



## Veterinary Definitions and Abbreviations

**Animal Legal Defense Fund** A group of private attorneys who have joined together who all have the common goal of promoting the welfare and right of animals.

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**breeding records** Computerized or paper records that document the aspects of the reproductive life of an animal.

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**AAEP** American Association of Equine Practitioners

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**ABC** The traditional order of performing cardiopulmonary resuscitation: establish an airway, breath for the patient and provide chest compressions for circulation.

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**abdomen** The belly.

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**abdominocentesis** Placing a needle into the abdominal (belly) cavity to check for the presence of abnormal fluid.

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**abortion** Premature delivery of a dead fetus.

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**abrasion** Superficial loss of the epidermis

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**abrasions** Wounds that are not through all the layers of the skin.

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**abscess** An accumulation of pus.



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**acantholysis** Separation of the intracellular bridges in the epidermis. Acantholysis is the characteristic histologic lesion of pemphigus leading to formation of clefts within the epidermis

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**acarriasis** Infestation with mites.

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**accidental host** Humans are not part of the life cycle, they accidentally entered into that organisms life cycle and got the disease. Examples: ringworm, rabies.

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**acid detergent fiber** *Abrev:* ADF The amount of residue (primarily cellulose, lignin and variable amounts of silica) left after boiling a feed sample in an acid detergent solution. The ADF value is used to predict the energy content (TDN, NE) of forages.

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**acquired** A defect that happens after being born (contrasted to congenital).

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**acronym** Abbreviation for a phrase. MPL is the acronym for master problem list.

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**actinic** The injurious effects of ultraviolet light.

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**activated partial thromboplastin time** *Abrev:* APPT The time it takes for plasma to form a fibrin clot after the addition of calcium and a phospholipid reagent. APPT measures the intrinsic coagulation system.

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**acute** Single or short term exposure to a poison. Usually results in clinical signs and/or death.

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**acute** The sudden onset of signs of disease.



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**acute renal failure** *Abrev:* ARF An acute suppression of renal function. The most common causes of ARF are renal ischemia and nephrotoxicity.

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**acute tubular necrosis** *Abrev:* ATN Acute death of the epithelial cells lining the renal tubules due to ischemia or toxins.

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**ACVIM** American College of Veterinary Internal Medicine

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**ACVS** American College of Veterinary Surgeons

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**ad libitum** *Abrev:* ad lib Feed offered free-choice, allowing animals to eat as much as they desire.

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**Addison's disease** Inadequate production of hormones produced by the adrenal glands. Also known as hypoadrenocorticism.

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**adenocarcinoma** A form of cancer that occurs in the prostate gland.

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**adhesions** When structures that are not normally bound together become stuck to one another.

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**adhesions** Two surfaces that are stuck together.

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**adjuvant** A component added to killed vaccines to increase the ability of the vaccine to stimulate an immune response.

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**adjuvants** Aluminum derivatives that are added to killed vaccines to generate more of an immune response than the killed vaccine alone would.

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**adnexa** Structures bound to the skin such as sebaceous and apocrine glands.

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**adrenal gland** A gland located close to the kidneys that produces several hormones including cortisol.

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**adrenaline** Also known as epinephrine. A hormone that stimulates the heart and increases blood pressure.

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**adrenergic** Drugs that mimic the action of the sympathetic nervous system.

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**adrenergic** Drugs that mimic the action of the sympathetic nervous system.

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**adverse event** Any undesirable occurrence, either injury or death, following the use of an immunobiological product

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**adverse reaction to food** An abnormal clinical response attributed to an ingested food or food product.

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**aerobic bacteria** Bacteria that grow only when oxygen is present.

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**age specific data base** The minimum amount of information that is planned to be collected on all patients of a certain age; for example pediatric or geriatric databases.

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**agglutination** An abnormal clumping of red blood cells. Often seen in patients with immune-mediated anemia.

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**agonist** A drug which when attached to a receptor causes an effect.

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**AIDS defining diseases** If a person is HIV+ and is diagnosed with one of several disease conditions, by definition the person has AIDS. Included among the AIDS defining diseases are several zoonotic diseases (toxoplasmosis, cryptosporidiosis).

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**alanine aminotransferase** *Abrev:* ALT (SALT) Also known as serum alanine aminotransferase (SALT). An enzyme found in hepatocytes (liver cells) released with cellular injury including cellular hypoxia.

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**albumin** A small protein in blood that acts like a “sponge” to keep fluid within the blood vessels. If albumin is low, fluid leaks out of the blood vessels and causes edema.

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**aldosterone** A hormone produced by the adrenal gland that is responsible for salt and water balance in the body.

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**alimentary** Another term for the gut or intestinal tract. The alimentary tract runs from the mouth, through the esophagus to the stomach, duodenum, small intestine, large intestine, rectum, and anus.

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**alkaline phosphatase** *Abrev:* AP SAP Also known as serum alkaline phosphatase (SAP). An enzyme found in many tissues but most often elevated in serum in response to cholestasis, bone remodeling or glucocorticoid excess.

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**all in, all out management system** A management system where the entire population is removed from a single area, the area is thoroughly cleaned and disinfected, and then the animals are moved back in.



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**allergic contact dermatitis** *Abrev:* ACD Dermatitis caused by caustic or irritating substances. No prior sensitization is required.

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**allodynia** Pain from a stimulus that would normally be non-painful.

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**alopecia** Loss of hair.

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**aluminum hydroxide** An adjuvant which is a common component of killed vaccines, included to increase the ability of the vaccine to stimulate an immune response.

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**alveolus** Microscopic sac-like structures within the lung. The airways terminate in these sac-like structures. When blood in the lung contacts the alveoli, the blood takes up oxygen and empties waste gases that will be removed during breathing. 10/15/1999)

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**American Animal Hospital Association** *Abrev:* AAHA An international association of over 17,000 veterinary care providers who treat companion animals. The association was established in 1933. Over 2,800 veterinary hospitals voluntarily participate in the AAHA hospital evaluation program.

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**amino acids** Nitrogen-containing compounds that are the building blocks from which protein are made.

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**amiodarone** A class III antiarrhythmic drug.

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**amnion** The inner most layer of the membrane surrounding the embryo in the uterus. The sac formed by this membrane contains amniotic fluid.

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**amniotic vesicle** Another name for the embryonic vesicle.

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**amphotericin B** Systemic antifungal drug.

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**amylase** An enzyme produced by the pancreas that contributes to digestion of food. Lack of amylase results in a large amount of greasy stool being passed.

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**amylopectin** A branched chain of glucose molecules.

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**anaerobic bacteria** A bacteria that grows only when oxygen is not present.

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**anagen** The phase of the hair cycle during with the hair is synthesized.

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**analgesia** Refers to the absence of pain in the presence of stimuli that would be expected to be painful. In clinical practice we use the term analgesia to mean a reduction in pain

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**analgesic** A drug administered to reduce the perception of pain.

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**anamnestic response** The body's more rapid hummoral immunity response when it is infected with a pathogen it has encounted before.

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**anamnestic response** The memory of immune cells which allows for more rapid and intense production of antibody the second time a host animal sees an antigen. Also called a secondary immune response.

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**anaphylaxis** A severe hypersensitivity reaction often resulting in bronchoconstriction and hypotension.

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**anemia** Anemia is a decrease in PCV or hemoglobin resulting in decreased oxygen carrying capacity of the blood.

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**anemia** A low red blood cell count.

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**anesthesia** Loss of sensation induced by a drug. This can be loss of sensation in a body part which is called local anesthesia or loss of consciousness with general anesthesia.

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**animal reservoir** An animal with an inapparent infection that is also transmitting the agent.

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**animal rights** A ideology defined by the belief that in addition to meeting the basic needs of an animal, taking into account their species specific behaviors and some other criteria, society has a moral obligation to make sure that those animals are appropriately cared for and handled.

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**Animal Welfare Information Center** A federally funded group that was originally set up with the Health Research Information Act (1985) and part of that was to mandate the Animal Welfare Information Center place to go and look for alternatives to the use of animals in research. All of the Animal Welfare Information Center documents are public access and can be accessed on the web.

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**animal well being** A state in which the animal is existing with in a range of acceptable environmental and psychological specifications.

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**animals rights** A belief in the total elimination of use of animals in our society, period. Human life is equated to animal life.

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**anisocoria** Pupils that are unequal in size. The problem may be caused by diseases of the eye or the nerves to the eyes.

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**anisocytosis** Varied sizes of red blood cells. May be an indicator of regenerative anemia.

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**anorexia** Lack of appetite.

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**antagonist** A drug which when attached to a receptor blocks the receptor from being stimulated by an agonist drug.

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**anterior chamber** Space between the cornea and iris and filled with aqueous.

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**anterior uveitis** Inflammation of the iris and ciliary body.

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**anthelmintics** Medications given to remove or kill worms. Also called wormers.

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**anthropomorphism** Projecting human needs or wants on to an animal.

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**antibiotic** A class of drug usually produced by living organisms (molds, bacteria or green plants), which can inhibit or kill undesirable bacteria. Example: penicillin.

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**antibiotics** Drugs that kill bacteria, but not viruses.

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**antibody** A protein produced by the immune system to protect the body from disease caused by infectious agents (bacteria, viruses).



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**antibody** A protein referred to as immunoglobulin and is derived from lymphocytes originating from the bone marrow (B cells). This form of immunity is essential for extracellular pathogens.

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**anticoagulants** Drugs that reduce the ability of the blood to clot. Also called blood thinners.

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**anticonvulsant** Drugs administered to reduce seizures.

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**antidiuretic hormone** *Abrev:* ADH A hormone produced in the brain that acts on the kidney causing it to save water and to produce less urine.

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**antidiuretic hormone** *Abrev:* ADH A hormone produced in the brain that acts on the kidney causing it to save water and to produce concentrated urine. The abbreviation ADH also stands for alcohol dehydrogenase.

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**antiemetics** Drugs administered to reduce vomiting.

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**antifungal** A drug used in the treatment of a disease caused by a fungus.

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**antigen** A foreign protein that stimulates the body's immune system to produce antibodies.

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**antigen** A substance that can induce an immune response.

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**antigen** A substance that can induce an immune response.

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**antipyretics** Drugs that suppress a fever in an attempt to bring the temperature to normal. 10/15/1999)

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**antiseptic** A mild disinfectant used on living tissues.

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**anus** The muscular tissue at the end of the rectum that keeps stool in the rectum until the animal defecates.

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**aqueous** The clear liquid produced by the cells of the ciliary body which fills the anterior chamber (between the cornea and iris) and the posterior chamber (between the iris and lens).

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**arrested development** The parasites "hibernate" in the host as a fourth stage larva, and then in spring, they come out.

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**arrhythmia** An abnormal heart rhythm.

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**arrhythmia** Any variation from the normal rhythm of the heart beat.

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**arteries** Blood vessels that carry blood from the heart to the organs and tissues. Arteries contain more oxygen and nutrients than veins and are under higher pressure.

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**arthritis** Inflammation of the joints.

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**artificial insemination** *Abrev:* AI The female is artificially inseminated with the males sperm, breeding does not take place.

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**artificial vagina** *Abrev: AV* A rubber cone attached to a collection tube that is used to collect semen.

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**ARU** Animal Resources Unit

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**as fed basis** An expression of feed nutrient content with moisture included. Nutrient content on an "as fed" basis is always lower than on a "dry matter" basis.

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**ascites** The accumulation of fluid in the peritoneal cavity. Some define ascites as fluid of any type including blood, bile and other exudates. Others define ascites as including only pure transudates. 11/29/1999)

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**ascites** The accumulation of fluid in the abdominal (peritoneal)(belly) cavity.

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**ash** The inorganic mineral elements of animals and plants, determined by burning off the organic matter and weighing the residue (ash)

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**aspiration** Inhaling food or other materials into the airways.

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**assessment** Your interpretation of patient data. For example what is the significance of nucleated RBCs.

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**asystole** Cardiac arrest.

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**ataxia** Incoordination or abnormal gait.

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**atopy** Allergic inhalant dermatitis or atopic dermatitis. Allergens are true antigens which are usually inhaled or penetrate the skin as complete allergens or haptens. Allergens may also be ingested or injected.

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**atresia** Regressing or shrinking in size

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**atria** The heart has 4 chambers; the two chambers that make up the top of the heart are the atria.

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**atropine** A parasympatholytic drug which competitively blocks acetylcholine at muscarinic receptors and increases sinus node automaticity and atrial-ventricular conduction resulting in an increase in heart rate.

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**attack Rate** The proportion of a defined population affected during an outbreak.

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**attenuation** The reduction in virulence of an infectious agent.

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**auscultation** To listen with a stethoscope. The heart and lung sounds are heard by auscultation.

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**autoimmunity** T-cells start killing normal cells in the body.

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**autoimmunity** Producing an immune response against normal or altered body components.

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**available protein** The portion of the crude protein that can be used by the animal.

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**average daily gain** *Abrev: ADG* The average daily liveweight increase of a growing animal; usually expressed in kg, g or lb./day.

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**AVMA** American Veterinary Medical Association

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**azathioprine** Imuran®-Burroughs Wellcome. An immunosuppressive drug used in cancer chemotherapy and in treatment of immune mediated diseases.

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**azoospermia** The complete absence of sperm in an ejaculate.

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**azotemia** An increase in nitrogen containing waste products in the blood. Azotemia may be pre-renal, renal or post-renal.

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**B-cell** A population of lymphocytes that produces antibody which provides humoral immunity.

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**bacteremia** Bacteria in the blood.

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**bacteria** Microscopic organisms that may be normal or may cause disease. The healthy body normally contains some bacteria.

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**bacterial or prokaryotes** Single celled organisms without a true nucleus.

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**bacterin** A vaccine made from a bacteria.

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**bacteriocidal** Kills bacteria



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**bacteriostat** A substance that inhibits or retards bacterial growth.

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**bacteriostatic** Inhibits or retards bacterial growth

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**balanced ration** A 24-hour feed allowance that provides an animal with appropriate amounts and proportions of all nutrients required for a given level of performance.

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**balanoposthitis** Inflammation of the penis (balanitis) and prepuce (posthitis).

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**basal fluid loss** The basal fluid loss is the typical loss of fluids by both insensible and sensible routes. )

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**benign** A cancer that has low possibility of spread to other parts of the body.

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**benign** Not malignant. Sometimes taken to mean noncancerous although some cancers are called benign if they do not spread to other parts of the body.

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**benzoyl peroxide** Topical antibacterial agent available as a gel and shampoo.

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**bi-parietal diameter** The diameter of the skull as determined using ultrasound. This diameter can be used to determine age of the fetus.

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**bicarbonate precursors** Bicarbonate precursors are converted by the liver to bicarbonate and include Acetate, Gluconate, Lactate, and Citrate.

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**bilateral** Involving both sides.

