



SEPTEMBER/OCTOBER NEWS 2011



Rabies Vaccine?

All cats should have Rabies vaccine unless they have a history of adverse reaction or are very elderly. Rabies is a fatal disease of all warm blooded mammals and has a dominant reservoir host. On the West Coast this host is the skunk and bat. Once the virus passes to another species it is a dead end. (literally) The virus waxes and wanes in the endemic host but is always a threat to unvaccinated pets. Keep your cat indoors if possible and vaccinate yearly! Required for boarding.



Ringworm



a contagious problem for cats by Duke

Ringworm is the common term for the skin disease caused by **dermatophytes** (a type of fungi found in soil or specific to an animal species). The most common to affect cats is *Microsporum canis*. It is a problem in shelters as young cats and kittens are most susceptible and crowded conditions increases spore contact.

compromised risk. The lesion non-pruritic, hair-the ears, face get the lesions the sores often progresses. and immune



and immune are more susceptible. Many cats and people are resistant to the infection but can be asymptomatic carriers. If you do not have lesions when the cat is diagnosed you are less likely to develop them.

Stressed and immune cats are also at greater in cats is often scaly, less and appears on and feet. Humans can from cats or soil and take the ring form as it Children, the elderly, compromised individu-

Many skin diseases of cats look alike so **special tests** are needed to diagnose ringworm. A woods light (apple green fluorescence) is positive in about 50% of cases but a culture should done for definitive diagnosis. The culture takes about 5-10 days to grow. This is useful to find carriers in the household. The suspect is brushed and fur/skin scale is put on the media. Ringworm treatment can be started if suspicious lesions are present.

Treatment requires commitment and diligence to rid the environment and the pets of spores. The infected pet should be isolated and not allowed back into the "clean" area until clear of infection.

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Chickens for Topsy Turvy Fund

Dr. Thompson's Airborne Unit has offered to sell one dozen free range organic eggs to aid the homeless cats and kittens.

These multi-colored eggs will be available at the clinic for \$4/dz. (until Dec.)

Please call ahead to reserve or ask at the desk! visit www.kittyplatoon.com to see troops in action.



Silver Whiskers Wellness Program.

Exam, Blood Pressure, blood chemistry and CBC, urinalysis and thyroid test. \$250 add radiographs \$420 (total cost)

Recommended for cats 8 and older!



Welcome Shanti Parmelee

Our new RVT (Registered Veterinary Technician) has worked in the profession since 2005. She grew up with her own petting zoo, including cats and dogs, a salamander, fish, gerbils, rabbits and parrots but her love has always been cats. Her menagerie has been downsized to two kitties, Clover and Rio.

Say hello to a dedicated cat lover and new addition to our wonderful staff!



Open House!

October 22, 2011 4-7pm



Please come celebrate with the new owner of Civic Feline....Dr. Melanie Ellis
Champagne and good food.

We might even have live music so you better come down and check out the cool cats.

Meet Dr. Regina Roach , Dr Jennifer Lalley and our new RVT Shanti Parmelee. Say hello to all the staff and Dr. Josie Thompson. They are still here to love your cats!
(also rabbits and reptiles for Dr. T.)



Ringworm

A great article on decontaminating the house and the "isolation room" can be found on Veterinarypartner.com in the pet health care library.

Patient treatment **requires oral medications** in most cases. An isolated lesion may respond well to topical medication plus bathing. The two common oral treatments are Griseofulvin and Itraconazole. The drawbacks are side effects and expense.

We have found the newer drug, Terbinafine, to be effective and less expensive. The drug is given for several weeks and not stopped until a negative culture is obtained.

Topical treatment includes lime sulphur dip (very odiferous, stains fur yellow and ruins clothes and jewelry). This product is often used in shelters as it is very inexpensive. Miconazole-Chlorhexidine rinse and shampoo is also effective and can be used with oral and topical treatments. (Malaseb Shampoo can be ordered through the clinic.)

If treatment is not successful in 3 months there are problems with home or pet decontamination procedures or the underlying health of the patient.

Talk to the vets! Consult your own doctor for questions and treatment if you develop ringworm.

