Who Are the Members of the Advanced Urinary Disease Team?

The doctors at UCVMC-SD are board certified in Small Animal Internal Medicine and have advanced expertise in nephrology, urology and extracorporeal therapies. Our technicians are specifically trained to operate the sophisticated machines and perform the advanced procedures we use to insure your pet’s treatment is safe and comfortable.

How Long is an Extracorporeal Treatment?

A standard hemodialysis session lasts 4-6 hours. Stable patients are treated 2-3 times per week. Patients are very accepting and comfortable during these procedures and do NOT require sedation. In addition to the actual treatment time, patient preparations require approximately an hour prior to and following treatment. Other treatments including hemoperfusion and therapeutic plasma exchange require similar per session times but may have alternative weekly schedules.

Contact us:
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- Treatments for Life-threatening Kidney Failure
- Treatments for Acute Poisonings
- Diagnosis and Management of Diseases of the Kidney and Lower Urinary Systems
- World-renowned Expertise in Hemodialysis and Extracorporeal Therapies

Advanced Extracorporeal and Urinary Disease Service
Nephrology/Urology/Extracorporeal Therapies
UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA VETERINARY MEDICAL CENTER, SAN DIEGO
Welcome to the UC Veterinary Medical Center – San Diego Advanced Extracorporeal and Urinary Disease Service

An Historical Perspective
The UC Davis School of Veterinary Medicine pioneered and continues to lead the advancement of hemodialysis and related extracorporeal (outside the body) therapies in veterinary medicine. Today, our state-of-the-art center provides treatment options for animals suffering life-threatening kidney failure, acute poisoning, drug overdosage, and immune-mediated diseases for whom conventional treatments have failed. In addition to extracorporeal services, our Nephrology and Urology services offer cutting-edge management options for chronic kidney disease, urinary tract infections, urinary stone disease, incontinence, and other diseases affecting the kidney and lower urinary systems.

What are Extracorporeal Therapies?
Extracorporeal therapies are used to purify the blood (and body) of metabolic waste products, poisons, drugs, or antibodies that cause disease. Diseased kidneys cannot remove these “toxins” causing a syndrome termed uremia. Hemodialysis substitutes an “artificial kidney” to purify blood flowing outside the body and re-establish normal body composition. Other extracorporeal procedures are used to remove toxins from the blood not removed with hemodialysis or pathologic antibodies causing autoimmune diseases.

Indications for Extracorporeal Therapies
Extracorporeal therapies are an advanced standard of care for diseases where there may be no effective alternatives, including:

- Severe acute or chronic kidney failure
- Acute poisoning
- Severe overhydration
- Autoimmune diseases
- Acute liver failure
- Drug overdosage
- Immunotherapy for cancer

Comprehensive Services Offered
- Extracorporeal therapies – hemodialysis, hemoperfusion, and therapeutic apheresis
- Diagnosis and medical management of acute and chronic kidney diseases
- Diagnosis and medical management of lower urinary tract diseases
- Uroendoscopy for stones, incontinence and other diseases of the lower urinary tract
- Laser lithotripsy and other non-surgical stone management options