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**bile** A yellow fluid produced by the liver and stored in the gall bladder that helps in the digestion of fats.

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**bile acids** Substances produced by the liver and secreted in the bile that aid digestion.

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**bilirubin** A substance produced when old red blood cells are destroyed in the body. Abnormal amounts of bilirubin cause jaundice and are caused by breakdown of large numbers of red blood cells or by disease of the liver or gall bladder.

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**biopsy** To take a small sample of an organ for microscopic examination.

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**biopsy** Obtaining a sample of tissue for microscopic analysis.

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**bladder** The sac-like structure, which holds urine until the urine can be passed.

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**blepharitis** Inflammation of the eyelids.

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**blepharospasm** Squinting.

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**blephrospasm** Spasms of the eyelids.

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**blister** A thin walled structure containing fluid or air such as vesicles and bullae.

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**body condition score** *Abrev:* BCS A score based on a scale from 1 to 5 that assesses the amount of body fat on an animal. One is emaciated, three is ideal, and five is obese.

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**bolus** The rapid administration of a fluid or drug over a short time period.

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**bone marrow** The soft center of bones. Blood cells are produced in the bone marrow.

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**bony orbit** The bony fossa within the skull separating the eyes from the cranial cavity

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**bradycardia** An abnormally slow heart rate.

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**breech** Area around the tail and back of hind legs.

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**breech** Birth presentation with the buttocks first.

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**breeding soundness examination** *Abrev:* BSE A series of diagnostic tests performed on a male animal in order to evaluate his capabilities as a stud. The results of the tests are typically recorded in a standardized fashion on a specific form.

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**bretylium** A drug which diminishes the release of norepinephrine from nerve endings with chronic oral dosing. It is used in treatment of ventricular fibrillation and ventricular tachycardia.

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**broken mouth** A term describing a sheep who has lost one or more of its permanent incisors.

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**bronchi and bronchiole** Small tubular structures that lead from the trachea to the microscopic sac-like structures, alveoli, in the lungs.



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**bronchoscope** A stiff or flexible tube with a light that is used to look inside the airways.

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**bronchoscopy** Using a bronchoscope to look inside the trachea and large bronchi.

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**buffer** A substance used in livestock rations to help resist changes in the acidity of the digestive tract. Examples: sodium bicarbonate, bentonite.

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**bulbourethral glands** An accessory sex gland of the male.

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**bulbus glandis** The rounded base of the penis.

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**bulk tank** A refrigerated milk storage tank for each dairy herd.

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**bullous pemphigoid** An immune mediated skin disease in which autoantibodies are directed against antigens in basement membrane zone.

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**bullous retinal detachment** The retina has detached from all points of contact except for around the periphery and at the optic disk.

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**buphthalmos** Enlarged eye caused by glaucoma.

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**buretrol** Buretrols are small plastic cylinders that are filled from a stock bottle, or bag, of fluids. It is much easier to see the residual volume of fluid in a rigid sided container than a flexible container.

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**butterfly catheter** A style of catheter that has a rigid needle attached to a plastic finger grip that looks like "wings" and then attached to a short piece of flexible tubing.

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**byproduct** Feeds produced as a result of industrial manufacturing, plant or animal processing. Examples: distillers grains, beet pulp, meat and bone meal, fish meal.

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**CABA** new order of CPR in which chest compressions are first applied to cause circulation of blood, then an airway for breathing is established. Used more commonly in humans and originated due to concerns of transmission of infectious diseases. In animals consider this order if the arrest is witnessed and it is known that the patient does not have underlying respiratory disease.

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**cachexia** Very thin, a synonym for emaciation.

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**Caesarian section** *Abrev: c-sxn* Surgical removal of babies.

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**calcinosis cutis** Hard crusts or white plaques in the skin of some patients with hyperadrenocorticism.

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**calcitriol** The active form of 1, 25 dihydroxycholecalciferol (vitamin D). Can be exogenously administered to patients with chronic renal failure to suppress PTH secretion by the parathyroid glands with reversal of some of the clinical manifestations and possibly a resultant slowing of the rate of progression of renal dysfunction.

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**calcium channel blocker** These drugs inhibit the movement of calcium ion across cell membranes. Calcium channel blockers are used in the treatment of certain heart conditions. In CPR, they may be used after resuscitation to protect the heart from the effects of calcium administered during CPR.

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**calculi** Stones in the kidney, urinary bladder or occasionally gall bladder.



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**calipers** A device used to measure the diameter of the testes.

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**callus** Hypertrophy of the stratum corneum especially over pressure points such as the elbow.

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**calorie** *Abrev:* kcal A measure of energy; usually expressed as kilocalorie (kcal) or megacalorie (Mcal). 1 cal = the amount of energy required to increase the temperature of 1 g of water 1 degree C.

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**canthus** corner of the eye (medial and lateral).

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**carbohydrates** Major energy providing substrates including starches, sugars, cellulose and hemicellulose. All carbohydrates contain carbon, hydrogen and oxygen, and are usually divided into two fractions - structural (fibre) and non-structural (sugars and starches).

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**carbonic anhydrase** An enzyme located in the eye and in the kidney tubules that is important in reabsorbing bicarbonate (kidney) and in the active secretion of aqueous in the eye.

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**carbonic anhydrase inhibitor** A drug that interferes with the action of the enzyme carbonic anhydrase. e.g. acetazolamide, dorzolamide (Trucept). These drugs are used to reduce aqueous production in animals with glaucoma.

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**carbuncle** Multiple cutaneous abscesses that are connected by sinuses.

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**carcinoma** A type of cancer originating from epithelial cells. Example squamous cell carcinoma originates from cells of the skin and mouth, transitional cell carcinoma originates from the cells of the bladder.

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**cardiac** A synonym for heart.

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**cardiac pump theory** In CPR, when the chest is compressed the heart underneath the chest wall is directly compressed as well, squeezing blood out into the major blood vessels so it can return to the heart and then go to the brain. CPR in animals weighing less than 7 kg is probably using the cardiac pump theory.

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**cardiomyopathy** A disease of the heart muscle. Weak heart muscle cannot pump blood normally.

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**cardiopulmonary resuscitation** *Abrev:* CPR A life saving procedure that includes the external compression of the chest wall to stimulate blood flow and breathing (by mouth to mouth or other methods) to provide oxygen.

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**cardiovascular** The organ system that includes the heart and blood vessels.

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**carrier** An animal who harbors an infectious agent but is not showing signs of disease.

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**castration** A synonym for neutering the male animal by removal of the testicles. 10/18/1999)

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**catagen** The transition phase of the hair cycle between growth (anagen) and cessation of growth (telogen).

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**cataract** Abnormal cloudiness of the lens of the eye.

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**cataract** Any opacity of the lens from a dot to complete lens opacification.

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**caudal** Toward the tail or rear of the animal.

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**caudal** Refers to the rear or in a direction toward the rear of the animal. For example the abdomen is more caudal than the chest. The opposite term is cranial meaning closer to the head of the animal.

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**cell mediated immunity** *Abrev:* CMI Immunity mediated via lymphocytes and macrophages.

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**cellular immunity** Immunity due to macrophages and natural killer cells attacking any antigen. It is not specific to one antigen.

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**central venous catheter** A long catheter with its tip placed in a large diameter vein such as jugular catheter, or a long, lateral saphenous catheter.

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**central venous pressure** *Abrev:* CVP Central venous pressure measures the ability of the right heart to accommodate the fluid load presented to it. Normal animals have a central venous pressure of less than 5 cm of water. Assuming there are no clots in the IV catheter, central venous pressures repeatedly above 10 cm of water are indicative of impending onset of edema and fluid overload. Measurement of central venous pressure requires a central catheter (jugular catheter) be in place. CVP readings can be influenced by catheter position and patency.

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**cerebellum** A smaller portion of the brain responsible for balance.

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**cerebrum** The major portion of the brain.

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**cerumen** Waxy secretion of the apocrine glands of the ear.

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**ceruminolytic agents** Agents that loosen and dissolve ear wax. Includes dioctyl sodium sulfosuccinate, squalene, propylene glycol, carbamide peroxide, and others.

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**cervicitis** Inflammation of the cervix.

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**cervix** The neck of the uterus.

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**cervix** Part of the female reproductive tract located between the vagina and uterus.

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**cestodes** Tape worms.

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**chaff** Husks or other seed coverings and other plant parts separated from seed during harvest or processing.

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**Chediak - Higashi syndrome** A macrophage deficiency.

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**cheloid** A type of hypertrophied scar.

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**chemical defibrillator** In the absence of an electrical defibrillator machine, certain drugs may be used in an attempt to reverse the cardiac arrhythmia of atrial fibrillation.

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**chemosis** Edema of the conjunctiva.

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**chemotherapy** Drugs used in the treatment of cancer.

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**cherry eye** Prolapse of the third eyelid gland.

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**chiggers** Common name for Trombiculidiasis.

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**chlorhexidine** Novalsan. Antibacterial, antifungal, and viricidal. Use primarily as soaks or in conjunction with whirlpool therapy.

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**chlorpheniramine** An antihistamine.

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**choanal atresia** A failure of a separation to form between the nasal cavity and the nasopharynx. A common birth defect in the crias.

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**cholangitis** Inflammation of the gallbladder.

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**chorioiditis** Inflammation of the choroid.

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**chorioretinitis** Inflammation affecting the choroid and retina causing choroidal, +/- retinal, blood vessels to become leaky and either transudative fluid or exudative fluid and cells to leak into the space between the choroid and retina, elevating the retina.

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**choroid** The posterior uvea lying between the sclera and retina, and joining the ciliary body anteriorly. The choroid provides nutrition to the outer layers of the retina and contains the tapetum.

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**chronic** A disease or condition that has been present for several weeks or longer.

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**chronic** Exposure to the poison occurs over a period of weeks, months, or years; onset of signs may be sudden and dramatic, or can be insidious like a slow loss in body condition or reduced productivity.

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**chronic interstitial nephritis** *Abrev:* CIN Chronic interstitial nephritis (CIN) is similar to the term end stage renal disease (ESRD) in that it is a non specific histological finding on renal biopsy and may be the end result of renal disease of any etiology.

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**chronic renal disease** *Abrev:* CRD Irreversible renal disease caused by damage to a large part of both kidneys. Two thirds of both kidneys must be damaged before the animal loses the ability to concentrate and dilute urine and 75% of both kidneys must be destroyed before azotemia is observed.

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**chronological records** Records that are organized by arranging all the data in the record in the order in which it was collected.

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**chrysotherapy** Gold salt therapy used in treatment of immune mediated disorders. Solganol®-Schering Co.

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**cilia** Eyelashes

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**ciliary body** The section of uvea between the iris and choroid. It functions to produce aqueous and is the site of attachment for the lens zonules. Contraction of the ciliary body muscle results in lens accommodation for focusing.

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**cirrhosis** Scar tissue in the liver. Severe cirrhosis causes liver failure.

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**clean wool** Wool after it has been "scoured" to remove the above materials.

**clear media** Includes the aqueous, lens and vitreous.



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**clemastine** Tavist an over the counter antihistamine.

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**clinical study** A clinical study or clinical trial is a test of a new drug or procedure that is being evaluated for effectiveness in animals with naturally occurring disease. In some cases the effectiveness of the new drug or procedure is compared with currently available treatments.

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**Clinimix™** A pre-made solution used in partial parenteral solution.

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**clone** The progeny of a single cell.

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**clostridium** A group of bacteria that produce spores. One type of clostridium causes tetanus.

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**cognitive-evaluative dimension of pain** This relates to prior experience, level of anxiety, and conditioned responses that arise from the cerebral cortex and their influence on response to pain.

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**cold hemagglutination disease** *Abrev: CHD* A form of autoimmune hemolytic anemia in which there is formation of cold acting anti-erythrocyte antibodies (IgM) resulting in agglutination of red cells in areas exposed to cold surface temperatures such as the extremities, ear margins and nose.

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**colic** Abdominal pain.

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**colic** Abdominal pain not necessarily associated with the digestive system; any painful abdominal stucture can cause colic.

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**colic** Intense abdominal pain. 7/5/2001)

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**colisepticemic E. coli** E. coli that spreads from the gut through the calf's body and causes abscesses in the brain, eyes, kidneys, and joints. This occurs when the newborn calf ingests it in manure, mud, or other material before or along with getting colostrum. 11/16/1999)

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**colitis** Inflammation of the large intestine (colon). 10/18/1999)

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**collagenases** Enzymes secreted by certain bacteria that break down collagen and inhibit wound healing. 10/21/1999)

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**colloid** Microscopic particles suspended in a solution. The particles in a colloidal solution are large in molecular weight and can pull fluid into the intravascular space. Because the particles are large they stay in the vascular space longer than crystalloids and therefore exert their effect for a longer time. 5/19/2003)

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**colloidal solutions** Colloidal solutions are solutions that contain large particles. These large particles are either proteins or complex sugars, such as dextrans or hetastarches. Colloidal solutions because they are physically large molecules, will stay in the bloodstream and hold water in the bloodstream by their oncotic effect. 11/30/1999)

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**colloids** Colloidal solutions contain large particles, particles in excess of 50,000 molecular weight units. These particles may be proteins or complex sugars. 11/29/1999)

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**colon** Part of the large intestine. 10/18/1999)

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**colostrum** The accumulated secretions of the mammary gland over the last few weeks of pregnancy. It is rich in IgG (65-90%) with variable levels of IgA and IgM. Form of passively acquired immunity (short-lived). 10/18/1999)



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**colostrum** Milk that is high in protective antibody and necessary for successful passive transfer. 11/2/1999)

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**colostrum** The milk secreted by female mammals for the first few days after birth. It is particularly rich in nutrients and antibodies essential for newborn survival. 2/11/2000)

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**comedo (comedones)** Keratin and dried sebum plugging a hair follicle. 2/16/2001)

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**commensal** A relationship where one party gains but at no cost to the other. 10/26/1999)

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**commensalism** Parasitic state in which the parasite lives with the animal without causing disease. 10/18/1999)

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**commodity feed** A feed that has high energy, and often a high protein content. 2/11/2000)

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**complement** A protein complex consisting of enzymes that facilitate the reaction of antibody with antigen resulting in destruction of cells or invading bacteria. 10/18/1999)

---

**complete blood count** *Abrev: CBC* Also known as a CBC. The number of red blood cells and white blood cells in the blood stream. 10/18/1999)

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**complete feed** A thoroughly blended mixture of different feed ingredients formulated to meet specific nutrient requirements. 2/11/2000)

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**compound** To mix components following a "recipe" or protocol. 5/19/2003)



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**compounding** To create a medication by combining parts or to change the formulation of a drug, for example from tablet to liquid. 2/14/2003)

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**computerized tomography scan** *Abrev: CT* Many x-ray pictures are taken during a CT scan. A computer is used to put the x-ray pictures together to obtain a 3-dimensional view of a structure. 11/16/1999)

