There are many infectious agents that can infect cats and people. Some are acquired from direct contact with infected cats; others are acquired by contact with contaminated food or water, from shared vectors, or from the shared environment. Living with healthy indoors cats without ectoparasites is generally not associated with increased risk of acquiring an infectious disease. Cat owners should seek veterinary advice for any clinically ill cat and, if immunocompromised, avoid cats of unknown health status. Veterinarians and physicians should work together to provide accurate information concerning zoonotic diseases so that people can make informed decisions concerning cat ownership.

A preventive approach is the most effective and humane strategy for management of infectious disease in shelter populations. Strategies for prevention include reduction of environmental contamination and support of the host immune response. This article provides recommendations regarding selected environmental and host determinants of disease, including management of population density, sanitation and disinfection, disease recognition, segregation and isolation, air quality, stress reduction and environmental enrichment, vaccination, and nutrition.
Feline Infectious Peritonitis  
Katrin Hartmann

The article discusses feline infectious peritonitis (FIP), an important disease frequently seen in veterinary practice. FIP causes many problems to the veterinarian as it can be difficult to definitively diagnose the disease, as there is no effective treatment, and as prophylactic interventions are not very successful. Although intense research has created a lot of new knowledge about this disease in the last years, there are still many unanswered questions. The objective of this article is to review recent knowledge and to increase understanding of the complex pathogenesis of FIP.

Enteric Protozoal Diseases  
Michael R. Lappin

The most common protozoal agents infecting the gastrointestinal tract of cats are Giardia spp, Cryptosporidium spp, Cystoisospora spp, Sarcocystis spp, Besnoitia spp, Hammondia spp, Toxoplasma gondii, Entamoeba histolytica, and Tritrichomonas fetus.

Feline Cytauxzoonosis  
James H. Meinkoth and A. Alan Kocan

Cytauxzoon felis is a protozoan hemoparasite of wild and domestic cats. In domestic cats, it causes severe clinical disease with high mortality.

Infectious Diseases of the Central Nervous System  
Danièlle Gunn-Moore

Neurologic disease is seen commonly in cats, with infectious causes accounting for 30–45% of cases. However, since a specific infection cannot be identified in 12–40% of these cases, it is essential that we try to understand these cases better in the hope that we can eventually identify the cause(s), and so determine how best to treat and/or prevent them.

Managing Pain in Feline Patients  
Sheilah A. Robertson

In the past 10 years, great strides have been made in the field of feline analgesia. A better understanding of the cat’s unique metabolism has led researchers to realize that feline-specific studies are essential. The opioids are now widely used with good analgesic effect and few side effects. Excellent acute pain management is achievable in cats by using opioids, nonsteroidal anti-inflammatory drugs (NSAIDs), α2-agonists, and local anesthetics. Pain assessment in cats is challenging, and the development of pain-scoring
systems remains an important goal. Management of chronic pain in cats is a challenge because of the potential problems with long-term NSAID use; however, reports of low doses given at extended intervals are encouraging. As we gain experience with less traditional analgesics, such as the tricyclic antidepressants, anticonvulsants, and N-methyl-D-aspartate antagonists, and critically evaluate complementary therapies, our ability to provide comfort to this population of cats will improve.

Recent Concepts in Feline Lower Urinary Tract Disease
Roger A. Hostutler, Dennis J. Chew, and Stephen P. DiBartola

This article presents and discusses recent concepts in feline lower urinary tract disease.

Feline Endocrinopathies
Daniëlle Gunn-Moore

Feline endocrinopathies (excluding diabetes mellitus) include hyperthyroidism, hypothyroidism, acromegaly, hyposomatotropism, diabetes insipidus, hyperadrenocorticism, primary sex hormone-secreting adrenal tumors, primary hyperaldosteronism, pheochromocytoma, hypoadrenocorticism, hyperparathyroidism, and hypoparathyroidism. Each of these conditions will be discussed including their prevalence, cause, clinical signs, diagnosis, treatment options, and prognosis.

Diabetes Mellitus in Cats
Jacquie Rand and Rhett D. Marshall

Feline diabetes is a multifactorial disease with genetic and environmental factors, including diet, excess body weight, and physical inactivity, involved in its pathogenesis. Although type 2 diabetes is most common in cats, most cats are insulin-dependent at the time of diagnosis. If good glycemic control can be achieved early after diagnosis, a substantial proportion of diabetic cats go into clinical remission. Diabetic remission may be facilitated by using a low-carbohydrate-high-protein diet combined with a long-acting insulin, such as glargine or protamine zinc insulin (PZI), administered twice daily. Rather than just controlling clinical signs, these new treatment modalities make curing feline diabetes a realistic goal for practitioners.

Feline Hepatic Lipidosis
Sharon A. Center

We have come a long way in understanding and managing the feline hepatic lipidosis (FHL) syndrome since it was first described nearly 30 years ago. Increased sensitivity of clinicians for
recognizing the syndrome has improved case outcome by arresting this metabolic syndrome in its earliest stages. Simply ensuring adequate intake of a complete and balanced feline diet can rescue cats just developing clinical signs; however, full metabolic support as described herein provides the best chance for recovery of cats demonstrating the most severe clinicopathologic features. It remains possible that adjustments in recommended micronutrient and vitamin intake for healthy cats may pivotally change feline susceptibility to FHL over the coming years.

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