

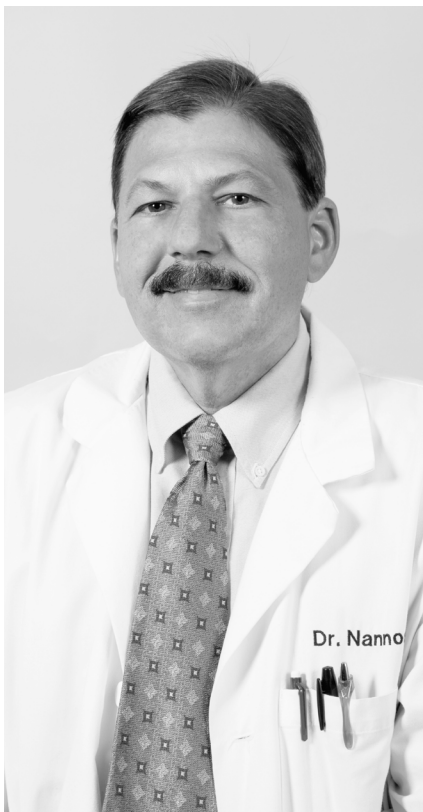


METROPOLITAN VETERINARY ASSOCIATES NEWSLETTER

VOLUME 9 ISSUE 3 • 2020 SUMMER EDITION



FOCUS ON THE SURGERY TEAM AT MVA



Summer Greetings to all of our Veterinary Partners:

Twenty seven years ago I was an Instructor of Surgery at the Veterinary Hospital of the University of Pennsylvania when Jim Dougherty called and asked if I would like to come to Metropolitan Veterinary Associates and take over the surgical part of the practice.

During my tenure here at MVA, we have seen a lot of changes in our practice as well as our profession. We have gone from 3 full time veterinarians to now over 40. It has been an immense pleasure doing surgery to help our patients, clients, and referring veterinarians.

This year has brought something completely different in Covid 19. The pandemic presented many new and unexpected challenges to our practice as well as for our veterinary partners. While we all try to navigate through this unique time, we at MVA are here to continue to help our patients, clients and veterinary partners in whatever way we can. We appreciate and are humbled by the continued confidence and trust that you place in us.

Thank you for your ongoing support. Stay safe and stay healthy.

Sincerely,

A. Jon Nannos, DVM *Partner | Director of Surgery*

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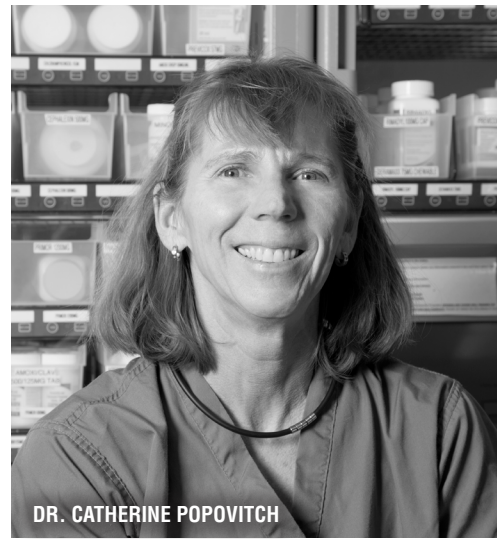
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DR. KENDRA HEARON



DR. JACQUI NILES



DR. CATHERINE POPOVITCH

KENDRA HEARON, VMD, DACVS-SA, ACVS FELLOW, SURGICAL ONCOLOGY

People always ask, “Why Surgical Oncology?”. I love the potential of improving a pet’s quality and quantity of life, even when they have been given a scary diagnosis. I also enjoy the fact that every day is a different day with cancer. There is still so much that we are learning, and the constant collaboration with medical and radiation oncologists keeps me on my toes. The variety of cases never fails to amaze me- from a facial or body wall reconstruction, to delicate dissection of adrenal tumors, thymomas and thyroid tumors, to complex thoracic surgery. There is also tremendous overlap with our colleagues on the human side, as cancer treatment is often translational across species. During my fellowship at the Animal Cancer Center at CSU, one component of my training was working in clinical trials, as well as learning about the other treatment modalities including radiation, chemotherapy and interventional radiology, and how they work best with surgery, as well as when they should be recommended in lieu of surgery. The role of a surgical oncologist is not only to perform the surgery, but to also understand the cancer biology, and to know what an appropriate “dose” of surgery is for different tumors that can carry vastly different outcomes. My conversations with owners are usually a combination of a discussion about the type of cancer, necessary staging, expected prognosis, and the different treatment options we have.

