

WSAVA SHELTER MEDICINE WORKSHOP 2023



30th sep
tem
ber / **23**
8:30am - 5pm (8h30 - 17h)



FACULTY VETERINARY MEDICINE
LUSÓFONA UNIVERSITY | LISBON

CAMPO GRANDE 376, (CLOSE TO AIRPORT) AGOSTINHO DA SILVA AUDITORIUM

PRESENTIAL | ONLINE | REGISTRATION



QR CODE | REGISTRATION



program/schedule

➔ INTRODUCTION

Shelter medicine is a growing field within veterinary medicine dedicated to the care and needs of animals in the community, particularly the homeless animals and those in shelters. This workshop will cover the principles of running a high welfare 'Trap-Neuter-Release' (TNR) program for cats.

➔ ANIMAL WELLNESS AND WELFARE COMMITTEE (WSAVA) VISION/MISSION:

The global veterinary community works together to promote good animal welfare for all companion animals.

The Animal Wellness and Welfare Committee goal is to make animal welfare an everyday consideration for small animal practitioners and to ensure that WSAVA is a proactive and respected partner within international welfare circles by combining advocacy with mutual respect and consensus building.

➔ PURPOSE OF THE WORKSHOP:

- Understand the needs and principles for managing high-welfare neuter projects
- To understand the challenges faced in implementing shelter medicine

- Inspire all to meet or exceed American Shelter Vet (ASV) standards where possible
- Engage local veterinarians, local government officers, and shelter/pound managers and staff on practical issues in animal protection and shelter medicine
- To lead the regional community in public health, animal protection and compassionate care

➔ MAIN TARGET AUDIENCE:

- Veterinarians who perform TNR - refinement of techniques and animal handling
- Local government who are considering starting TNR programs

➔ PROGRAM/SCHEDULE:

8:30 – Registration

9:00 – Introduction to this workshop by Natasha Lee

9:30 – **Basics of TNR: Why it works, high vs low volume, what is high quality, cat welfare during procedure, etc** (emphasise tackling source, RPO) by Vicky Halls and ICatCare

10:00 – Tea Break

10:30 – **Exercise 1: Components of TNR and cat welfare needs** by Katherine Polak and Natasha Lee

11:30 – **Lecture series - TNR components** by Katherine Polak and Natasha Lee:

- The patient – selection, trapping/transport, handling
- The procedure – surgical care, postoperative care, housing, returning

- Early Age Neutering

- The staff – planning, training, record keeping

13:00 – Lunch

14:00 – **Lecture series - TNR components** by Katherine Polak, Natasha Lee:

- The patient – selection, trapping/transport, handling

- The procedure – surgical care, postoperative care, housing, returning

- Early Age Neutering

- The staff – planning, training, record keeping

15:30 – **Exercise 2: Challenges and barriers** by Katherine Polak, Natasha Lee and Vicky Halls

16:30 – Final discussions / Q&A

17:00 – End of Session, Visit to TNR Hospital

speakers



Dr Natasha Lee



Dr Natasha Lee is a veterinarian from Malaysia with an MSc in International Animal Welfare, Ethics and Law from the University of Edinburgh. She is also a member of the Australian and New Zealand College of Veterinary Scientists (Animal Welfare). She has over 18 years of experience in international animal welfare particularly in companion animal welfare projects, animal sheltering, and veterinary education. She has managed large projects across Asia, which includes strategy development, advocacy, and technical training. She has also led a campaign to include animal welfare science into veterinary curricula across Asia by providing training to more than 125 vet schools, starting a network of animal welfare educators, and conducting online courses. She is a co-author for WSAVA's Animal Welfare Guidelines for veterinary practices and a contributing author in the Field Manual for Small Animal Medicine. She currently runs an animal welfare consultancy, Animal Happiness, and works with other organisations to carry out trainings, education, inspections, and project management.



Dr Katherine Polak



Dr. Katherine Polak leads the Companion Animals & Engagement team for Humane Society International (HSI), working to improve companion animal welfare around the world through humane management of street dog populations, community engagement, veterinary training, and ending the cruel dog and cat meat trade in Asia. Before joining HSI, Dr. Polak managed animal welfare programs and campaigns across Southeast Asia with Vienna-based FOUR PAWS. Dr. Polak is a veterinary specialist, double-boarded in veterinary preventive medicine with the American College of Veterinary Preventive Medicine and in Shelter Medicine with the American Board of Veterinary Practitioners. She holds master's degrees in both forensic medicine and public health and has authored numerous scientific papers. She is a frequent speaker at veterinary conferences and co-editor of the book Field Medicine for Small Animal Medicine published by Wiley Publishing. Dr. Polak currently serves as Courtesy Faculty at the University of Florida, where she teaches International Shelter Medicine.



Vicky Halls



Vicky is a registered veterinary nurse and clinical animal behaviourist, having spent over 25 years specialising in cats. Vicky has lectured internationally on cat behaviour to veterinary and lay audiences and now speaks predominantly on cat population management and Cat Friendly Homing, an International Cat Care resource to improve the welfare of unowned pet cats. Vicky is also a qualified and registered person-centred counsellor. Vicky is the author of seven best-selling books on cats for the general public, several peer-reviewed papers for scientific journals and co-author of veterinary textbooks and published guidelines.

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