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Preface: Veterinary Remote Care ix
Aaron J. Smiley

What Is Telemedicine, Telehealth, and Teletriage 1069
Mark Cushing
In this article, the author reviews a history and overview of veterinary telemedicine and telehealth and human health heritage. Definitions and best practices for veterinary telemedicine and telehealth include key distinctions between the two.

Teletriage—How Remote Advice Provides Better Care 1081
Katherine Donahue
There are veterinary deserts across the country where access to veterinary care is limited. Teletriage allows animal owners in these areas to get expert advice about the time frame for care through convenient, commonly used methods of communication. Teletriage also creates financial benefits for traditional veterinary clinics by increasing scheduling efficiencies. Lastly, teletriage can create employment opportunities for veterinary nurses without the burden of relocation.

Wearable Devices in Veterinary Health Care 1087
Ashley Mitek, Dylan Jones, Andrew Newell, and Samantha Vitale
Wearables are an up-and-coming tool in veterinary health care. This article reviews the current and prospective wearable technology for veterinary patients and the future of wearables in veterinary medicine. These devices allow veterinarians to monitor a patient’s vital signs remotely, in addition to other variables, and push the profession away from a reactive health-care system toward a proactive culture that is able to identify diseases earlier. Advances in this technology have the potential to profoundly change the way veterinarians obtain and use patient data to practice medicine.

Anesthesiologists in the Ether: Technology and Telemedicine in Anesthesiology 1099
Ashley Mitek
A new frontier in veterinary anesthesia telehealth has begun. With the adoption of electronic anesthetic records and video, phone, and chat consultations, an anesthesiologist can be integrated into the care team of any patient, anywhere in the world. This article reviews the benefits of adopting an electronic anesthetic record system, and the ways that practitioners can incorporate a virtual anesthesiologist into their care team.
Technology Basics for Telemedicine: What Practitioners Need to Know

Ashley Mitek

Veterinary medical technology is rapidly evolving and provides exciting opportunities for veterinarians to practice medicine in new ways. This article reviews the basic components of telemedicine technology that practitioners should be aware of.

Telehealth in Hospice and Palliative Care

Shea Cox

Hospice and palliative care is a framework of care focused on the palliation of a patient’s pain and symptoms while attending to the emotional and spiritual needs of the client caregiver. Telehospice and telepalliative care is the use of telehealth services for delivering hospice and palliative care to patients remotely through videoconferencing, telephonic communication, or remote symptom monitoring and can address the needs of both patients and clients. Telehealth-based interventions can provide hospice and palliative care providers the ability to assess and address patient care needs including the delivery of effective pain and symptom management, timelier assessments and medical interventions, increased compliance, and additional teaching opportunities for clients.

Asynchronous Veterinary Telemedicine

Aaron J. Smiley

Asynchronous communication is the predominate modality for present day communication. Veterinarians can become more efficient and create more access to care if they incorporate more asynchronous care into daily practice. This article reviews how veterinary medicine has used asynchronous communication in the past, the advantages of asynchronous telemedicine, and the inclusion of the client in virtual referral.

Small Animal Teleultrasound

Timothy Manzi and Cristobal Navas de Solis

Teleradiology is well established in many small animal practices, whereas teleultrasound is slowly gaining prominence. The demand for teleultrasound services in the veterinary profession has increased substantially because access to ultrasound to general practitioners increases faster than the number of imaging specialists and Point of Care Ultrasound (POCUS) becomes part of the standard of care. Two main methods of teleultrasound currently exist: asynchronous (eg, “store-and-forward”) and synchronous (eg, real-time) interpretations. Few standardized protocols for teleultrasound in small animals are available. Similarly, there are no standardized training programs for sonographic examination acquisition and interpretation outside of the traditional diagnostic imaging residency under the purview of the American College of Veterinary Radiology. The success of a telesonographic evaluation largely depends on the relationship between the veterinarian requesting remote assistance and the expert providing support.