---

**concentrate** A classification of feedstuffs high in energy and low in fibre; usually further divided into energy and protein concentrates. Often used interchangeably with supplement. Examples: corn, barley, soybeans. 2/11/2000)

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**confirmed sire** One that has been used for breeding before and has known good fertility. 7/5/2001)

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**congenital** A defect that is present at birth. The defect may either be inherited or be caused by something during gestation. 7/5/2001)

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**congenital** Present at birth. May be hereditary or acquired during gestation. 10/24/2000)

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**conjunctiva** The pink tissues surrounding the eye. 10/18/1999)

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**conjunctiva** The thin, moist, mucus membrane that lines the inside of the eyelids (palpebral conjunctiva) and curves around at the fornix to cover the eyeball up to the cornea (bulbar conjunctiva) ventrally it also covers both sides of the nictitans 4/17/2001)

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**conjunctivitis** Inflammation of the pink tissues (conjunctiva) surrounding the eye. 10/18/1999)

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**constipation** Excessively firm stool. 10/18/1999)

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**contact dermatitis** Inflammation of the skin from contact with an irritant. 2/16/2001)

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**contagious** An infection capable of spread amongst animals by direct contact, e.g. Pasteurella spp. in nasal droplets 1/1/1900)

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**contagious disease** A disease that is capable of being spread amongst animals by direct contact, e.g. Pasteurella spp. in nasal droplets. 1

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**contagious mastitis** Mastitis that is caused by coagulate negative Staphylococci. 11/2/1999)

---

**contrast** A dye given by mouth or in the vein that will make some organs more visible on an x-ray (radiograph). 10/18/1999)

---

**controlled breeding** Also called a timed breeding technique. Modification of the physiology of the ovaries in such a way that one can predict exactly when that female is going to be ready and breed her only once. 7/5/2001)

---

**contusion** Bruise. 10/18/1999)

---

**coprophagia** Eating feces (stool). 10/18/1999)

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**copulation** Insertion of the penis into the female reproductive tract. 7/3/2001)

---

**core vaccine** A vaccine that should be administered routinely. 2/13/2003)



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**corneal degeneration** After certain corneal or scleral injuries, lipid or cholesterol can be deposited in the cornea. 4/18/2001)

---

**corneal reflex** Used to assess corneal sensation. 4/18/2001)

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**corneal sequestrum** A focal area of collagen degeneration in the cornea with brown to black discoloration. 4/18/2001)

---

**corneoscleral transposition** A surgical technique used to patch conjunctiva over a corneal ulcer. 4/18/2001)

---

**cornification** The angular appearance of epithelial cells during estrus under the influence of estrogen. 2/28/2001)

---

**cornification** The process of changes in vaginal epithelial cells under the influence of estrogen. 9/1/2000)

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**coronary band** The tissue right around the top of the hoof, similar to a fingernail cuticle. 10/21/1999)

---

**coronavirus** A single stranded RNA virus 2/13/2003)

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**corpora nigra** Structures present mainly on the upper pupil margin in horses, upper and lower margins in the lamb. Quite obvious and elaborate on llamas and alpacas. Their function is not really known. 4/18/2001)

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**corpus hemorrhagicum** Also called a hemorrhagic follicle. A follicle that has been present on the ovary and has not been given the chance to ovulate so it will continue growing and becomes large and cyst-like and bleeds inside. 7/3/2001)

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**corpus luteum** A structure in the ovary that produces progesterone. 7/5/2001)

---

**corticosteroid** A general term for drugs that act like the hormone, cortisol. Also called a glucocorticoid. 10/18/1999)

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**cortisol** A hormone produced by the adrenal gland that affects the function of most organs in the body. Some primary functions are to increase blood sugar and to reduce inflammation. 10/18/1999)

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**cotyledonary type of placenta** A type of placenta where the connection between the placenta and the fetus is based on buttons of tissue. Cattle and sheep have this type of placentation. 11/2/1999)

---

**COX inhibitor** Drugs that block cyclooxygenase and that are intended to relieve pain and inflammation. 6/19/2003)

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**cranial** Toward the head. 7/3/2001)

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**cranial** Refers to the head or in a direction toward the front of the animal. For example the chest is more cranial than the abdomen. The opposite term is caudal meaning closer to the rear of the animal. 10/18/1999)

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**creep area** An area where new born piglets crawl to, to keep warm and avoid being accidentally crushed by their mother. 11/15/1999)

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**crude protein** An estimate of the total protein content of a feed; determined by analyzing the nitrogen content of the feed and multiplying the result by 6.25. Crude protein includes true protein and other nitrogen-containing substances such as ammonia, amino acids, nitrates. 2/11/2000)

---

**crust** Dried exudate on the skin surface. 2/16/2001)

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**crutching** Removing the wool from around the breech area. 2/11/2000)

---

**cryoprotectant** A substance such as glycerol which is added to semen to protect the sperm membrane from injury by ice crystals formed during the freezing and thawing process. 8/28/2000)

---

**cryptorchid** A condition seen in intact male animals where a testicle failed to descend into the scrotum. 10/21/1999)

---

**cryptorchidism** Failure of one or both testes to descend into the scrotal sac. 9/1/2000)

---

**cryptorchidism** A condition in which one or both testes are not located in the scrotum. 7/5/2001)

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**crystalloid** A solution containing small particles. The particles can pass through a semipermeable membrane. Lactated Ringers is an example of a crystalloid solution. 5/19/2003)

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**crystalloids** Crystalloid solutions are solutions that contain small particles, particles with molecular weights of less than a few 100 molecular weight units. Examples of crystalloid solutions are lactated Ringer's solution, Ringer's, and the dextrose and saline containing solutions. 11/29/1999)

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**CSAW** Center for the Study of Animal Well-being 12/27/1999)

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**culture** Evaluating a sample of fluid or tissue for bacterial growth. 7/5/2001)

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**Cushing's Disease** A disease of the adrenal gland that produces too much of the hormone cortisol. Too much cortisol causes signs including drinking, eating and urinating increased amounts and loss of hair on the body. Also called hyperadrenocorticism. 10/12/1999)

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**cutaneous lupus erythematosus** *Abrev:* CLE Discoid lupus. A form of systemic lupus erythematosus which only involves the skin.

---

**cutaneous vasculitis** Skin lesions caused by deposition and subsequent activation of soluble immune complexes along the basement membrane of blood vessels. 2/16/2001)

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**cycle** Events that happen in the female such as ovulation, hormone production, receptivity, etc. In camelids the cycle does not follow regular time periods as it does in horses or cattle. 7/3/2001)

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**cyclitis** Inflammation of the ciliary body. 4/18/2001)

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**cyclooxygenase** *Abrev:* COX An enzyme involved in the production of prostaglandins from arachidonic acid in cell membranes. There are 2 forms, COX 1 & COX 2. COX 2 plays a greater role in inflammation. 6/19/2003)

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**cyclocryotherapy** A freezing probe is applied to sclera to destroy the underlying ciliary body in treatment of glaucoma. 4/18/2001)

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**cyclophosphamide** Trade name is Cytoxan®-Mead Johnson. A chemotherapy drug also used in the treatment of immune mediated diseases.

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**cycloplegic** A drug that paralyses the ciliary muscle and helps reduce pain. 4/18/2001)

---

**cyst** A fluid-filled structure. 7/5/2001)

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**cystic endometrial hyperplasia** *Abrev: CEH* Morphological changes occurring in the uterus under the influence progesterone secreted from the corpus lutei (CLs) of the ovaries during diestrus. 1/12/2001)

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**cystitis** Inflammation of the bladder. 10/18/1999)

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**cystocercus** The larval stage of a tapeworm encysted in muscle. 10/26/1999)

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**cythioate** Proban® - Haver) an oral organophosphate. 2/15/2001)

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**cytokine** A protein secreted by cells, that carries a signal to other cells. 2/13/2003)

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**cytokines/interleukins** regulatory proteins secreted primarily by lymphocytes to facilitate interaction between other lymphocytes and macrophages e.g. IL-2, IL-12, CSF, TNF. 10/18/1999)

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**cytology** Looking at normal and abnormal cells with a microscope. 10/18/1999)

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**cytology** The microscopic evaluation of cells removed from an organ or tissue. 2/28/2001)



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**cytoplasmic droplet** A round drop of cytoplasm that moves from the neck of the sperm down its tail and is gone by the time normal sperm are ejaculated. *10/24/2000)*

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**dacryocystitis** Inflammation of the lacrimal sac usually as a result of infection. *4/18/2001)*

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**dacryocystorhinography** A technique in which radiopaque contrast material is injected into the punctum and flushed through the nasolacrimal duct, followed by lateral and VD radiographic views of the skull, to evaluate the nasolacrimal system and surrounding bony structures. *4/18/2001)*

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**daltons** A term used to indicate a unit of mass equal to 1/12 the mass of a carbon-12 atom. *5/19/2003)*

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**DAMN IT acronym** A method of looking at possible causes for a problem.

D= degenerative

A = anomalies or autoimmune

M= metabolic

N = neoplasia or nutritional

I = inflammation or infectious or immune mediated or iatrogenic

T= toxic or traumatic idiopathic *11/29/1999)*

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**DAMNIT** A acronym that serves as a memory aid to identify potential causes for a patient's problems. *10/20/2000)*

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**dapsone** Diaminodiphenylsulfon, Alvosulfon®. Used in the treatment of subcorneal pustular dermatosis. *2/16/2001)*

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**data base** The first component of a problem-oriented record in which information is gathered. There are several types of data bases. *10/19/2000)*



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**data base** The data base is information that is collected by the user of the medical record, either the veterinarian or a technician. In order to collect a similar amount of baseline information about all patients, and to avoid omissions, the minimum data base should be defined in advance and should always be collected. The data base may include laboratory tests, radiographs, or other diagnostic tests. 11/29/1999)

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**days in milk** The number of days a cow has been milking in her current lactation, same as days since fresh. 2/11/2000)

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**days open** The number of days between calving (parturition) and conception. Should be less than 120 days. 2/11/2000)

---

**dead-end host** It can not be transmitted from human to human. Example: brucellosis. 10/26/1999)

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**debride** To clean out dead or dying tissue from a wound. 10/21/1999)

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**deciduous teeth** Non-permanent teeth(baby teeth)that will be shed and replaced with permanent adult teeth. 2/11/2000)

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**decubital ulcers** Pressure sores, usually seen over bony prominences. 10/21/1999)

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**deep mycoses** Diseases including Histoplasmosis, Blastomycosis, Coccidioidomycosis and Cryptococcosis. 2/15/2001)

---

**defecation** Passing of stool. 10/24/2000)

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**definitive host** Where sexual reproduction takes place. 10/26/1999)

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**degradable intake protein** *Abrev:* DIP Portion of intake protein that is degraded (broken down) by rumen microbes to ammonia and amino acids. DIP is used for microbial synthesis. 2/11/2000)

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**dehydration** An inadequate amount of fluid in the body. The minimum amount of dehydration that can be detected is about 5% loss of total body weight as fluid loss. 11/29/1999)

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**dehydration** Loss of fluid from the bloodstream and tissues. 10/18/1999)

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**delayed wound closure** This is a wound you will suture but not immediately; first you debride the wound several times through bandage changes to make it more amenable to closing. 10/21/1999)

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**demodicosis generalized** Also called the pustular form. Many small focal areas of involvement or a diffuse generalized distribution. Lesions include generalized erythema, crusting, scaling and patchy to diffuse alopecia. 2/15/2001)

---

**demodicosis localized** Also called squamous. One or more well circumscribed areas of alopecia with mild scaling and erythema usually located on the forelimbs, face and on periocular skin. 2/15/2001)

---

**dermatitis** Inflammation of the skin. 10/18/1999)

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**dermatitis herpetiformis** A pruritic, vesiculoulcerative dermatitis which is poorly documented in veterinary medicine and is associated with IgA deposition and gluten enteropathies in man. 2/16/2001)

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**dermatologic examination** The dermatologic exam should include examination of the entire hair coat, careful palpation of the skin, careful examination of the skin surface over several areas of the body, visual examination (otoscopic) of the external ear canals, and inspection of the foot pads. In many cases it is helpful to clip hair from the patient so that specific lesions may be seen more clearly. It is also helpful to have a form for the medical record, on which lesions may be drawn and recorded, as well as other information. 2/15/2001)

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**dermatomyositis** A immune-mediated, familial dermatopathy suggested to be a primary vasculopathy with secondary dermatitis and myositis. Breed predilection includes Collies and Shetland Sheepdogs. 2/16/2001)

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**dermatophilosis** Pyoderma caused by the aerobic and facultative anaerobic actinomycete: *Dermatophilus congolensis*. Also called Streptotricosis, rain scald, and streptothricosis (horses) 2/15/2001)

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**dermatophyte test medium** Abrev: DTM Agar for growing fungi. Dermatophyte test media (DTM) contains phenol red as a pH indicator and substances to inhibit growth of saprophytic fungi and bacteria. 2/15/2001)

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**dermatophytosis** Ringworm. Dermatophytes live and grow only on non-viable keratinized tissue (skin, hair, nails). They will not grow in living cells. 2/15/2001)

---

**dermis** The layer of skin between the epidermis and the subcutaneous tissues. 2/16/2001)

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**dermoid** A piece of skin growing on the cornea. 4/18/2001)

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**Descemet's membrane** A clear membrane forming the inner boundary of the cornea. 4/17/2001)

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**descemetocoele** Very deep ulcers right down to decemets membrane. 4/18/2001)



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**dextran** High molecular weight polysaccharides used to expand blood volume. A colloid. Dextrans have an average molecular weight of 40,000 daltons (Dextran 40) or 75,000 daltons (Dextran 70). 5/19/2003)

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**dextrose** Another term for sugar. 10/18/1999)

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**dextrose 5%** *Abrev:* D5 W5% dextrose is hypotonic relative to extracellular fluid. It contains only dextrose, no electrolytes. 5% dextrose is a constituent of most maintenance solutions. It can be used a sole fluid for rehydration for animals who cannot tolerate the administration of sodium, such as those with cardiac disease. More commonly, it is used as part of the rehydration solution in these sodium intolerant animals, used in combination with lactated Ringer's or sodium chloride. 11/30/1999)

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**dextrose hypertonic** Hypertonic dextrose is any percentage of dextrose which has an osmolality in excess of extracellular fluid. Dextrose is available in several commercial strengths. Any concentration of dextrose can be created by adding additional dextrose to a commercial solution. The predominant use of hypertonic dextrose solutions is as a calorie source in total parenteral nutrition solutions. There is also an indication to promote urine flow in patients with oliguric acute renal failure. TPN solutions containing 50% dextrose are extremely hypertonic and can cause an irritation to the blood vessel if given in a small peripheral vein, such as cephalic or saphenous. Hypertonic solutions are typically given in larger veins such as the jugular vein in which blood flow is faster to dilute the hypertonicity of the infused solution and reduce irritation to the lining of the blood vessel. 11/30/1999)

