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Overview/description

Beyond the bladder: Updates on feline urethral obstruction

Triage! Oh no – another cat with lower urinary tract signs! Why does this keep happening, and how can we help them? Using the 2025 iCatCare consensus guidelines on the diagnosis and management of feline lower urinary tract diseases, co-authors Drs. Søren Boysen (criticalist) and Serge Chalhoub (internist) from the Faculty of Veterinary Medicine at the University of Calgary will go over the current evidence-based diagnostic and treatment options for these cases, with a special focus on male cats presenting with urethral obstructions.

Join us for this case-based, banter-filled lecture on the diagnosis, stabilization, and early therapeutic interventions for cats with urethral obstruction.

Speaker's bio and credentials



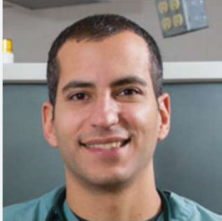
Søren Boysen, DVM, Dipl. ACVECC

“POCUS to LIVE; LIVE to POCUS!” sums up Dr. Søren Boysen’s passion for point-of-care ultrasound (POCUS), his love of teaching, and his can-do anything attitude. Co-founder of the Veterinary Emergency and Critical Care Ultrasound (VECCUS) working group, co-lead on the veterinary POCUS consensus statements and the POCUS applications in the RECOVER project, former Chief of Veterinary Emergency and Critical Care (ECC) at the

University of Montreal. An original contributor to the curriculum design at the University of Calgary’s Faculty of Veterinary Medicine, he helped establish veterinary ECC in Quebec and Alberta and introduced the veterinary profession to POCUS as the primary author of the small animal FAST exam. After graduating from the Western College of Veterinary Medicine 1996, Søren completed an internship at the Atlantic Veterinary College (1997-1998) and a residency in Small Animal Emergency and Critical Care at Tufts University (1999-2003), becoming an American College of Veterinary Emergency and Critical Care (ACVECC) diplomate in 2003. Extensively published—with 150 scientific publications and two textbooks—he is also a recipient of numerous awards for teaching and research excellence. His career has taken him to more than 30 countries, where he has lectured, co-taught, and collaborated on veterinary clinical research projects around the world. Most recently, he was recognized with the 2025 Canadian Veterinary Medical Association (CVMA) Small Animal Practitioner of the Year Award and the 2023 Jack Mara Scientific Achievement Award for his contributions to veterinary POCUS and small animal emergency and critical care.



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Serge Chalhoub, DVM, Dipl. ACVIM

Dr. Chalhoub graduated from the DVM program at the Faculté de médecine vétérinaire of the Université de Montréal in 2004. He then completed a one-year rotating small animal clinical internship at the same institution. After two years working as a general practitioner and emergency veterinarian in Montreal, he pursued a residency in small animal internal medicine at the Animal Medical Center (AMC) in New York City. Upon completing his residency in 2009, he remained at the AMC as its first renal/hemodialysis fellow, later joining the Center as a staff doctor. Since 2012, Dr. Chalhoub has been a faculty member at the University of Calgary's Faculty of Veterinary Medicine (UCVM), where he currently serves as Associate Professor (Teaching). He is the recipient of the 2021 and 2013 Canadian Veterinary Medical Association's Teacher of the Year Award, the 2015 University of Calgary Team Teacher of the Year Award, the 2017 Carl J. Norden Distinguished Teacher Award, and is a 2024 3M National Teaching Fellowship recipient, recognizing Canada's most outstanding teachers. Dr. Chalhoub is the coordinator of the UCVM-CUPS Pet Health Clinic, a community outreach and service-learning program for disadvantaged Calgarians. He has authored and co-authored numerous scientific articles and book chapters on veterinary point-of-care ultrasound, renal and urinary medicine, and he lectures around the world on these topics. He was a member of the National Issues Committee (NIC) of the CVMA until 2024, and currently serves as Past President of the Alberta Veterinary Medical Association (ABVMA).



Questionnaire

1. Which combination of findings has a >98% predictive value for severe hyperkalemia (>8 mmol/L) in cats with urethral obstruction?
 - ☐ Tachycardia and hypothermia
 - ☒ Bradycardia and hypothermia
 - ☐ Tachypnea and hyperthermia
 - ☐ Bradycardia and hypertension
2. What is the most common life-threatening complication of urethral obstruction (UO) in cats?
 - ☐ Uremia
 - ☐ Hypocalcemia
 - ☒ Hyperkalemia
 - ☐ Hyponatremia
3. What fluid type is preferred for treating cats with urethral obstruction due to faster correction of acidosis?
 - ☐ 0.9% saline
 - ☒ Lactated Ringer's solution or Normosol-R
 - ☐ Dextrose 5%
 - ☐ Hypertonic saline
4. Which diagnostic test is most useful for identifying radiolucent uroliths in obstructed cats?
 - ☐ Radiographs
 - ☐ Urinalysis
 - ☒ Ultrasonography
 - ☐ Symmetric dimethylarginine (SDMA)
5. Which of the following is a temporary cardioprotective treatment for hyperkalemia in obstructed cats?
 - ☐ Furosemide
 - ☒ Calcium gluconate
 - ☐ Sodium bicarbonate
 - ☐ Insulin and dextrose infusion



6. Which of the following statements about catheter duration is correct?
- ☐ Catheter duration has no effect on recurrent obstruction risk.
 - ☒ Catheterization <24 hours is associated with a higher risk of reobstruction.
 - ☐ Longer catheter duration always increases survival rates.
 - ☐ Catheter duration should always exceed 72 hours.
7. Postobstructive diuresis (POD) is defined as urine output of:
- ☐ <1 mL/kg/hr
 - ☐ 1–2 mL/kg/hr
 - ☒ >2 mL/kg/hr
 - ☐ >10 mL/kg/hr
8. Which α -1 antagonist may be more effective as a urethral relaxant in cats with UO?
- ☐ Diazepam
 - ☒ Prazosin
 - ☐ Phenoxybenzamine
 - ☐ Alprazolam
9. Which complication is most commonly associated with postobstructive diuresis in cats?
- ☐ Hypercalcemia
 - ☒ Hypokalemia
 - ☐ Hypoglycemia
 - ☐ Hypertension
10. Which preventive measure has the strongest evidence for reducing recurrence of feline idiopathic cystitis (FIC)?
- ☐ Amitriptyline
 - ☐ Long-term NSAID use
 - ☒ Increased water intake via canned diets
 - ☐ Prophylactic antibiotics



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PERSONAL INFORMATION:

First name:

Last name:

Type:

(Veterinarian, Technician)

Licence number:

Province where you practise:

Email:



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CERTIFICATE OF COMPLETION

Educational webcast

Beyond the bladder: Updates on feline urethral obstruction

Presented by

Søren Boysen, DVM, Dipl. ACVECC, and Serge Chalhoub, DVM, Dipl. ACVIM

This document confirms that

Dr. Lorem Ipsum

has viewed the above-mentioned webcast and has answered and submitted the questionnaire meant to evaluate the understanding of the content.

Date:

Province of licensure:

Licence number:

CE credit (s) earned: 1