mind, we have now come to the end of this present Executive Council term of service. It is ELECTION year. Come for the MSAVA AGM and listen to what the Council has been working for the last 2 years in promoting the interest of the Small Animal Practitioners. Come and have your say as well on what can be improved within the association itself. MSAVA needs new ideas from both the senior and junior vets to steer the association. The only criteria required to be on the Executive Council is a desire to SERVE. Serve with passion. Serve without self interest or self promotion. Serve because you believe in what MSAVA stands for.

Therefore, on behalf of the Executive Council we would like to thank all MSAVA members for giving us the opportunity to serve you in the last 2 years. The Council has done its best to solve the numerous issues that have come up in the last 2 years within the constraints of local laws. It is time for the new Executive Council members to be elected and chart the direction for MSAVA.

MSAVA NEWS
15th MSAVA AGM and Scientific Congress

This year is an election year for MSAVA Executive Council. All members are encouraged to attend the AGM as there will be a special presentation on the possibility of MSAVA bidding to host WSAVA World Congress in the near future. There will also be a Scientific Congress this year. Many exciting and informative topics have been lined up for the Congress. Look out for the announcements and register for it.

'Kempen Kembiri Issue'

Many complaints were received by MSAVA on the SP CA-DBKL spay clinic whereby the spay clinic has been reported to provide veterinary health services to the general public. After much discussion between the parties concerned, SPCA has agreed that the clinic should only be involved in neutering dogs and cats. Therefore, the clinic will revert to its original purpose with immediate effect.

Microchipping and Dog Licensing Issue

Since the unfortunate incident of a young boy being bitten by free roaming dogs, there has been intense discussion on the need to amend dog licensing bylaws. Some of the suggestions that has been put forward have alarmed many dog owners and dog lovers. There was even a suggestion by one of the local councilors for district of Sepang to make Sepang a zero dog population district. MSAVA has been actively seeking discussion with JPH, the local councils and even the Housing Ministry to settle this issue in a more rational manner.

MSAVA CEP
Radiology Workshop

Workshop on Orthopaedic Radiology by Dr. Heng Hock Gan on 12th March 2005 (Saturday) was successfully conducted with good turnout from veterinarians. It was jointly organized by CENTRAS, UPM and VAM.

Ultrasound Workshop

This ultrasound workshop was on the Basic Abdominal Ultrasound in Small Animals and also was conducted by Dr. Heng Hock Gan. It was held on the 29th June 2005 at the Faculty of Veterinary Medicine Universiti Putra Malaysia. This workshop was kindly assisted by the Inspire Vision Sdn. Bhd.

PGF CONTINUOUS EDUCATION PROGRAM

- ① Topic : Canine Internal Medicine & Infectious Diseases
 Course Type : Time Out
 Date : 23rd Oct 2005
 Venue : Sydney
 Speakers : Dr. Bruce Mackay
- ② Topic : Feline Medicine Extravaganza
 Course Type : Symposium
 Date : 5th Nov - 6th Nov 2005
 Venue : Melbourne
 Speakers : Drs. Foster, Baral, O'Brien, Beatty, Barrs & Malik
- ③ Topic : Clinical Problem Solving Cardiology
 Course Type : Symposium
 Date : 28th Nov - 30th Nov 2005
 Venue : Sydney
 Speakers : Dr. Jill Maddison

PGF will conduct a 5-day course on Update in Canine and Feline Internal Medicine starting from 26th to 30th September 2005 at Holiday Inn Hotel Gold Coast. This course will be conducted by 16 renowned speakers

VAM NEWS

Continuing Professional Development (CPD) and Points
 CPD should be on a voluntary basis. VAM will encourage courses for CPD organized by UPM, VAM, MSAVA and MEVA. As an initial trial UPM will coordinate and undertake the award of CPD points. The points obtained should be used in the renewal of the Annual Practising Certificate. (VAM Newsletter 2/2005).
 VAM Secretariat

Changing of addresses

VAM

The Executive Committee has unanimously decided to shift VAM office from Veterinary Research Institute (Ipoh) to Jabatan Perkhidmatan Haiwan, Lot 2 Jalan Utas 15/7, 50630 Shah Alam, Selangor. This is to provide a more efficient and effective service for the proper functioning of VAM as most of the Executive committee members are based in Selangor. The change of address has to be informed to the Registrar of Societies.