Do you have a patient with a bump, thoracic mass, abdominal mass, or head/neck tumor? Give me a call! I’m happy to chat and discuss diagnostics, treatment options and how great so many of these challenging cases can really do!

JACQUI NILES, BVETMED, SAS, DACVS

Hello to you all out there. I hope you are all surviving these crazy virus times. I’ve been at Metro almost 13 years now and love tying off vessels! Vessels to spleens, vessels to liver masses, vessels to lung tumors, adrenal tumors- you name it. If we are talking more scary vessels, I have surgically ligated 16 PDA’s (patent ductus arteriosus) in the past year. We currently do not offer intra-vascular occlusion (this is performed at UPenn), but some young puppies and kittens are too small for intra-vascular occlusion and usually do very well with a traditional thoracotomy and ligation of the PDA. This also tends to be somewhat cheaper than the less invasive alternative. I also love putting Ameroid constrictors on portosystemic shunt vessels. I perform a large number of airway surgeries on our Brachycephalic friends and when ears cannot be saved, I do a lot of Total Ear Canal Ablations.

All of us here at Metropolitan see a wide variety of soft tissue cases and orthopedic cases. I also perform numerous TPLO’s – after all, what is a surgery day without a torn cranial cruciate ligament or 3? We share the fracture cases around. One of the great things about working here is that all the surgeons frequently interact with each other and the other specialists to get advice on complicated or unusual cases.

I’m always happy to talk about a case you are dealing with if you want input or if you have a case you referred here that you want to discuss. I am here Wednesdays through Fridays.

CATHERINE POPOVITCH, DVM, DACVS, DECVS

I have been at Metropolitan Veterinary Associates since finishing my surgery residency, which was actually as the last orthopedic resident, at the University of Pennsylvania in 1993. Although my concentration is on orthopedic surgeries as that is what I love, over the years I’ve become adept at doing pretty much everything. Total hip replacements and any orthopedic surgery, cruciate ligaments, fractures, angular limb deformities are what I truly love doing. I am at MVA every Tuesday, where I see appointments in the morning and do surgery in the afternoon.



DR. TIM SCHWAB



DR. REBECCA WOLF



DR. LUCY CHOU



DR. ASHLEY MOYER

TIM SCHWAB, VMD, DACVS-SA

Hey look, another dog with a cruciate tear! These injuries are commonplace in all of our practices but are not always straight forward in regards to how they should be managed or treated. Over the past 12 years I have focused on trying to dictate the right treatment for each individual animal... not just "Sparky needs a TPLO". While I spend a large amount of time inside of the stifle joint, I also love fractures and all orthopedics! Neurologic and soft-tissue cases make up less of my case load but are also in my proverbial wheelhouse. As many of you know, I am always available to help work through cases, review radiographs, or talk on the phone. Just let me know how I can help.

REBECCA WOLF, VMD, DACVS-SA

Young dogs with forelimb lameness often have developmental problems like OCD or elbow dysplasia, and active dogs of any age can develop medial shoulder instability, all of which can be treated minimally invasively surgery. Focusing on arthroscopy of the elbow and shoulder has added an interesting and fun aspect to surgery for me. Although I do see a lot of our forelimb lameness appointments, I also see a number of other orthopedics (hello, cranial cruciate injury!), as well as a wide variety of soft tissue cases. With the onset of warmer weather, we have seen an influx of dogs with laryngeal paralysis, and the immediate improvement in quality of life following this surgery makes it one of my favorites to perform. Whether you want to discuss if arthroscopic management of lameness might be right for your patient, or you have a cat that might need a PU, I'm happy to give input any time.

OUR SURGERY RESIDENTS

LUCY CHOU, DVM

Dr. Lucy Chou is a native New Yorker who stayed in the area for her undergraduate education at New York University. She earned a veterinary degree from Ross University and completed her clinical year at the University of Pennsylvania in 2016. Dr. Chou went onto a small animal rotating internship at the Animal Medical Center. She then completed two surgical internships at Veterinary Surgical Centers in Virginia and BluePearl Veterinary Partners in New York City. She briefly returned to academia in 2019 to complete a research fellowship at Texas A&M.

Dr. Chou joined Metropolitan Veterinary Associates as a surgery resident in July 2020. In her free time, she enjoys being outdoors, snowboarding, and going on culinary explorations.