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**diabetes mellitus** Also known as sugar diabetes. An insufficient amount of insulin is produced by the pancreas resulting in a high blood sugar level. 10/18/1999)

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**diagnostic plans** Diagnostic plans are made in order to determine if a certain disease is present. For example you may plan to perform bile acid analyses to determine if liver failure is present. 11/29/1999)

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**diagnostic tests** These are tests performed to find the cause of a pet's problem. Diagnostic tests may include analysis of blood, urine, and other body fluids; x-rays (the correct term is radiographs); biopsies, etc. 10/18/1999)

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**diamond eyes** A combination of severe entropion and ectropion involving both upper and lower eyelids. Most commonly seen in Saint Bernard dogs. 5/25/2000)

---

**diarrhea** A stool that is looser than normal. 10/18/1999)

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**diestrus** The stage of the estrous cycle which follows estrus. In the bitch diestrus lasts 62-63 days from the LH peak. 8/29/2000)

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**dietary history** This includes: the diet the animal is currently receiving and for how long? Have they ever home cooked a hypoallergenic diet (potato and pinto beans, lamb and rice)? 2/15/2001)

---

**dietary scours** When the calf is getting so much nutrient intake they can not absorb it all and it is fermenting in the colon producing gassy, large volume, smelly diarrhea. 11/16/1999)

---

**Diff-Quik stain** A 3-step staining process to stain cytology samples. 2/28/2001)

---

**differential diagnosis** A possible cause for a patient's problem. Also called a rule out. 10/20/2000)

---

**differential diagnosis** Differential diagnoses are also known as rule-outs and are possible causes for the problems displayed by a patient. For example, kidney failure is one possible cause for polyuria in a dog or cat. 11/29/1999)

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**digestibility** A measure of the extent a feed or nutrient is digested; usually expressed as a percent. 2/11/2000)

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**digestible energy** *Abrev:* DE Energy that is available to the animal by digestion; measured as the difference between gross energy content of a feed and the energy contained in the animal's feces (gross energy minus fecal energy.) 2/11/2000)

---

**digestion** The changes that occur to a feed within the animal's digestive tract to prepare it for absorption and use. 2/11/2000)

---

**digestive system** An organ system that absorbs and digests food. The digestive system includes the esophagus, stomach, intestine, liver and pancreas. 10/18/1999)

---

**digital examination** Using gloved fingers to examine. Usually refers to rectal or vaginal exams. 7/5/2001)

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**digital manipulation** Manually stimulating the penis in order to obtain a semen sample for analysis. 10/2/2000)

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**dihydrotestosterone** *Abrev:* DTH The form of testosterone used by the prostate gland. 10/24/2000)

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**dimensions of pain** There are 3 dimensions of pain: sensory-discriminative, motivational-affective and cognitive-evaluative, which influence how an individual interprets and responds to a painful stimulus. 6/19/2003)

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**dimethyl sulfoxide** *Abrev:* DMSO An organic solvent used to deliver other substances that themselves are less soluble. 5/19/2003)

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**diphenhydramine HCL** Benadryl. An antihistamine. 2/15/2001)

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**direct lifecycle** There is a single host and the host animal is the animal that is being infected. 10/26/1999)

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**direct lifecycle** Single host direct transmission from the environment. 10/26/1999)

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**discharge summary** A written overview of the evaluation of a patient written in lay terms for the animal owner. The summary includes what was done to the animal, what were the results of tests and what treatment is to be performed at home and how to do it. 10/20/2000)

---

**discoïd lupus erythematosus** *Abrev:* DLE A form of systemic lupus erythematosus which only involves the skin. 2/16/2001)

---

**disease triangle** Interactions between the host, the pathogen, and the environment. 11/2/1999)

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**disinfectant** Germicidal chemical that destroys microorganisms and the potential infectivity of a material 7/19/1999)

---

**disinfectant** A germicidal chemical that destroys microorganisms and the potential infectivity of a material. 10/14/1999)

---

**disinfection** To destroy germs by using chemicals (disinfectants) or by physical means such as high temperature. 10/18/1999)

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**diskospondylitis** Infection of the intervertebral disk with concurrent osteomyelitis of contiguous vertebrae. 6/19/2003)



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**disseminated intravascular coagulation** *Abrev:* DIC Concurrent stimulation of the clotting and fibrinolytic systems by a disease leading to either thrombosis or abnormal bleeding. 5/19/2003)

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**distichiasis** An extra row of cilia or eyelashes grow from the meibomian gland openings on the eyelid margin. 4/18/2001)

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**diuretics** Drugs that increase the amount of urine produced. 10/18/1999)

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**Domboro's solution** Aluminum acetate solution. A topical drying agent (astringent). 2/15/2001)

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**dominant follicle** The largest follicle on the ovary that secretes hormones that will suppress the other follicles so that the female will have only one egg and will prevent twinning. 7/3/2001)

---

**doxapram** A respiratory stimulant. No longer recommended for use in CPR. 5/19/2003)

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**Dr. Lawrence Weed** A physician who developed the problem oriented medical record and problem oriented approach to patient care in the 1960's. 10/20/2000)

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**draft** Separate sheep into groups. 2/11/2000)

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**dry matter** Feed residue left after all moisture has been removed by drying (i.e., 100% dry matter). 2/11/2000)

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**dry matter basis** An expression of feed nutrient content after the moisture has been removed by drying. Used to compare nutrient composition or animal intake of feeds differing in moisture content. 2/11/2000)

---

**dry period** A period of 45-60 days when lactation is halted before the next lactation begins. The dry period is required for rejuvenation of secretory parenchyma. 2/11/2000)

---

**duodenum** The portion of the intestine directly attached to the stomach. 10/18/1999)

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**dysmature cria** A cria that has developed too slow inside the uterus. They are born weak and lacking vigor. 7/5/2001)

---

**dysphagia** Difficulty eating and swallowing. 10/18/1999)

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**dysphoria** Agitation or restlessness. 6/19/2003)

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**dyspnea** Difficulty breathing. 10/18/1999)

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**dystocia** A problem birth. 11/16/1999)

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**dystocia** Difficult birth. 11/2/1999)

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**dysuria** Difficulty urinating. 10/18/1999)

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**echocardiography** An ultrasound exam of the heart. Passing sound waves through the heart to see the internal structure of the heart. A plain radiograph (x-ray) only shows the shape of the heart but not its internal structure. *10/18/1999)*

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**eclampsia** Low blood calcium occurring in female dogs and cats at the end of gestation, or more commonly during early lactation. Small breed dogs are more commonly affected. Low calcium causes signs of muscle tetany. *11/30/1999)*

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**ECP** A type of estrogen sometimes used to mismate. *2/28/2001)*

---

**ectoparasites** Parasites that reside on the skin. *2/16/2001)*

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**ectoparasite** They live outside of the body. Many of the arthropod parasites are ectoparasites; they land on your skin and cause an infestation. *10/26/1999)*

---

**ectopic** In an abnormal location. *7/5/2001)*

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**ectopic cilia** Abnormal eyelashes originating from the upper lid on the conjunctival side, usually just a few millimeters in from the eyelid margin, about mid way along the upper lid. *4/18/2001)*

---

**edema** The abnormal accumulation of fluid in a tissue or cavity. *7/5/2001)*

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**edema** The presence of abnormally large amounts of fluid in the interstitial tissue spaces of the body. Edema fluid may accumulate in the subcutaneous tissues, peritoneal cavity (ascites), pleural cavity (hydrothorax) or pericardial sac (hydropericardium). *5/19/2003)*

---



**edema** The presence of abnormally large amounts of fluid in the interstitial tissue spaces of the body. Edema fluid may accumulate in the subcutaneous tissues, peritoneal cavity (ascites), pleural cavity (hydrothorax) or pericardial sac (hydropericardium). 5/19/2003)

---

**edema** The accumulation of fluid in abnormal locations in the body. 10/18/1999)

---

**ejaculate** The movement of semen through the urethra to outside the penis. 7/5/2001)

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**ejaculation** The ejection of sperm from the penis. 10/24/2000)

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**electrocardiography** *Abrev:* ECG A test that measures the electrical activity of the heart. ECG or EKG. 10/18/1999)

---

**electroejaculation** Using an electrical stimulus to cause the male to ejaculate semen. 7/5/2001)

---

**electrolytes** A general term for sodium, potassium, chloride and magnesium. 11/29/1999)

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**electroretinography** A diagnostic technique used to evaluate the function of the photoreceptors, specifically used to diagnose retinal degeneration. 4/18/2001)

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**elizabethan collar** A large plastic collar that is placed over the head of a dog or cat. It has a cone shape and is used to keep them from licking or chewing on themselves. 10/18/1999)

---

**emaciation** Severe weight loss. Extremely thin. Also called cachexia. 10/18/1999)

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**embryo** The early stages of development of a baby in the uterus. 7/5/2001)



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**embryonic vesicle** The sac containing the embryo which later in pregnancy develops into a fetus. 7/5/2001)

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**emesis** A synonym for vomiting. 10/18/1999)

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**emollient** A softening agent. 2/16/2001)

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**encephalitis** Inflammation of the brain. 10/18/1999)

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**end stage renal disease** *Abrev:* esrd Advanced, irreversible chronic renal disease. Also a non-specific histologic finding on renal biopsy that may be the end result of renal disease of any etiology. 9/27/1999)

---

**end-tidal CO2** Monitoring CO2 of exhaled gases provides information about the patient's approximate CO2 levels and is an indirect indicator of cardiac output and blood flow. 5/19/2003)

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**endemic disease** An infection that is engrained in a particular area. 10/18/1999)

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**endocrine** The body system that produces hormones. Endocrine organs include the pancreas, thyroid gland, parathyroid glands, and adrenal glands. Diseases of the endocrine system may lead to the production of too much or too little hormone. 10/18/1999)

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**endometritis** Uterine inflammation or infection due to bacteria or fungi. 7/5/2001)

---

**endoparasites** They live within the animal. 10/26/1999)





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**endorphin** A morphine-like peptide that is produced in the brain and which binds to certain receptors to reduce the sensation of pain. 6/18/2003)

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**endoscope** A long, flexible lighted tube used to see inside structures. 2/28/2001)

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**endoscopy** Passing an instrument into a cavity to see the insides. 7/5/2001)

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**endothelial dystrophy** An inherited condition seen mainly in older dogs characterized by death of endothelial cells allowing water to enter the stroma resulting in permanent edema. 4/18/2001)

---

**endothelium** The epithelial cells lining the inside of a blood vessel. 5/19/2003)

---

**endotoxemia** A type of shock caused by absorbing endotoxin which is released from some types of bacteria in the intestine when those bacteria die. 12/22/2000)

---

**endotoxin** A substance released from some types of bacteria in the intestine that when absorbed into the blood causes fever and shock called endotoxic shock. 12/22/2000)

---

**energy** A nutrient essential for maintenance, growth, production and reproduction. Energy is required in larger amounts than any other nutrient except water, and is often the limiting factor in livestock production. 2/11/2000)

---

**energy terminology** Gross Energy (GE) The total combustible energy in a feed, determined by measuring the amount of heat produced when a feed sample is completely burnt in a bomb calorimeter. 2/11/2000)

---



**enophthalmos** Retraction of globe into the orbit resulting in a sunken eye. 4/18/2001)

---

**enteral** Delivery of drugs or nutrients to the intestinal tract by deposition in the mouth, stomach or jejunum. 5/19/2003)

---

**enteric** A pathogen that is related to E. coli. 11/15/1999)

---

**enteropathogenic E. coli** Specific strains of E. coli that attach very tightly to gut wall and secrete various toxins, causing both excess secretion and malabsorption as well as general systemic effects on the calf. 11/16/1999)

---

**enterotoxemia** Clostridial disease where organisms produce a toxin that causes a gangrene or necrotizing affect to the small intestinal tract of the animal. 11/2/1999)

---

**enterotoxemia** A highly fatal disease related to the proliferation of gram negative organisms in the intestine of susceptible animals. 2/10/2000)

---

**enterotoxigenic E. coli** A specific strain K99 that attaches to intestinal cells and causes a hypersecretory diarrhea. 11/16/1999)

---

**entropion** Inversion or turning inward. 5/25/2000)

---

**enucleation** Removing the eye from the orbit: leaves most of the orbital contents behind. 4/18/2001)

---

**environmental history** This includes a travel history of the animal, a description of the home environment, the percentage of time the patient spends indoors vs outdoors, and the presence of other pets in the household. 2/15/2001)



---

**environmental mastitis** Mastitis caused by coliforms and environmental Streptococci. 11/2/1999)

---

**enzyme** A complex protein compound produced in living cells which speeds up chemical reactions without itself being changed or destroyed. It is added to animal feeds to supplement low enzyme production by some young animals or to improve utilization of feeds. 2/11/2000)

---

**enzyme linked immunosorbant assay** *Abrev:* ELISA An immunologic test that uses enzyme linked antiglobulins. 4/16/2001)

---

**enzymes** A substance that makes a chemical process faster. For example digestive enzymes break down food to hasten the process of digestion. 10/18/1999)

---

**eosinophil** A type of white blood cell observed in increased numbers in allergies. 10/18/1999)

---

**epidemiologists** Scientists that study disease in its natural habitat, rather than in a controlled laboratory environment. 7/19/1999)

---

**epidemiology** The study of health and disease in populations of animals. 7/19/1999)

---

**epidemiology** The study of disease progression. 10/18/1999)

---

**epidermal membrane** Also called the fourth membrane. A membrane that covers the cria entirely at birth. 7/5/2001)

---



**epidermis** The outer most layer of skin which is made of sequential layers called the stratum corneum, stratum granulosa, stratum spinosum, stratum basale, and basal lamina. 10/21/1999)

---

**epidermis** The top layer of skin above the dermis. 2/16/2001)

---

**epididymis** A structure that is connected to the testicles and stores sperm prior to ejaculation. 10/24/2000)

---

**epididymis** A convoluted, tubular structure connected to the testes that stores sperm. 7/5/2001)

---

**epididymitis** Inflammation of the epididymis often resulting in infertility in rams. 11/2/1999)

---

**epidural anesthesia** Injection of an anesthetic agent into the space outside the dura mater of the spinal cord. 2/13/2003)

---

**epilate** Removing hair. 2/16/2001)

---

**epinephrine** A vasopressor drug which via alpha stimulation increases systemic vascular resistance and improves coronary and brain blood flow. 5/19/2003)

---

**epiphora** Excessive tearing. 5/25/2000)

---

**epistaxis** Bloody nose. 10/18/1999)

---

**epithelial cells** Cells that line the surface of an organ such as the epithelial cells lining the vagina. 2/28/2001)



---

**epitope** The site on a bacteria that specific antibody recognizes and binds to. 10/19/1999)

---

**equitainer** A container originally designed for shipping horse semen; also used to maintain temperature control of semen from other species. 2/16/2001)