Department of Veterinary Services

This department has moved to a new address :- Jabatan Perkhidmatan Haiwan, Wisma Tani, Blok Podium 4G1 Persint 4, Pusat Pentadbiran Kerajaan Persekutuan, 626300 Putra Jaya.
 Tel: - 03-88702000.

VRI HEADLINES

Diagnostic tests and vaccines are available for small animal, poultry, swine, equine and ruminants. For further information please contact:

Veterinary Research Institute
 59, Jalan Sultan Azlan Shah
 31400 Ipoh Perak
 Tel: 05-5457166
 Url: <http://agrolink.moa.my/jph/vriph>

Or

Secretariat
 Technical Committee on Animal Biologics
 Department of Veterinary Services
 8th Floor Wisma Chase Perdana
 50630 Kuala Lumpur
 Tel: 03-20940077 (VAM Newsletter 1/2004)



WSAVA NEWS

The 30th WSAVA World Congress was held in Mexico in May 2005. Dr Paul Chelliah attended the Congress as MSAVA representative. The Congress was well attended. However, language was a problem as many of the speakers were from Latin America and Spanish was widely used during the Congress. The next WSAVA Congress will be held in Czechoslovakia (2006), followed by Sydney (2007) and Iceland (2008).

Future Congresses

Prague, Czech Republic - October 11-14, 2006
Prague will be the host city for the 31st WSAVA/12th FECAVA/14th Czech Small Animal Veterinary Association Congress. Prague, which is the capital city of the Czech Republic, is a beautiful city, rich in heritage and situated on both banks of the Vltava River. Prague is also called the "Golden City" or "City of Hundred Towers" because of its unique architecture and importance as a European crossroad of trade and culture for many centuries. Preparations by Congress President Dr. Jiri Beranek and the Congress Organizing Committee are well underway with both CE opportunities and social events, which will include a Czech Beer Party Night in the famous Prague restaurant Restaurant U Fleku in addition to the traditional Opening and Closing Ceremonies and the Gala Dinner. Visit the Prague Congress website for more details.

Sydney Convention Centre, Sydney, Australia - August 19-23, 2007

Dublin, Ireland - August, 2008

Sao Paulo, Brazil - 2009 (Specific date to be determined).

WSAVA Activities & Continuing Education Committee - Report for 2005

Dr. Roger Clarke provides the following report of his/the WSAVA CE Committee's Asian CE Program for 2005.

In August 2005, Dr. Clarke will be lecturing to the university students and practitioners on a program titled "A surgical trail from head to tail" jointly sponsored by the Sri Lankan Veterinary Association, the Commonwealth Veterinary Association, and the Bundoora Veterinary Hospital Association. In recognition of the tsunami disaster that occurred earlier this year, Dr. Clarke and his practice will be donating their time free of charge.

Following this, Dr. Clarke will proceed to Chennai (Madras) India to present a similar 2-day seminar to the Chennai small animals veterinarians and this program will be hosted by the WSAVA with assistance from the Pet Practitioners Association of Mumbai and the Small Animal Veterinarians of Chennai. This location was selected in an effort to spread the WSAVA CE program to parts of the Indian subcontinent other than Mumbai and to encourage the small animal associations of India to form a federation for future WSAVA CE programs. Veterinarians from all over India will be invited.

In September, Dr. Clarke has been invited to Taipei to speak to the Taipei Veterinary Association on behalf of the WSAVA CE program. This will be a 3-day program in association with animal health week with the similar theme of "A surgical trail from head to tail."

In October, Dr. Clarke will travel to China again with Professor Peter Irwin of Murdoch University to present a program on internal medicine in Beijing, Shanghai, and Guangzhou. This may also include a stop in Hong Kong, but this has yet to be confirmed

WHAT'S NEW ...