ASHLEY MOYER, VMD

Dr. Ashley Moyer grew up in Bucks County, PA. She completed her bachelor's degree at Penn State University in Veterinary and Biomedical Sciences. She earned her veterinary degree from the University of Pennsylvania in 2017. She then completed a rotating internship in medicine and surgery at Tufts University, followed by a surgical internship at Gulf Coast Veterinary Specialists in Houston, TX. She then completed a surgical oncology internship at VCA West Coast in Orange County, CA. Dr. Moyer returned to the east coast and joined MVA as a surgery resident in July 2020.

Professional interests include a wide variety of orthopedic and soft tissue surgeries. Dr. Moyer spends her free time running, going to the beach, spending time with family, and hanging out with her dogs Charlotte and Marcella. 🐾



WE ARE EXCITED TO HAVE DR. HAGAR HAUSER JOINING OUR BEHAVIOR TEAM

Dr. Hagar Hauser earned her Bachelor of Science degree in Animal Sciences from the University of Maryland College Park and graduated cum laude from the University of Florida School of Veterinary Medicine. After graduating, she completed an internship in small animal medicine, surgery, and emergency at Friendship Hospital for Animals in Washington D.C. She then completed a residency in veterinary behavioral medicine at the University of Pennsylvania Ryan Veterinary Hospital. She has experience in treating canine and feline behavior concerns including affective aggression, generalized anxiety, noise phobias, separation anxiety, compulsive behaviors, elimination in the home, etc. Dr. Hauser is published in the Journal of Veterinary Behavior for her research on reducing stress in dogs during veterinary visits and was granted the Fear Free Research Award for this project. She has achieved Fear Free Elite Certification and believes low stress handling in the veterinary clinic is key to providing the best medical care to every animal.

Dr. Hauser is passionate about working with shelters and rescues to address behavior concerns of the animals in their care and has performed research on the benefits of enrichment within the shelter setting. In her spare time, she volunteers at her local open admission shelter, working hands-on with the dogs and giving behavior-related seminars to staff and volunteers. She spends the weekends cycling with her partner, Dan, and hiking with their rescue pit-mix, Ronny. Ronny is Dr. Hauser's "foster fail" from veterinary school that had multiple behavior concerns when he came into her home. He inspired her to pursue a veterinary behavior specialty to help other pets like him. Dr. Hauser joins MVA's behavior team in August 2020.

Dr. Hauser will be starting appointments August 31st. 🐾

SPECIALIZED SERVICES

BEHAVIOR

Hagar Hauser, DVM
Jacqueline Wilhelmy, MS, VMD,
DACVB, CCBC-KA

CARDIOLOGY

Marc Kraus, DVM, DACVIM (Cardiology)
Michael Miller, MS, VMD, ABVP
Megan Poad VMD, DACVIM (Cardiology)
Risa Roland, DVM, DACVIM (Cardiology)

DENTISTRY

Corinne Durand, DVM

DERMATOLOGY

Katherine Backel, DVM DACVD
Karen B. Farver, DVM, DACVD

EMERGENCY AND CRITICAL CARE

James Buckman, PhD, VMD
Allison Buysse, VMD
Jason Chamberlin, VMD
Kathleen Crossman, DVM
Cierra French, DVM
Robert Gaunt, VMD
Jill Kalman, VMD
Jennifer McGough, VMD
Rachel Morgan, DVM
(Practice limited to Emergency & Critical Care)
Katie Slade, VMD
Marisa Suvannavejh, VMD
Katrina Tumielewicz, DVM
(Practice limited to Emergency & Critical Care)

INTERNAL MEDICINE

John V. DeBiasio, DVM, DACVIM
James F. Dougherty, MS, VMD
Tabitha A. Hutton, DVM, MTR, DACVIM (SAIM)
Leslie A. Kuczynski, VMD, DACVIM

NEUROLOGY

Lisa Lipitz, VMD, DACVIM (Neurology)
Daniella Vansteenkiste, BVetMed

ONCOLOGY

Lillie Davis, DVM, DACVIM (Oncology)
Suzanne Rau, DVM, DACVIM (Oncology)

OPHTHALMOLOGY

Amanda Corr, VMD, DACVO
Chloe Spertus, DVM, DACVO

RADIOLOGY

Robert McLear, VMD, DACVR
Lisa Suslak, VMD, DACVR

SURGERY

Kendra Hearon, VMD, DACVS-SA
ACVS Fellow, Surgical Oncology
A. Jon Nannos, DVM
Jacqui Niles, BVETMED, SAS, DACVS
Catherine Popovitch, DVM, DACVS, DECVS
Timothy M. Schwab, VMD, DACVS-SA
Rebecca Wolf, VMD, DACVS-SA