---

**erythema multiforme** *Abrev:* EM An acute, self-limiting eruption of the skin and mucous membranes characterized by distinctive gross lesions and a diagnostic sequence of pathologic changes. 2/16/2001)

---

**erythrocyte** *Abrev:* RBC Red blood cell. 10/18/1999)

---

**escape rhythm** When the SA node is firing at an abnormally slow rate, another location in the heart takes over pacing the heart. This may be the AV node or a ventricular focus. 5/19/2003)

---

**esophagus** A muscular tube leading from the mouth to the stomach. 10/18/1999)

---

**essential amino acids** Amino acids that must be supplied in the diet, as the animal either cannot synthesize them or cannot synthesize them in sufficient quantities to meet requirements. 2/11/2000)

---

**essential host** Humans are an essential element of the organisms life cycle. Example: Taeniasis - cysticercosis. 10/26/1999)

---

**estimated crude protein from non-protein source** *Abrev:* ECP from NPS Non-protein nitrogen sources such as urea or ammonia; used in ruminant diets in limited amounts to enhance dietary protein levels. 2/11/2000)

---



**estrogen** Female hormone produced by follicles on the ovary. 2/28/2001)

---

**estrogen** The hormone that makes a female receptive to the male. 7/5/2001)

---

**estrous** Refers to the entire reproductive cycle compared to estrus which refers to the phase of the cycle that follows proestrus. 8/29/2000)

---

**estrous cycle** Describes all parts of the heat cycle whereas estrus is just the stage of the heat cycle during which the female is receptive to the male. 2/28/2001)

---

**ether extract laboratory test** A test to measure the total fat content of a feed. 2/11/2000)

---

**ethyl lactate** Etiderm®, Virbac. A topical agent that alters follicular environment to reduce bacterial flora. 2/15/2001)

---

**excoriation** Superficial loss of the epidermis caused by physical damage such as scratching. 2/16/2001)

---

**exenteration** Removal of the entire orbital contents, the globe and everything within the orbit. 4/18/2001

---

**exposure** Exposure does not equal poisoning, it is the dose. If you smell ammonia you have been exposed but you have not been poisoned with ammonia gas. 10/21/1999)

---

**extracellular fluid** *Abrev:* ECF Includes fluid around cells and in the plasma. Comprises 1/3 of total body water. 11/29/1999)

---



**extracranial** Outside of the head. 11/16/1999)

---

**eyelid agenesis** Born without part of the upper eyelids 4/18/2001)

---

**facial fold trichiasis** Seen in brachycephalic breeds that have a large facial fold and the hair from the facial fold touches the medial aspect of the cornea. 4/18/2001)

---

**fat** A term used in a general sense to refer to both fats and oils. Fat supplied 2.25 times as much energy as carbohydrates. Both fats and oils share the same general structure and chemical properties, but have different physical properties, i.e., oils are liquid at room temperature. 2/11/2000)

---

**fat corrected milk** Adjustment of milking production records to reflect the energy cost of fat production. 2/11/2000)

---

**fat soluble vitamins** Includes vitamins A, D, E and K. Vitamins A, D and E are supplemented in many livestock rations. Fat soluble vitamins are stored in body fat reserves. 2/11/2000)

---

**FDIU** Field Disease Investigative Unit 12/27/1999)

---

**fecal-oral transmission cycle** A cycle of disease spread where the pathogen is shed in the sick animal's feces and infects other animals when they ingest something contaminated by the infected feces. 11/15/1999)

---

**feces** Another word for solid wastes (stool). 10/18/1999)

---

**feed additives** Products added to basic feed mixes to improve the rate and/or efficiency of gain, prevent certain diseases, or preserve feeds. 2/11/2000)



---

**feed efficiency** A ratio describing the amount of feed required per unit of production (grain, milk, eggs). 2/11/2000)

---

**feed grade** Term to describe the quality of feedstuffs suitable for animal, but no human, consumption. 2/11/2000)

---

**feed processing** Physical or chemical changes in feedstuffs which influence their nutritional value. 2/11/2000)

---

**feedstuff** An edible material that contributes nutrients to animals' diets. 2/11/2000)

---

**feminization** A male showing signs of being under the influence of the female hormone, estrogen. 10/27/2000)

---

**fenoxycarb** An insect growth regularor recently withdrawn from the market. 2/16/2001)

---

**fentanyl patches** A sticky patch impregnated with the narcotic fentanyl which is applied topically for sustained release and absorption of the drug. 6/19/2003)

---

**fenthion** Prospot®-Haver. A "pour-on" organophosphate preparation. 2/16/2001)

---

**fertility** Capable of conceiving and bearing offspring. 7/5/2001)

---

**fertilization** The process of sperm combining with eggs(ova. 7/3/2001)

---





**fertilization rate** The percentage of females bred that get pregnant. A 90% fertilization rate means that 9 out of 10 females bred get pregnant. 7/5/2001)

---

**fetotomy** Cutting a dead fetus into parts to allow removal of the pieces from the dam. 7/5/2001)

---

**fetus** The later stages of development of a baby before birth. 7/5/2001)

---

**fetus** Refers to prior to being born. 10/18/1999)

---

**fibrosis** Scarring. 7/5/2001)

---

**figure of 8 suture pattern** A suture pattern used on wedge resections of the lower eyelid. It gives good apposition and the eyelid margin remains continuous. 2/16/2001)

---

**finasteride** Proscar ® is a 5 alpha-reductase inhibitor that prevents the conversion of testosterone to dihydrotestosterone. 1/12/2001)

---

**fipronil** Trade name is Frontline. A phenylpyrazole insecticide which acts as a neurotoxin. 2/16/2001)

---

**fissure** Splitting of the skin surface. 2/16/2001)

---

**flatulence** Passing gas from the intestinal tract. May be a sign of disease of the small intestine. 10/18/1999)

---



**flehmen** A curling of the upper lip or open mouth behavior which is a normal mating behavior in the male alpaca and llama. 7/5/2001)

---

**flow sheets** Flow sheets are records of patient data over time. These may include a tabular summary of laboratory test results, vital signs or drugs administered. 11/29/1999)

---

**fluid therapy** Fluid therapy is broadly defined to include the administration of many types of fluids including crystalloids and colloids. Fluid therapy may be given to prevent or correct fluid deficits or electrolyte abnormalities. Correct water imbalance from excessive fluid loss or inadequate intake Hemorrhage Vomiting Diarrhea Polyuria Expand blood volume - shock Correct electrolyte imbalance(s) Correct acid-base imbalance Supply blood components Supply calories and nutrients Renal disease - promote renal blood flow 11/29/1999)

---

**fluorescein stain** A stain applied to the cornea to assess for corneal and conjunctival epithelial defects or to assess the patency of the nasolacrimal ducts. 4/18/2001)

---

**fluoroscopy** A type of radiograph (x-ray) in which motion can be seen. 10/18/1999)

---

**flushing** Increasing the feed amount and/or quality (energy intake) prior to mating to increase the ovulation rate. 2/11/2000)

---

**fly strike** Cutaneous myiasis. A result of cutaneous parasitism by larvae of flesh flies, blow flies and/or the screwworm fly. 2/15/2001)

---

**follicle** Structures on the ovary that contain the eggs. 7/3/2001)

---

**follicle stimulating hormone** *Abrev:* FSH FSH has the primary responsibility for promoting growth of follicles on the ovaries. 8/29/2000)

---



**follicular cycle** The series of events that occur when the ovary produces a follicle (an egg) and the follicle goes through a series of changes. 7/5/2001)

---

**folliculitis** Superficial bacterial dermatitis associated with the hair follicle. 2/15/2001)

---

**food hypersensitivity** An allergy. An adverse reaction to food with a proven immunologic basis. 2/2/2001)

---

**food intolerance** An adverse reaction to food that does not have a proven immunologic basis. 2/2/2001)

---

**food poisoning** An adverse reaction to a food caused by a direct effect of a toxin. 2/2/2001)

---

**forage** A legume or grain feed. 2/11/2000)

---

**forage** Plants or plant parts fed to, or grazed by, domestic animals. Forage may be fresh, dry or ensiled (i.e., pasture, green chop, hay, haylage). Often used interchangeably with roughage. 2/11/2000)

---

**fourth membrane** Also called epidermal membrane. A membrane that covers the cria entirely at birth. 7/5/2001)

---

**fracture** Break in a bone. 10/18/1999)

---

**free mating** free mating Also called paddock mating. A single male is introduced with a band of females. 7/5/2001)

---



**frenulum** A piece of tissue that maintains adhesion between the penis and prepuce. 7/5/2001)

---

**fresh frozen plasma** Plasma that has been separated from the RBC shortly after blood collection and then frozen. Coagulation factors are preserved in this blood product. 5/19/2003)

---

**frozen plasma** Plasma that has been separated from RBC after blood collection but not with the intent of preserving the labile coagulation factors. Used primarily to provide plasma protein in hypoproteiemic patients. 5/19/2003)

---

**fungicide** Kills fungi 7/19/1999)

---

**furuncle** A painful, nodular adcess in the skin. 2/16/2001)

---

**FUS** Feline urologic syndrome. A collection of signs in cats resulting in blood in the urine, straining to urinate, and urinating in abnormal locations. The more current term is feline lower urinary tract disease (FLUTD). 10/12/1999)

---

**gait** The appearance of the animal as it is moving. The gait is evaluated for lameness, incoordination, dragging toenails, etc 10/18/1999)

---

**gastric** Another term for stomach. 10/18/1999)

---

**genome** The total gene complement of a set of chromosomes. 2/10/2003)

---

**germs** Microscopic organisms that can cause disease. May include bacteria and viruses. 10/18/1999)

---



**gestation** The duration of pregnancy. 1/12/2001)

---

**gingiva** The gums. 10/18/1999)

---

**gingivitis** Inflammation and swelling of the gums surrounding the teeth. The gingiva are normally pink and become red when inflamed. 10/18/1999)

---

**glabrous** Hairless areas of skin. 2/16/2001)

---

**glaucoma** Increased fluid accumulation in the eye causing increased pressure, pain and leading to blindness if untreated. 10/18/1999)

---

**glomerular basement membrane** *Abrev:* GBM One component of the filtration barrier of the glomerulus, interposed between the lumen of the glomerular capillary and the urinary space. 9/27/1999)

---

**glomerular filtration rate** *Abrev:* GFR The rate at which the glomeruli form filtrate from blood in glomerular capillaries. GFR correlates with renal function and to renal blood flow. Kidney disease and dehydration both result in a decrease in GFR. 9/27/1999)

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**glomerular filtration rate** *Abrev:* GFR The rate at which the glomeruli form filtrate from blood in glomerular capillaries. GFR correlates with renal function and to renal blood flow. Kidney disease and dehydration both result in a decrease in GFR. 2/10/2003)

---

**glomerulonephropathy** *Abrev:* GN Disease that begins in the glomerulus 2/10/2003)

---

**glomerulus** The microscopic functional unit of the kidney. Disease of the glomeruli causes protein to leak into the urine. 10/18/1999)



---

**glucocorticoid** A general term for drugs that act like the hormone, cortisol. Also called a corticosteroid. 10/18/1999)

---

**gonadotropin releasing hormone** *Abrev: GnRH* This hormone is secreted from the hypothalamus and stimulates the release of follicle stimulating and luteinising hormones (FSH/LH) from the pituitary gland. LH is believed to be involved in testicular descent into the scrotum. 1/12/2001)

---

**gonioscopy** A technique used to evaluate the iridocorneal angle to help judge the risk for glaucoma in an eye. 4/18/2001)

---

**granuloma** A focal inflammatory reaction. 2/13/2003)

---

**hand breeding** Also called hand mating. The females are completely supervised during the mating process and the male is led to the female and controlled during the breeding process. 7/5/2001)

---

**haptan** A substance that becomes antigenic when it complexes with proteins. 2/16/2001)

---

**hay** A forage that has been dried. 2/11/2000)

---

**hay additives** Organic acids or acid-forming compounds designed to allow hay to be harvested at higher than normal moisture contents by preventing the microbial activity responsible for spoilage. 2/11/2000)

---

**hazard** The likelihood or the probability that a substance, i.e., the poison, will induce a disease state under conditions of use. 10/21/1999)



---

**head mange** Common name for notoedric mange. 2/15/2001)

---

**hemangiosarcoma** A cancer of blood vessels. This cancer usually occurs in the spleen, skin or sometimes the heart. 10/18/1999)

---

**hematology** The study of blood. 10/18/1999)

---

**hematoma** The accumulation of blood under the skin. 10/18/1999)

---

**hematuria** Red blood cells in the urine. 10/18/1999)

---

**hematuria** Bloody urine. 10/24/2000)

---

**hemocytometer** A piece of equipment that is used to count white blood cells and can also be used to count sperm. 10/24/2000)

---

**hemoglobin** The substance contained in red blood cells that carries oxygen to parts of the body. 10/18/1999)

---

**hemolysis** The breakdown of red blood cells. 10/18/1999)

---

**hemorrhagic follicle** Also called a corpus hemorrhagicum. A follicle that has been present on the ovary and has not been given the chance to ovulate so it will continue growing and becomes large and cyst-like and bleeds inside. 7/3/2001)

---



**hemospermia** Blood in the ejaculate *1/12/2001)*

---

**hemostat** A surgical instrument used to pinch small blood vessels to stop bleeding (hemostasis is to stop bleeding). Hemostats may be used in non-surgical procedures, for example to pluck hair from the ear canals. *11/16/1999)*

---

**hepatic** A synonym for liver. *10/18/1999)*

---

**hepatitis** Inflammation of the liver. *10/18/1999)*

---

**herd summary** Summary statistics for herd production, reproduction, health, and demographic factors. *2/11/2000)*

---

**hermaphrodisism** A condition where reproductive structures of both the male and the female are in one body. *11/2/1999)*

---

**hernia** The abnormal protrusion of part of an organ or tissue through the structures that normally contain it. Also called a rupture. *10/24/2000)*

---

**hetastarch** A colloid solution of hydrolyzed amylopectin containing a range of particle sizes, from 10,000 daltons to over 3 million daltons. *5/19/2003)*

---

**heterologous** Derived from an animal of a different species. *2/13/2003)*

---

**high/low string** High/low producing cows are split into feeding groups to optimize ration inputs for milk output. *2/11/2000)*

---





**hippomanes** Normal formations in the cavity of the placenta where the fetus was located. 7/5/2001)

---

**homologous** Related or similar in characteristics. 2/13/2003)

---

**horizontal transmission** Disease transmission from one animal to another. 7/19/1999)

---

**horizontal Transmission** Ways infections are spread between animals i.e. direct, indirect, or airborne horizontal transmission.