1) WELCOME BACK

The MSAVA executive committee members would like to welcome back Dr. Chen Hui Cheng (Anaesthesiology) after pursuing her post graduate study. Hopefully she will contribute towards the academic excellence in MSAVA CEP.

MISC

Pet vaccination month 2005

The Pet Vaccination Month 2005 was an effort by the Friends of Responsible Pet Ownership (FRPO) to encourage pet owners to vaccinate their pets. The campaign was conducted throughout the month of July 2005 only. The objectives were:-

- a) To promote the vaccination of pets in Malaysia
- b) To raise awareness and to educate the public on the vaccination of pets as part of being a responsible pet owner.
- c) To help veterinarians reach out to pet owners in their locality and develop relationships.

Tsunami Voluntary Veterinarians (short term contract)

The British Veterinary Association has requested for qualified veterinarians to volunteer for disaster relief projects in Sri Lanka, Thailand and India. Experience in small animal neutering techniques and mass rabies vaccination protocols are essential. Volunteers should also have good team working and management skills. For more information please contact Elly at WSPA - EllyHiby@wspa.org.uk with a copy to Hellen Cotton at helenac@bva.uk.co

VETERINARY INFO

a) Urine collection and urinalysis

Whilst most vets are comfortable with blood collection, urine collection and analysis seem to take a bit of a 'back seat'. If it is worth doing complete blood count (CBC) and serum biochemistry, it is nearly always worth performing urinalysis and urine specific gravity (USG) simultaneously.

When to collect urine?

Urine should be collected in every dog or cat that is PUPD, dehydrated, Pyrexia (prior to antibiotics) or about to receive replacement fluid therapy.

How to collect urine?

Midstream free catch:

- useful for urine specific gravity(USG), glucose, ketones and suspected haematuria.

Manual expression:

- useful for urine specific gravity (USG), glucose, ketones (often some iatrogenic haematuria).

Cystocentesis:

- unless checking for haematuria (occasionally low levels of haemorrhage induced), cystocentesis is the collection method of choice.

What to do with it?

USG

- mandatory and every practice has a refractometer (when did you last check its calibration?)



a) Urine collection and urinalysis

Dipstick chemistry:

- is relatively straightforward but a few things to remember:
- 1) stop using the leucocyte test strip. The sensitivity in dogs is approximately 50% (although specificity is quite high, i.e. few false positives); in cats sensitivity is moderate (about 80%) but specificity is appalling (about 35% false positive). There is no substitute for a microscopic sediment exam!!.
- 2) A positive protein result can only be interpreted in light of :
 - USG: 2+ protein is abnormal in isosthenuria but may be normal in USG 1.040
 - pH: alkaline urine can cause false positives
 - sediment examination to check for urinary tract infection or inflammation; if sediment not inflammatory, urine protein creatinine ratio can be useful to accurately quantify urinary protein loss.

Sediment exam

- if looking for crystals, perform immediately as both transport and refrigeration can cause increased or decreased crystals.
- If looking for cells, casts and bacteria, stained sediment is more useful than unstained wet preps.
- Mandatory if proteinuria being investigated.

b) Advantage toxicity in a cat

According to Veterinary Information Network (VIN), cats that was accidentally given orally advantage displayed the same clinical signs that had been evident in their patient viz. ptyalism, gagging, increased respiratory noise, vomiting and anorexia. These signs persisted for a variable time course, with three days being the longest episode. Cases were generally treated using symptomatic and supportive therapy, and all survived. The consensus given was that the delivery agent in Advantage is likely irritant to the oropharyngeal mucosa and thereby gives rise to signs of mucosal pain and irritation in the absence of gross inflammation or ulceration. Initially this may involve a component of laryngeal irritation and/or spasm.

TO REMEMBER ME

The day will come when my body will lie upon a white sheet neatly tucked under 4 corners of a mattress located in a hospital busily occupied with the living and the dying. At a certain moment a doctor will determine that my brain has ceased to function and that, for all intents and purposes, my life has stopped.

When that happens, do not attempt to instill artificial life into my body by the use of a machine. And don't call this my deathbed. Let it be called the bed of life, and let my body be taken from it to help others lead fuller lives.

