

# Electrocardiograms (ECGs) for pride, pleasure and profit!

Electrocardiography is under-utilised in New Zealand and Australian small animal practice. As a result, practitioners are missing out on the pride of diagnosing an arrhythmia and the pleasure of seeing an animal walk out of the clinic in normal sinus rhythm after suffering a near-fatal irregular heartbeat; moreover, practice owners are missing out on providing a valuable and profitable diagnostic service to clients.

## ECGs are NOT so scary!

Many clinics have ECG machines that are tucked away in cupboards gathering dust, and one of the main reasons seems to be a lack of confidence in reading the ECG recordings. After this Module you will have a much higher level of confidence interpreting ECG tracings and making good clinical decisions based on these. You will also have a thorough understanding of the indications, actions and side-effects of commonly used anti-arrhythmic drugs. We will also discuss the likely causes of the common arrhythmias and how to integrate other cardiac diagnostics and therapeutics into the management plan.

Owners LOVE technology and readily accept paying for diagnostic tests that show a clear and measurable outcome. Nothing impresses them more than viewing a highly abnormal ECG recording from a dog in ventricular tachycardia and then seeing the normal rhythm return after your intervention.

This course is practical and not too theoretical, and is aimed at giving you something you can do IMMEDIATELY to improve patient care. Learn how to activate your veterinary nurses to drive this program in your practice and take the load off yourself.

## Electrocardiograms (ECGs)

A Single Module Course

Start date: 12 October

### Topic 1: Choosing and operating an ECG machine profitably, and discriminating normal from abnormal rhythms

In this Topic we will focus on how to choose an ECG machine, how to run it routinely and profitably in the clinic and how to tell whether a rhythm disturbance is present. This Topic will demystify the process of obtaining a tracing and will be useful for nurses as well as vets.

### Topic 2: Common rhythm disturbances and their associated illnesses

Learn how to recognise the most common arrhythmias. This will be a practical section and we will spend most of our time talking about the things we see commonly, rather than rare disturbances only seen once in a blue moon. Understand which diseases you need to look for and manage to explain and eliminate certain arrhythmias.

### Topic 3: Anti-arrhythmic drugs and developing a treatment plan for cardiac disease

Which drugs do we have available to us? How do they work? How can they hurt the patient? Answer these questions and more in this Topic as well as learning effective strategies for incorporating these drugs into regimes that might include diuretics, ACE inhibitors and pimobendan.



## Mark Robson BVMSc (Dist) Diplomate ACVIM

Registered Specialist Veterinary Small Animal Internal Medicine

Diplomate of American College of Veterinary Internal Medicine

Dr Mark Robson, graduated from Massey University in 1988 and worked for three years at Onewa Road Veterinary Hospital. Mark went on to gain a residency position in Small Animal Medicine at Louisiana State University (LSU). He studied at LSU from 1992 to 1995.

In 1995, Mark passed the US board certification exams to become a Diplomate of the American College of Veterinary Internal Medicine. Mark returned to New Zealand in 1996 and was recognised as a Specialist in Small Animal Medicine in 2001. He is a founding partner of Veterinary Specialist Group in Auckland.

Member discount offered to NZVA and CVE members

VetScholar courses are managed by VetLearn – a subsidiary of the NZVA – and the leading provider of continuing professional development for the veterinary profession in New Zealand.

**What's involved?**

This course comprises a single 6-week module, containing 3 topics presented at fortnightly intervals.

Each fortnightly topic takes 2-4 hours to complete and includes guided reading, interactive online discussion forums (with feedback from your tutor), and an online quiz.

Continuing Professional Development (CPD) points will be accrued for each topic completed and an annual VetScholar certificate awarded.

**What's the cost?**

Prices for NZ residents are shown in the enrolment form below. Members receive a 20% discount on non-member pricing. Separate registration forms are available for Australian residents, showing GST exclusive prices in AUD. See course details online at www.vetscholar.org.nz

**How do I register?**

- Register online at www.vetscholar.org.nz, click on the course name and then click "enrol now". Select your membership status under "Registrant type" on the online enrollment form to see member pricing. The prices shown will vary with your country of residence.
- Fax or mail a completed form to the VetLearn office, details below.

**Enrolment Form: ECGs - for pride, pleasure and profit!**

Name

Organisation

Postal Address

Email

Phone

NZVA Member  CVE Member

Enrol me in	Price		
	NZVA/CVE Member	Non Member	
<input type="checkbox"/> ECGs	NZ\$ 370	NZ\$ 440	\$_____
Prices shown are GST inclusive		<b>Total</b>	\$_____

**Login Details**

The VetScholar Team will contact you via email with details of your VetScholar username and password and how to login and access your course.

**Payment**

Prices shown are GST inclusive and must be made in NZ dollars.

Please invoice  My organisation  Me

Preferred method of payment  Direct Deposit  Cheque (Payable to VetLearn)  Visa  Mastercard

Account name: VetLearn Foundation Bank: Westpac Branch: Lambton Quay, NZ Account No: 03 0502 0622299 00

Please include registrants surname in the reference field when making online payment & provide remittance details to VetLearn.

Credit card number           expiry

Cardholder name  Signature

Complete and return to:

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