---

**hormone** A substance produced by an endocrine organ that moves around the body in the blood stream. 10/18/1999))

---

**Horner's Syndrome** Loss of sympathetic innervation resulting in miosis, ptosis and enophthalmos. 4/18/2001)

---

**hot nursery** A nursery where piglets are raised until they are 4 weeks old and the ambient temperature is very warm. 11/10/1999)

---

**hot spot** Acute moist dermatitis or pyotraumatic dermatitis. A surface pyoderma. 2/15/2001)

---

**Hotz- Celsus technique** A surgical procedure for correction of lower lid entropion. 5/25/2000)

---

**human albumin** A colloidal solution prepared from pooled human plasma and heated to kill many types of blood borne diseases. 5/19/2003)

---



**humoral** Immunity mediated via antibody 4/16/2001)

---

**hybridomas** Myeloma cells cultured in the lab survive indefinitely. Myeloma cells can be fused with a normal B cell. The resulting hybridoma produces large quantities of monoclonal antibody. 10/18/1999)

---

**hydrocephalous** The accumulation of fluid in the ventricles of the brain. The head may appear to be large and dome shaped. Many small breeds of dogs have a degree of hydrocephalous that is normal for the breed. Severe hydrocephalous damages brain tissue. 10/18/1999)

---

**hydrolyzed** Breaking a compound into smaller and simpler compounds by a chemical reaction with water. 5/19/2003)

---

**hydroxyzine HCl** Atarax® an antihistamine. 2/15/2001)

---

**hymen** A thin membrane partially occluding the opening to the vagina in a virgin. 7/5/2001)

---

**hyper** This prefix is used in conjunction with many terms and means an increase, for example, hyperthermia means an increase in temperature. 10/18/1999)

---

**hyperalgesia** Unexpected increased pain intensity from a stimulus. Excessive sensitivity to pain. 6/19/2003)

---

**hypercalcemia** Elevation of blood calcium. 10/18/1999)

---

**hyperchloremia** Elevated blood chloride. 5/19/2003)

---



**hyperesthesia** Increased sensitivity to stimulation. Is most commonly seen with peripheral nerve diseases, such as, tumors and polyradiculoneuritis. 6/19/2003)

---

**hyperglycemia** Elevated blood glucose. 11/30/1999)

---

**hyperglycemia** Elevation of blood glucose. There are numerous causes of hyperglycemia including diabetes mellitus, hyperadrenocorticism, excitement and the administration of glucose or glucocorticoids. 10/18/1999)

---

**hyperkalemia** Elevated potassium. 10/18/1999)

---

**hyperkalemia** Elevated serum potassium. 11/30/1999)

---

**hyperkalemia** Elevated blood potassium. 5/19/2003)

---

**hyperkeratosis** Increased thickness of the horny layer of the epidermis. 2/16/2001)

---

**hypermagnesemia** Elevated blood magnesium. 5/19/2003)

---

**hypernatremia** Elevated blood sodium. 5/19/2003)

---

**hypernatremia** Elevated blood sodium. Hypernatremia is uncommon in dogs and cats and most often is iatrogenic from the repetitive administration of high sodium containing solutions. Animals who have severe hypernatremia in excess of 170 meq/L show nervous system signs of depression progressing to coma. 11/30/1999)

---



**hyperosmolarity** An increase in the osmotic concentration of the blood. Hyperosmolarity of the blood can draw water from RBC's causing lysis or from neurons causing neurologic signs such as coma. 5/19/2003)

---

**hyperosmotic agents** Drugs such as mannitol and glycerine which draw water to themselves. Used to control edema and swelling. 5/23/2000)

---

**hyperphosphatemia** Elevated phosphorus. 10/18/1999)

---

**hyperplasia** Proliferation of cellular elements usually accompanied by increased size of the organ 8/18/1999)

---

**hypersensitivity type IV** An exaggerated reaction of the cellular components of the immune system. 2/16/2001)

---

**hypertension** Elevated blood pressure. 10/18/1999)

---

**hypertensive** Elevation in blood pressure. 4/27/2000)

---

**hypertensive retinopathy** Retinal damage caused by edema or hemorrhages beneath the retina causing it to detach. Systemic hypertension is the cause of the detachment. 5/22/2000)

---

**hyperthyroidism** Increased production of thyroid hormone. Hyperthyroidism occurs commonly in geriatric cats but is rare in dogs. 11/30/1999)

---

**hyperthyroidism** Increased amount of thyroid hormone. 10/18/1999)

---



**hypertonic** A fluid that contains a ratio of electrolytes to water that is greater than extracellular fluid. A fluid that contains a concentration of electrolytes greater than extracellular fluid. *11/29/1999)*

---

**hypertonic** Hypertonic solutions have higher osmolalities than extracellular fluid/plasma. *11/29/1999)*

---

**hypertonic dehydration** Dehydration that develops after a hypotonic fluid is lost from the body. The fluid lost from the body contains a ratio of electrolytes to water that is less than extracellular fluid. The osmolality of ECF is hypertonic after the electrolyte-poor fluid is lost. This is a rare form of dehydration in dogs and cats. *11/29/1999)*

---

**hypertonic saline** Hypertonic saline has a concentration of sodium and chloride **greater** 0.9% and is used in states of hypovolemic shock. A very small volume of hypertonic saline administered IV to a hypovolemic patient will result in the mobilization of fluid from the cells into the extracellular fluid compartments, causing an expansion of blood volume and maintenance of blood flow to vital organs. Hypertonic saline solutions must subsequently be followed by the administration of isotonic solutions to reestablish fluid balance in intracellular and extracellular fluid locations. *11/30/1999)*

---

**hypertrophic** A thickening or an enlargement of an organ. *10/18/1999)*

---

**hypertrophy** Enlargement *10/24/2000)*

---

**hyperventilation** Fast breathing. Also called hyperpnea. *11/29/1999)*

---

**hyphema** Blood in the anterior chamber. *5/22/2000)*

---

**hypo** This prefix is used in conjunction with many terms and means a decrease, for example, hypothermia means a decrease in temperature. *10/18/1999)*



---

**hypoalbuminemia** Low concentration of blood albumin. 5/19/2003)

---

**hypocalcemia** Low blood calcium. 5/19/2003)

---

**hypocalcemia** Abnormally low calcium levels in the blood. 11/2/1999)

---

**hypocalcemia** Low blood calcium. 1/12/2001)

---

**hypocalcemia** Low blood calcium. 11/30/1999)

---

**hypodermoclysis** A synonym for subcutaneous. 11/30/1999)

---

**hypoglycemia** Abnormally low blood glucose. 11/30/1999)

---

**hypoglycemia** Low blood glucose. 1/12/2001)

---

**hypoglycemia** Low blood sugar. 10/18/1999)

---

**hypokalemia** Low blood potassium. A hallmark sign of hypokalemia is weakness. 5/19/2003)

---

**hypokalemia** Low potassium. 10/18/1999)

---



**hypokalemia** Low serum potassium. 11/30/1999)

---

**hypomagnesemia** Low blood magnesium. 5/19/2003)

---

**hyponatremia** Low blood sodium. The most common cause is Addison's disease or iatrogenic from the administration of electrolyte free solution, such as 5% dextrose. 11/30/1999)

---

**hypoplasia** Smaller or softer than normal due to loss of normal tissue. 10/24/2000)

---

**hypopyon** Pus in the anterior chamber of the eye. 4/18/2001)

---

**hyposensitization** The administration of increasing doses of antigen to reduce sensitization to the antigen. 2/15/2001)

---

**hypotension** Low blood pressure. 10/18/1999)

---

**hypotension** Abnormally low blood pressure. 5/19/2003)

---

**hypothalamus** A part of the brain. some hormones associated with reproduction are produced or stored in the hypothalamus. 2/28/2001)

---

**hypothyroid** Low function of the thyroid gland. 10/18/1999)

---

**hypotonic** A fluid that contains a ratio of electrolytes to water that is less than extracellular fluid. A fluid that contains a concentration of electrolytes less than extracellular fluid. 11/29/1999)



---

**hypotonic** Hypotonic solutions have lower osmolalities than extracellular fluid/plasma. 11/29/1999)

---

**hypotonic dehydration** Dehydration that develops after a hypertonic fluid is lost from the body. The fluid lost from the body contains a ratio of electrolytes to water that is greater than extracellular fluid. The osmolality of ECF is hypotonic after the electrolyte-rich fluid is lost. The best example of this type of dehydration is hypoadrenocorticism (Addison's Disease). 11/29/1999)

---

**hypotony** Decreased intraocular pressure. 4/18/2001)

---

**hypovolemia** Reduction in circulating blood volume either due to loss of fluids or redistribution of fluids. 11/29/1999)

---

**hypovolemia** Reduced circulating blood volume either due to blood or fluid loss or to redistribution of blood flow as occurs during shock. 9/27/1999)

---

**hysteropexy** A surgical procedure during which the uterus is "tacked" to prevent prolapse. 2/28/2001)

---

**iatrogenic** Disease that was caused while trying to diagnose or treat another condition. For example, if a complication such as excessive bleeding arises during a biopsy procedure, the complication is iatrogenic. 11/30/1999)

---

**iatrogenic infection** Infections that are acquired through human intervention. Also referred to as nosocomial infections. 10/18/1999)

---

**iatrogenic infections** Infections acquired through human intervention. 10/18/1999)





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**idiopathic** Unknown cause. 10/18/1999)

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**idiosyncrasy to food** A qualitatively abnormal response to a food or food additive that resembles a hypersensitivity. 2/2/2001)

---

**iritis** Inflammation of the iris 4/18/2001)

---

**immune mediated disease** Immune mediated indicates that the immune system is involved in the genesis of disease. Immune mediated diseases can be due to a foreign antigens (viruses, drugs) acting as haptens, adhering to or altering the surface of cells so that antibodies form against the hapten - cell complex or against cell antigens that become exposed. True autoimmunity indicates that the immune system is damaging unaltered "self". Often it is not possible to differentiate between true autoimmunity and immune mediated diseases. 10/15/1999))

---

**immunoglobulins** There are several kinds that contribute to immunity overall: IgG most abundant in serum and colostrum. IgM "early" antibody; the first one to appear when there is an infection. IgA secreted on mucosal surfaces of respiratory, intestinal and genital tracts. IgE allergic antibody to allergens. 10/18/1999)

---

**immunoprophylaxis** Administration of vaccines to confer protection against infectious agents. 4/16/2001)

---

**immunosuppression** Any failure of the immune response usually becomes apparent through increased susceptibility to infection and disease. 10/18/1999)

---

**impetigo** Superficial pustular pyoderma seen in dogs less than 9 months of age. 2/15/2001)

---



**inactive problems** Problems which are usually of a minor nature and are not being further diagnosed or treated. *10/20/2000)*

---

**incidence** The proportion of sampled animals that develop a condition of interest over a defined period of time. It is the measure of the occurrence of disease over time in a defined group of susceptible animals. *10/18/1999)*

---

**incisions** A wound made by something sharp like glass fragments or a scalpel blade, that penetrates all layers of the skin. *10/21/1999)*

---

**incisors** The front teeth. *7/5/2001)*

---

**incontinence** The inability to hold urine in the bladder. The animal leaks urine either while awake or asleep. *10/18/1999)*

---

**indirect lifecycle** There are multiple hosts and so the parasite is actually required to pass from one host to another host, and sometimes to another host, before it comes back to the original host in this lifecycle. *10/26/1999)*

---

**indirect transmission** A mode of disease transmission where the environment is somehow part of the transmission cycle; i.e. contaminated water in a water trough spreads the disease. *11/16/1999)*

---

**indolent ulcer** Ulcerative lesions found most frequently on the upper lips, but also seen in the skin elsewhere or in the oral cavity. *2/16/2001)*

---

**induced ovulator** An animal such as the queen that requires vaginal stimulation in order to ovulate. *9/1/2000)*

---



**infection** Multiplication of organisms such as bacteria in the body usually leading to disease. 10/18/1999)

---

**infectious agents** The agents that cause disease. They may be bacteria, viruses, fungi and parasites. 10/18/1999)

---

**infectivity/infectiousness** Capacity of parasite to become established in the animal's tissues – e.g. rotavirus and coronavirus in calf scours, are carried in the gastrointestinal tract of calves (> 4 weeks of age) and older cattle without clinical signs of disease. 10/18/1999)

---

**infertility** Inability to conceive and bear offspring. 7/5/2001)

---

**inflammation** Swelling, redness, heat and pain of a body part. 7/5/2001)

---

**inflammation** Redness, swelling, heat and pain of a body part. 10/18/1999)

---

**initial database** The initial information collected on a patient when the patient is first seen. The minimum amount of information that will be collected should be defined in advance and may differ for different types of patients. 10/20/2000)

---

**initial problem list** A listing of problems identified from history and physical examination. This list becomes more specific as the results of diagnostic tests become available. 11/29/1999)

---

**initiation** A stage in the development of acute renal failure defined as the time from renal insult to recognition of decreased GFR, decreased urine output and increased BUN and creatinine. This phase lasts 1-2 days. 9/27/1999)

---



**inotropic** Affecting the force of muscle contractions. For example a positive inotropic drug increases the force of contraction. 5/19/2003)

---

**insensible fluid loss** Insensible routes of fluid loss are those that are not readily observed and include the loss of fluid through the respiratory tract during respiration and loss of fluid by sweating. Dogs and cats sweat minimally through their foot pads so most insensible losses are through the respiratory tract. The fluid lost during breathing is close to pure water and does not contain many solutes (a hypotonic loss). The basal loss of water through breathing is about: 10-15 ml/lb/day. High environmental temperatures, fever and activity result in increased insensible losses. 11/29/1999)

---

**insulin** A hormone produced by the pancreas that controls blood sugar levels. 10/18/1999)

---

**inter-estrus interval** The duration between consecutive estrous cycles, usually about 4 months in the bitch. 8/29/2000)

---

**inter-trochanteric fossa** A depression located between the greater and third trochanters of the femur. This is the site at which a needle penetrates into the femur for intraosseous administration or for collection of bone marrow. 11/30/1999)

---

**Interceptor** Generic name is Milbemycin oxime. 2/15/2001)

---

**interferon** A glycoprotein produced by macrophages, lymphocytes and epithelial cells in response to viral infection. 10/18/1999)

---

**interleukins** They are also referred to as cytokines. These are regulatory proteins that are secreted primarily by lymphocytes to help the interaction between the lymphocyte and a macrophage. 10/19/1999)

---



**intermediate host** A host where maturation of the parasite or asexual reproduction takes place, in other words, reproduction where there is division and amplification of the parasite, but there is no sex involved. 10/26/1999)

---

**international unit** *Abrev:* IU A standard unit of potency of a biological agent. Example: vitamin, hormone, antibiotic, antitoxin. Also called a USP unit. 2/11/2000)