Give my sight to the man who has never seen a sunrise, a baby's face or in love in the eyes of a woman. Give my heart to a person whose own heart has caused nothing but endless days of pain. Give my kidneys to one who depends on a machine to exist from week to week. Take my bones, every muscle, every fiber and nerve in my body and find a way to make a crippled child walk.

Explore every corner of my brain. Take my cells, if necessary, and let them grow so that some day a speechless boy will shout at the crack of a bat and a deaf girl will hear the sound of rain against her window.

If you must bury something, let it be my faults, my weakness and all prejudice against my fellow man. Give my sins to the Devil and my soul to God.

If by chance, you wish to remember me, do it with a kind deed or word to someone who needs you. If you do all I have asked, I will live forever.

Robert N Test

Be an ORGAN DONOR.

Contact:

Pusat Sumber Transplan Nasional Hospital Kuala Lumpur
(03-26942704/2705)

Pusat Sumber Pendermaan Organ Hospital Ipoh
(05-5222324 / 2533333 ext 2324)

Pusat Sumber Transplan Hospital Pulau Pinang
(04-2002436 / 2293333 ext 435)

Pusat Sumber Transplan Hospital Sultanah Aminah
(07-2231666 ext 2751)

WHAT IS EMAIL AND WHY DO I NEED IT?

Email is short for electronic mail. It is a system whereby you send and receive messages electronically, rather like an electronic post office. Companies can choose to have a limited email service within their own company network, or to have access to the entire public internet.

Your office may have a computer network, called a local area network or LAN, which you use to share applications or files. If your LAN uses internet technology (an intranet) you will be able to send email to other people with access to your LAN. This is not the same as sending email over the internet. It is more like using an internal phone system instead of an external phone line. To send email within your intranet, and an email software package.

CONNECTING TO THE NET

To send email over the internet, you need a connection to the internet, a modem and an email software package.

To use email you need to link to the Internet via an Internet Service Provider (ISP) like Jaring or TMNet. The internet Service Provider (ISP) will charge you for using their connection. There are many different ways of paying internet access. Some service providers charge by the minute or hour of use, other by the week. Some offer a combination of both. Shop around to see who offers the service which best matches your needs.

You also need to rent an email box and email address. The fees for this services vary. There are companies who give users free email boxes, other companies charge per year, others again by the amount of email you send and service. It is important to check on different packages available to find the arrangement best suited to your needs.

WHAT DO EMAIL ADDRESS MEAN?

Email address come in different forms. Those using CompuServe, for example, have address that look like this 100807.3552@CompuServe.com. This doesn't tell us very much about the person. Most people, however, have address for example :george@dragon.com.my. From this we can deduce several things.

First, this person's email name is George. It could be a real first name, family name or a pseudonym. Second, George has rented an email called dragon. Thirdly, the three letters .com signify that dragon is a commercial organization. Finally from the last two letters my we know that this service is in Malaysia. Each country's domain suffix is given at the back of this book.

In order to send email to someone, you need to know their address. Internet addresses must be spelled correctly, with dots, dashes and @ symbols exactly as given. There should be no spaces and no full stop at the end.



HOW EMAIL WORKS

Once you have your email box and address, and an email software package, you can write a message on your computer in the same way as you would write a letter to be printed and posted. Then, via a modem, your email software package connects to the internet and sends your message directly to your server. From there it is transmitted along various points until it arrives at the server used by the person the message is addressed to.

You can think of it as super-fast mail which was posted from Kuching to Amsterdam. It will be taken by aeroplane to Kuala Lumpur, from where it will be travel to Amsterdam via Dubai and Rome.

When you "check your mail", your software package contacts the server and collects any mail waiting for you. You can either check your mail manually or set your computer to dial in automatically at set times.

How does your modem work? The modem translates your informations into digital form to transmit over the internet at a high speed. Some modems are faster than others. The number they are given, for example, 28.8K or 56K indicate how quickly they can move data. The higher the number, the faster the modem. The faster your is, the faster it can send information and the lower your phone bill.

Modems are quite delicate so if you live in an area with frequent power surges or thunderstorm, buy a surge protector to prevent your modem from burning out. Be very careful using modems in hotels. Check your hotel is using an analogue line, not a digital line. A digital line will burn out your modem.

WHY SHOULD YOU USE EMAIL?

Email has several advantages over physical post (called snailmail by email users because physical post is so slow), faxes and telephone calls. Email offers: cost and speed advantages, flexibility, control, security and information management benefits.

First, the cost of sending email is very cheap. When you use email, you are charged for making a phone call to your server, not to the destination of your email. Let's say you in Tokyo and your service provider is also based in Tokyo. When sending an email from Tokyo to Canada, the telephone company is charging you for a local call within Tokyo, not an international call.

Email allows you to send a huge blocks of information very quickly. For example, you can send a five page document via email in a few seconds. Sending this by fax would take several minutes, and unless it is local call, you would incur high charges. Dictating this through the telephone would take an hour or more.

Secondly, email will wait to be collected. Unlike telephone calls, the person to whom it is addressed does not have to be there when you send your message. For Malaysian business people doing business in Canada this means less getting up in the middle of night to answer a telephone call from a colleague who's forgotten to allow for the time difference.

Third, email is almost instant. The email you send goes directly to your server. From there it is transmitted along various points until it arrives at the server used by the person the message is addressed to.

If you are sending a disk or documents by courier, it takes time for the courier to collect your package, never mind the time it takes to travel to its destination. Even the fastest physical courier will take an hour to send a parcel across town at lunch times in Kuala Lumpur. With email you avoid all these delays.

Sending large documents via email to South America, China or the States takes only a few minutes.

Fourth, email is private and safe compared to other fast methods of communication. Important messages which must arrive at their destination quickly are generally sent by fax or telex. Anyone in an office can pick up a fax from the machine and read it. Similarly, telexes are also open to scrutiny. With email only the people with special access to your computer network can read your email, hence you have better information security.

Fifth, emailing documents is very efficient. You can attach files to your email messages. If, for example, you can simply attach them to an email message and send them anywhere in the world at the touch of a button.

You can write message and send it immediately, or wait until several messages are queued to be sent.

With electronic documents it is possible to make copies or alterations with a few keystrokes. Exchanging and editing documents by email is very simple. Most email software packages have options which allow you to send one message with attached documents to several people at once. You can also choose to forward similar message sent to you to your colleagues or other interested parties with or without editing them. If you are working on a project with several people, you can cut and paste information from several documents into one file. Copy-typing from faxes is now a thing of the past.

Email messages can be stored on your computer or diskettes in separate files. This means that you can save on paper, materials and space. You can also organize a database of documents without much difficulty, making cross referencing very simple.

Finally, email hardly ever goes astray. If you are sending post to countries with a poor postal service, or suffering from a postal strikes, the chances that your documents will go astray are relatively high. As email is automatically, the chances of losing an email are very low. If a message addressed incorrectly then the mail will be returned by the server with a description of the problem. Email bounces back within a few minutes, allowing you to re-address it correctly and resend it with minimal loss of time.

By Maria O'Daniel
Ahead with IT - ROUTE TO SUCCESS

If you want additional information on website, please contact
Virtue Integrated Sdn Bhd @ 03-79581606 (Haliza)



ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

MSAVA committee members would like to express our heart felt appreciation to Virtue Intergrated for their assistance in printing 4 issues of newsletter. Also we would like to thank Pets Corner Sdn. Bhd for sponsoring our newsletters.

THANK YOU.

LAUGHTER, THE BEST MEDICINE



Things you don't want to hear under anaesthetic:

- This patient has already had children, am I right?
- You'd better save that. We'll need it for the autopsy.
- Incredible! Now can you make his leg twitch?
- Wait a minute; if this is his spleen, then what's that?
- Could you stop that thing from beating; it's throwing my concentration off.
- Everybody stand back! I've lost my contact lens!
- Well, this will be an experiment for all of us.
- Nurse, did this patient sign the organ donation card?



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4. Provide us your 10 personal pictures
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