---

**interposed abdominal compression CPR** In CPR, interposed abdominal compressions with chest compressions with an alternating rhythm between the abdomen and the chest. 5/19/2003)

---

**interstitial cell tumor** A testicular tumor that usually displays benign biologic behavior. 1/12/2001)

---

**interstitial cell tumor** A type of cancer of the testes. 10/27/2000)

---

**interstitial cystitis** *Abrev:* IC a condition of the bladder resulting in hematuria and pollakiuria that resembles the condition in humans with the same name 8/18/1999)

---

**interstitial fluid** Interstitial fluids are a subset of extracellular fluids that surrounding cells and includes fluid in: dense connective tissue, bone, cartilage, cerebrospinal fluid, the gastrointestinal tract, and bile. 11/29/1999)

---

**interstitial space** A subset of extracellular fluid including fluid surrounding cells, in connective tissue, in bone, in cartilage, cerebrospinal fluid, fluid in the gastrointestinal tract and bile. 5/19/2003)

---

**intertriginous pyoderma** Skin fold pyoderma occurring in lip folds (spaniels), facial folds (brachycephalic breeds), vulvar folds (obese, spayed females) and corkscrew tails (brachycephalic breeds). 2/15/2001)



---

**intestine** The gut. A tubular organ that attaches to the stomach. The intestine is responsible for absorbing nutrients and water and eliminating wastes. The first part of the intestine is the duodenum, followed by the small intestine, large intestine, colon and rectum. 10/18/1999)

---

**intra-mammary antibiotics** Antibiotics instilled directly into the mammary gland. 11/2/1999)

---

**intracardiac route** The administration of drugs directly into the heart through the chest wall. 5/19/2003)

---

**intracellular fluid** Fluid located within cells. 5/19/2003)

---

**intracellular fluid** Abrev: ICF Fluid located inside cells. Comprises 2/3 of total body water. 11/29/1999)

---

**intracellular parasites** Parasites that reside with in the hosts cells. 10/26/1999)

---

**intracranial** Inside of the head. 11/16/1999)

---

**Intradermal skin testing** Abrev: IDST Injection of known amounts of allergens intradermally and comparing the reaction to a positive (histamine) and negative control (saline). 2/15/2001)

---

**Intralipid™** A solution of lipids available in 10 or 20% solution that can be administered IV. 5/19/2003)

---



**intramedullary** A route of drug or fluid administration into the bone marrow cavity which is considered to be confluent with the vascular space. Fluids or drugs administered via this route, enter the blood stream very rapidly. 5/19/2003)

---

**intraocular pressure** *Abrev: IOP* The pressure within the globe. IOP is increased in glaucoma. 4/18/2001)

---

**intraosseous** A route of drug or fluid administration into the bone marrow cavity which is considered to be confluent with the vascular space. Fluids or drugs administered via this route, enter the blood stream very rapidly. 5/19/2003)

---

**intraosseous** An administration route for fluids and drugs administered in the marrow cavity of bones. 11/30/1999)

---

**intratracheal route** The administration of drugs into the trachea usually using a catheter placed near the tracheal bifurcation. 5/19/2003)

---

**intravascular** *Abrev: IV* Given directly into the blood stream. 11/29/1999)

---

**intravascular space** The vascular space. Space located in the blood vessels. 5/19/2003)

---

**intravenous** IV. Giving a drug or other substance into a vein for a rapid effect. 10/18/1999)

---

**intromission** The act of placing the penis in the vagina. 7/5/2001)

---

**intussusception** A telescoping of a part of the intestinal tract into another part of the intestine. 10/18/1999)



---

**ionofores** One of the most common feed additives that we give cows to increase production, to increase efficiency, and increase rate of gain. *10/21/1999)*

---

**ionophore** A carboxylic polyether antibiotic that affects the transport of ions across cellular membranes and inhibits the growth of some gram positive bacteria. It is used in growing cattle to enhance feed efficiency and stimulate growth. Examples: Bovatec, Rumensin. *2/11/2000)*

---

**Iridenceleisis** Treatment for glaucoma in which a window is made in the sclera and the iris pulled through and sutured under the conjunctiva. *4/18/2001)*

---

**iris** The iris forms a diaphragm in front of the lens with a central sphincter-type opening called the pupil. It functions to regulate the amount of light entering the posterior segment of the eye. *4/17/2001)*

---

**iris bombe** Posterior synechiae that occur all the way around the pupil and aqueous cannot flow through. *4/18/2001)*

---

**Iris hypoplasia** In blue-eyed animals: may see iris hypoplasia where the iris fails to develop properly and the irises of these young animals are almost transparent. *4/18/2001)*

---

**iris prolapse** Prolapse of the iris through a defect (ulcer) in the cornea. *4/18/2001)*

---

**iso-ionic** Iso-ionic refers to a similar concentration of a particular electrolyte in a solution compared to extracellular fluid; therefore solutions which are iso-ionic with regard to sodium will have sodium concentrations comparable to the sodium concentration of extracellular fluid and plasma, which is approximately 145 mEq/l in the dog and cat. *11/29/1999)*

---

**isomer** Different spacial configurations of a drug or chemical compound. *2/13/2003)*





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**isosthenuria** Urine with the same specific gravity as glomerular filtrate indicating that the renal tubules have performed no work to either concentrate or dilute glomerular filtrate. There are also non-renal causes of isosthenuria. 2/10/2003)

---

**isothermalizer** Part of the Equitainer semen container system. 8/28/2000)

---

**isotonic** Isotonic or iso-osmotic fluids have the same tonicity or osmolality as does extracellular fluid, which in the dog and cat is approximately 280-310 mOsm/l.

---

**isotonic dehydration** Dehydration characterized by the loss of water and electrolytes in a ratio similar to extracellular water. Dogs and cats most often have isotonic dehydration as water and electrolytes are lost. 11/29/1999)

---

**isotretinoin** (Accutane-Roache. A retinoids which is a synthetic derivatives of vitamin A. 2/16/2001)

---

**Itraconazole** Sporanox-Janssen. An oral treatment for dermatophytes. 2/15/2001)

---

**ivermectin** Trade name is Ivomec. Marketed by Meriel. 2/15/2001)

---

**jaundice** Yellow discoloration due to the accumulation of abnormal amounts of bilirubin. Jaundice is seen in non-haired parts of the body; white parts of the eyes, inside the mouth and ears and on the belly. Also called icterus. 10/18/1999)

---

**jejunum** The longest part of the small intestinal tract. 10/18/1999)

---



**Jen Chung** An acupuncture technique also referred to as governing vessel 26 which causes sympathetic stimulation. 5/19/2003)

---

**joining** Putting the rams and ewes together for mating. Topping is the same thing.

---

**joule** *Abrev: J* A unit adopted by Systeme International (SI) for expressing energy. The Joule is more commonly used in Europe than in North America ( $4.184\text{J} = 1 \text{ calorie}$ )

---

**jugular** A large vein on the bottom surface of the neck that may be used to collect blood samples or to place catheters. 10/18/1999)

---

**KCS** Keratoconjunctivitis sicca. Dry eye. 10/12/1999)

---

**keratic precipitates** Clusters of inflammatory cells on the back (endothelial surface) of the cornea. 5/23/2000)

---

**keratin** A cystine rich protein produced by the epithelial cells. 2/16/2001)

---

**keratinization disorders** Cutaneous disorders characterized by scaling. 2/16/2001)

---

**keratitis** Inflammation of the clear part of the eye, the cornea. 10/18/1999)

---

**keratoconjunctivitis sicca** *Abrev: KCS* Reduced tear production: dry eye. 4/18/2001)

---

**keratotomy** Removal of part of the thickness of the cornea. 4/18/2001)



---

**ketoacidosis** *Abrev: DKA* A form of diabetes mellitus in which the pet has increased amounts of acids in the blood and is very sick. 10/18/1999)

---

**ketoconazole** Nizoral-Janssen. An oral treatment for dermatophytes. 2/15/2001)

---

**killed vaccine** A vaccine that contains antigen of the infectious agent that has been killed by chemical or physical means and does not replicate in the host. 2/10/2003)

---

**Koch's postulates** Used in infectious diseases to determine if the parasite will cause disease. The traditional criteria used are as follows: The organism must be regularly isolated from cases of the disease. The organism must be grown in pure culture or free of the animal host. Such a pure culture should cause disease upon inoculation into susceptible animal. The same organisms must be re-isolated from the experimentally induced disease. 10/18/1999)

---

**lacrimal system** Consists of 2 glands that produce the aqueous tear film component, one in the dorsolateral orbit and one on the bulbar surface of the nictitans. Tears flow through the nasolacrimal duct to the nose 4/17/2001)

---

**lactate** To produce milk 7/5/2001)

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**lactation** The time a cow is producing milk. 2/11/2000)

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**lactation curve** A graphic plot of days in milk vs. pounds of milk produced.

---

**lactogenic immunity** A form of local immunity in milk (post colostrum) that bathes the intestinal tract and prevents colonization by virulent bacteria and neutralized viruses passing through the gut.



---

**lagophthalmos** Inability to fully close the eyelids over the eyeball. 5/25/2000)

---

**laparotomy** A surgical procedure to open the abdominal (belly) cavity. 10/18/1999)

---

**larynx** The voicebox. The larynx closes during swallowing to keep food out of the airways. 11/16/1999)

---

**latency** A virus which remains hidden and does not cause disease but which may reactivate and cause clinical signs of disease at a later time. 2/10/2003)

---

**Lateral recumbant** Laying down on the side. 7/5/2001)

---

**lecithin** Phospholipids found widely in animals and plants,(e.g. egg yolk) that have emulsifying, wetting, and antioxidant properties. 2/14/2003)

---

**lens** Structure in the eye which functions to transmit and focus incoming light rays directly on the retina; this is facilitated by accommodation - the subtle change in lens shape brought about by contraction and relaxation of the ciliary body; the accommodative ability of the lens is limited in domestic species. 4/17/2001)

---

**lens capsule** A clear elastic membrane surrounding the lens body. 4/17/2001)

---

**lens luxation** Primary or secondary displacement of the lens either anterior into pupil or anterior chamber or posterior into the vitreous chamber. 4/17/2001)

---

**lethargy** Malaise or inactivity. 10/18/1999)



---

**leukocytosis** High white blood cell count. 10/18/1999)

---

**leukopenia** Low white blood cell count. 10/18/1999)

---

**leukotriene** Substances derived from arachidonic acid in cell membranes that mediate allergic responses. 6/19/2003)

---

**levator palpebrae superioris** Muscle in the upper lid that elevates the upper eyelid. It is innervated by cranial nerve 3, the oculomotor nerve. 4/18/2001)

---

**libido** Sexual desire 9/1/2000)

---

**lichenification** Thickening of the skin. 2/15/2001)

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**lidocaine** A drug used as a local anaesthetic and as an antiarrhythmic agent in treatment of certain cardiac arrhythmias such as ventricular fibrillation. 5/19/2003)

---

**limbic system** A group of brain structures which exert an important influence on the endocrine and autonomic motor system's and which influence (emotion) mood states.

---

**limbus** Junction between conjunctiva and cornea. 4/18/2001)

---

**linear immunoglobulin A dermatosis** Clinically presents as subcorneal pustules, epidermal collarettes, etc. generally truncal in distribution. Most often seen in the dachshund. 2/16/2001)

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**lipid** A group of fats. 5/19/2003)

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**lipids** Substances found in plant and animal tissues that are insoluble in water, but soluble in benzene or ether. Includes fats, oils, glycolipids, phosphoglycerides, waxes and steroids. 2/11/2000)

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**lipoxygenase** *Abrev:* 5-LOX 5 lipoxygenase breaks down arachidonic acid to form the leukotrienes. The leukotrienes mediate activation and margination of neutrophils, altered vascular permeability, and promotion of gastric ulceration or degenerative joint disease. 6/19/2003)

---

**liquid protein supplement** *Abrev:* LPS A protein product usually containing molasses, urea, added vitamins and trace minerals; particularly useful in pasture feeding.

---

**loafing area** Area of farm, often associated with free stalls and milking barn where animals are free to exercise and move voluntarily. 2/11/2000)

---

**lochia** The vaginal discharge that appears post-delivery and in the bitch is green colored 2/28/2001)

---

**lochia** Green colored post-partum discharge. The appearance of lochia before delivery indicates placental separation and impaired blood flow to the fetuses. 1/12/2001)

---

**loratidine** Claritan. An antihistamine. 2/15/2001)

---

**lufenuron** Program®, Novartis; Sentinel®, Novartis) is a benzoyl-phenylurea compound that inhibits chitin development. An insect growth regular. 2/15/2001)

---



**lutinising hormone** *Abrev: LHLH* causes ovulation of ovarian follicles. LH is also believed to be involved in testicular descent into the scrotum. 1/12/2001)

---

**lymphoid organs** Organs that regulate the production and differentiation of lymphocytes. The main lymphoid organ are the salivary glands, the thymus, the spleen, and the bone marrow. 10/18/1999)

---

**lymphoma** A cancer of the lymph glands. 10/18/1999)

---

**lyophilized** Freeze dried 4/16/2001)

---

**MacKenzie Brush technique** This technique employs a sterile toothbrush to comb the hair coat of an animal suspected to be a carrier of dermatophytes. The bristles of the brush are then embedded or shaken over agar for culture. 2/15/2001)

---

**macro minerals** Minerals required in relatively large amounts by livestock. Includes calcium (Ca), phosphorus (P) magnesium (Mg), potassium (K) chlorine (Cl), sulfur (S) and sodium (Na). 2/11/2000)

---

**macule** A circumscribed, flat (not raised or depressed) change in the color of the skin. Large macules are patches. 2/16/2001)

---

**magnetic resonance image** *Abrev: MRI* A diagnostic technique that produces computerized images of internal body structures. MRI uses a large magnet to polarize hydrogen atoms in the tissues and then monitors the spinning energies within cells. 6/19/2003)

---

**maintenance phase** A phase of acute renal failure following initiation during which oliguria persists. Whether an ARF patient is oliguric or polyuric reflects the severity of insult which caused ARF. The majority of ARF dogs and cats become oliguric although some ARF patients are never oliguric. In those patients which can repair the renal damage, the oliguric phase lasts 1 -



2 weeks. Many animals die or are euthanized during the oliguric phase because of the poor prognosis. The most life-threatening consequences of the oliguric phase include hyperkalemia and overzealous fluid therapy resulting in overhydration. 2/10/2003)

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**maintenance solutions** Maintenance solutions are hypotonic compared to extracellular fluid. They have more potassium than extracellular fluid and less sodium than extracellular fluid. Maintenance solutions can be purchased or "created" from other crystalloid solutions. 11/30/1999)

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**malassezia pachydermatis** A budding yeast considered part of the normal flora of the external ear canal. May become pathologic in certain situations. Formerly called Pityrosporum canis. 2/16/2001)

---

**malignancy** Cancer. 10/18/1999)

---

**mammary** Breast 2/28/2001)

---

**mammary gland** The udder or breast. 7/5/2001)

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**master problem list** *Abrev:* MPL A list of all the problems shown by a patient. The master problem list is dynamic and may expand over time. 11/29/1999)

---

**mastitis** Inflammation of the mammary gland caused by a bacterial agent. 11/2/1999)

---

**mature equivalent** A cow reaches maturity at 7 years of age (5th lactation) and thus records can be adjusted for what her production is expected to be at maturity. Allows comparison among herd mates at different ages. 2/11/2000)

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**mature follicle** A large follicle on the ovary that secretes estrogens that make the female receptive and will be able to respond to mating by ovulating. 7/5/2001)

---

**meconium** The first stool or feces passed by the newborn. 7/5/2001)

---

**medication administration record** *Abrev:* MAR A flow sheet charting medications given to a patient over time. 11/29/1999)

---

**medication administration record** A type of flow sheet on which one records drugs, doses and administrations. 10/20/2000)

---

**megaesophagus** A pathologically dilated esophagus. 11/2/1999)

---

**megestrol acetate** Ovaban®. A progestin marketed for estrus control in the dog and commonly used for managemnet of severe pruritus in the cat. 2/16/2001)

---

**Meibomian gland adenoma** A benign tumor of the Meibomian glands. 4/18/2001)

---

**meibomian glands** Glands located at the eyelid margins that secrete the lipid part of the tear film. 5/25/2000)

---

**melangestrol acetate** *Abrev:* MGA A hormone added to diets to suppress estrus cycling and improve feed efficiency and growth rate in feedlot heifers. 2/11/2000)

---

**menace reflex** Used to assess vision and the ability to close the eyelids. 4/18/2001)

---



**meningitis** Inflammation of the meninges. 6/19/2003)

---

**metabolic reactions to food** An adverse reaction due to an effect of a substance upon the metabolism of the host, or as a result of defective metabolism of a nutrient by the host. 2/16/2001)

---

**metabolism** All of the chemical changes nutrients undergo following absorption from the digestive tract. 2/11/2000)

---

**metabolizable energy** *Abrev:* ME A measure of the useful energy in a feed. It represents that portion of the feed gross energy not lost in the feces, urine and belched gas. 2/11/2000)

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**methoprene** Precor. An insect growth regulator. Present in rinses, sprays, collars, and household sprays/foggers. Recently added to a topical pour-on product containing fipronil (TopSpot Plus: Meriel). 2/15/2001)

---

**metritis** Infection of the uterus. If the infection follows birthing, it is a postpartum metritis 7/5/2001)

---

**micro minerals** Minor mineral elements required in very small amounts in the ration of animals. Includes manganese (Mn), copper (Cu), zinc (Zn), selenium (Se) iron (Fe), cobalt (Co), iodine (I) and fluorine (Fl). 2/11/2000)

---

**microencapsulation:** A process whereby an insecticide is packaged into small microspheres (polyurea, nylon, etc). This process increases the LD50 and decreases biodegradation (extends duration of action). Currently, microencapsulated products include pyrethrins, diazinon, and chlorpyrifos. 2/15/2001)

---

**micronutrient** Any ingredient, such as minerals, vitamins or drugs, added in very small amounts to a ration. 2/11/2000)



---

**microphthalmos** A small eye that has failed to develop properly. 4/18/2001)

---

**micturition** A synonym for urination. 10/18/1999)

---

**miliary** Small, resembling a seed. 2/16/2001)

---

**miliary dermatitis** A cutaneous reaction pattern characterized by the formation of multiple, circumscribed crusted papules. 2/16/2001)

---

**mineral supplement** A rich source of one or more mineral elements. 2/11/2000)

---

**minimum data base** A minimum data base is the minimum amount of information collected for a medical record and includes: the chief complaint(s), history, patient signalment and physical examination. 11/29/1999)

---

**miosis** Small pupil. 4/18/2001)

---

**mismate** A drug given in attempt to prevent pregnancy. 2/28/2001)

---

**MLK** A multimodal analgesic administration technique combining lidocaine, ketamine and morphine in IV fluids such as LRS. 6/19/2003)

---

**modified live virus** *Abrev: MLV* A vaccine which contains an antigenic agent that has been altered chemically or physically so it stimulates cell-mediated and humoral response without evoking disease. The altered virus can still replicate in the host. 2/10/2003)



---

**monoclonal** Originating from a single precursor cell. 4/16/2001)

---

**monoclonal antibody** The term used to describe a homologous Ig produced by a clone of B cells. This occurs naturally in neoplasia of B cells resulting in myeloma. 10/19/1999)

---

**monogastric** An animal having a single or simple stomach system. Example: swine. 2/11/2000)

---

**morphology** The appearance of sperm. 10/24/2000)

---

**motility** Progressive movement of sperm. A sign of health sperm. 10/24/2000)

---

**motivational-affective dimension of pain** This is the disruption of the feeling of well-being that results in suffering to the degree that it triggers an active response from the animal in response to pain. 6/19/2003)

---

**muco-purulent** A discharge that is a combination of pus and mucus. 2/28/2001)

---

**mucosa** The pink lining of an organ, such as the lining of the nose, mouth, vagina, penis. 10/18/1999)

---

**mucosal immunity** A form of local immunity on the body surfaces of the respiratory, intestinal and genital tracts. 10/18/1999)

---

**Müller cells** Cells responsible for support and nutrition of the retina. 4/17/2001)

---



**Muller's muscle** Smooth muscle in the eyelids which provides tone to the lids. Innervated by sympathetic fibers. 4/18/2001)

---

**multi-modal** Using more than one method. 6/19/2003)

---

**multivalent** A vaccine containing multiple antigens. 2/10/2003)

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**mupriocin** Bactoderm: Pfizer. Topical antibacterial ointment effective against staphylococci. 2/16/2001)

---

**murmur** An abnormal heart sound caused by abnormal blood flow. 10/18/1999)

---

**mutualistic** A relationship where both participants or parties benefit. 10/26/1999)

---

**mycoplasma** These are a group of bacteria that have lost their cell walls. 10/18/1999)

---

**mycotoxin** A substance produced by fungi and toxic to animals, e.g., vomitoxin, zearalenone and aflatoxin. 2/11/2000)

---

**mycotoxins** A toxin that is produced by a mold. 10/21/1999)

---

**mydriasis** Dilated pupil. 4/18/2001)

---

**myelitis** Inflammation or infection of the spinal cord. 6/19/2003)

---



**myelosuppression** A suppression of the bone marrow so that it does not produce normal numbers of red blood cells, white blood cells and platelets. 10/18/1999)

---

**myopathy** Inflammation of muscle. 10/18/1999) **naloxone** An antagonist of morphine and other opioids. 5/19/2003)

---

**nasal** A synonym for the cavity behind the nose. 10/18/1999)

---

**nasolacrimal system** The route of drainage of tears from the eye to the nose. 4/18/2001)

---

**necrosis** Death of tissue. 7/5/2001)

---

**nematodes** Round worms. 10/26/1999)

---

**neoplasia** A synonym for cancer. 10/18/1999)

---

**neoplasm** A lump or cancer. The word means "new growth". 10/18/1999)

---

**nephrotoxic** A drug or chemical that causes damage to the cells of the kidneys.

---

**nerve root signature** Lameness due to nerve root involvement 6/19/2003)

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**net energy** *Abrev: NE* The amount of feed energy actually available for animal maintenance and production. It represents the energy fraction in a feed left after fecal, urinary, gas and heat losses are deducted from the gross energy value of a feed. 2/11/2000)



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**Neuralgia** Pain along the distribution of nerves. 6/19/2003)

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**neuroleptanalgesic** A combination of a tranquilizer and an opiate which provides a synergistic effect for sedation and analgesia. 6/19/2003)

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**neuropathic pain** Pain originating in peripheal nerves and nerve roots. 6/19/2003)

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**neurotransmitter** A substance released from a neuron of the central or peripheral nervous which excites or inhibit the target cell. Examples include: acetylcholine, norepinephrine, epinephrine, dopamine, substance P, enkephalins, endorphins and serotonin. 6/18/2003)

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**neutral detergent fiber** *Abrev:* NDF The insoluble fraction containing all plant cell wall components left after boiling a feed sample in a neutral detergent solution. NDF is of low digestibility, but can be broken down somewhat by the digestive tract microorganisms. NDF value is used to predict ruminant feed intake. 2/11/2000)

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**neutralizing antibody** A type of antibody that specifically blocks virus receptor sites on the virus preventing attachment to target cells in the body. 10/18/1999)

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**neutrophil** The most common type of white blood cell observed in the blood stream. 10/18/1999)

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**nictitans** The third eyelid which is a fold of tissue covered by conjunctiva and containing a lacrimal gland on the inner (bulbar) surface. 4/17/2001)

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**nigropallidal encephalomalacia** A specific brain lesion seen in horses with yellow star thistle poisoning. The clinical sign is an inability to swallow. 10/21/1999)



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**Nikolsky sign** The epidermis may be rubbed off with slight trauma. Named after a Russian dermatologist. 2/16/2001)

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**NMDA receptor** Glutamate dependent N-methyl-D-aspartate (NMDA) receptors. This type of receptor develops in the central nervous system in response to sustained pain and appears to be responsible for amplifying pain, and causing opioid tolerance. 6/19/2003)

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**nociception** The detection of noxious stimuli by the nervous system. 6/19/2003)

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**nociceptors** Peripheral receptors for pain which sense painful stimuli and transmit signals to the central nervous system where the sensation of pain is perceived. 6/19/2003)

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**nodule** A circumscribed, solid, raised lesion that involves the deeper layers of the skin. 2/16/2001)

---

**non steroidal anti inflammatory drug** *Abrev:* NSAID A drug such as aspirin that has anti inflammatory properties but that is not a corticosteroid. 9/27/1999)

---

**non-essential amino acids** Acids Amino acids that can be synthesized by the animal. 2/11/2000)

---

**non-protein nitrogen** *Abrev:* NPN Nitrogen not derived from true protein, but can be used by rumen microbes to build microbial protein. 2/11/2000)

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**non-ruminant herbivore** Animals with simple stomachs able to digest roughages and other fibrous feeds because of the microbial population in their hindgut. Examples: horse, rabbit. 2/11/2000)





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**non-structural carbohydrates** *Abrev:* NSC Simple carbohydrates, such as starches and sugars, stored inside the cell which serve as a cellular energy source. Non-structural carbohydrates are rapidly and easily digested by the animal. 2/11/2000)

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**non-terrestrial rabies** Rabies in mammals that do not walk on the ground: bats. 10/26/1999)

---

**noncontagious Disease** A disease that cannot be spread between animals by direct contact. 10/18/1999)

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**normal saline** 0.9% sodium chloride. It is isotonic. It contains only sodium and chloride. Sodium chloride is used when blood sodium is decreased; such as in Addison's disease because it has a higher concentration of sodium than does lactated Ringer's. It may be used in lieu of lactated Ringer's for rehydration in patients with lymphoma. It is used as a rehydration solution when a patient has an increased potassium or calcium, and the administration of additional calcium or potassium are contraindicated. 11/30/1999)

---

**Norwegian catheter** A catheter used to deposit semen during artificial insemination. 2/28/2001)

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**nosocomial** An infection contracted in the hospital. 10/18/1999)

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**nosodes** Products prepared from infected tissues, infected discharges, or a pathogenic organism, which are processed and administered orally in attempt to "vaccinate" against an infectious agent. 4/16/2001)

---

**notobiotic environment** An environment with no germs whatsoever. 10/14/1

---



**novel protein** A diet that contain proteins to which an animal has not previously been exposed(fed). 2/15/2001)

---

**noxious stimulus** A stimulus that is potentially or actually damaging to tissue. A stimulus that is of adequate intensity to trigger a nociceptive reaction in an animal (the feeling of pain).

---

**nuclear sclerosis** Compression of older lens fibers in the nucleus of the lens which results in light-scattering that clinically appears as a gray, homogenous, perfectly round area in the center of the lens which is bilaterally symmetrical; a normal aging change and does not interfere with vision or visualization of the fundus 4/17/2001)

---

**nuclei (nucleus)** A structure located within a cell. Contains amongst other substances the genetic information of the cell. 2/28/2001)

---

**nucleus** Center of the lens. 4/17/2001)

---

**nucleus** A structure within a cell that contains among other things, genetic information. 7/5/2001)

---

**number-averaged molecular weight** The mean of the molecular weight of all the polymers in a solution. The number-averaged molecular weight tells you how quickly a fluid will exert an effect. The smaller the number-averaged molecular weight, the quicker the initial oncotic response. 5/19/2003)

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**nutrient allowances** Recommendations of nutrient amounts necessary for maintenance, growth, gestation, lactation or performance that include a safety margin to account for variability in feeds and animals (e.g., environment, health, storage losses). 2/11/2000)

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**nutrient requirements** The minimal amounts of nutrients (energy, protein, minerals and vitamins) necessary to meet an animal's minimal needs for maintenance, growth, reproduction, lactation or work. 2/11/2000)

---

**nutrients** Feed components required for the maintenance, production and health of animals (water, carbohydrates, lipids, proteins, minerals and vitamins). 2/11/2000)

---

**obesity** Overweight. Fat. 10/18/1999)

---

**objective information** Any information that can be quantified such as the size of a mass, a laboratory value or the grade of a heart murmur. 10/20/2000)

---

**obligate pathogen** Parasite that generally will cause disease – e.g. Brucella abortus (Brucellosis); Yersinia pestis (Plague); and Mycobacterium bovis (Tuberculosis). 10/18/1999)

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**omentum** A thin lace-like layer of tissue in the abdomen that partially covers the organs.

---

**oncology** The study of cancer. 10/18/1999)

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**oncotic** The pressure or pull of fluids created by colloids in solution. In blood, the oncotic pressure created by particles such as plasma proteins offsets the hydrostatic pressure created by the pumping of the heart that acts to drive fluid out of vessels into the extravascular space. The oncotic pressure of the plasma proteins holds fluid in the blood vessels. 5/19/2003)

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**onychomycosis** Fungal infection of the nailbed. 2/15/2001)

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**oocyte** egg, ova 2/28/2001)



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**opioid** Synthetic compounds with effects like opium but which are not derived from opium. 5/19/2003)

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**opioid** Synthetic compounds with effects like opium but which are not derived from opium. 6/19/2003)

---

**opioid** Synthetic compounds with effects like opium but which are not derived from opium. 2/13/2003)

---

**opportunistic** A bacteria that causes clinical disease in animals that are some how weakened and can not fight off the infection. 11/15/1999)

---

**opportunistic pathogen** Parasites that are usually harmless commensals in their normal habitat, but can cause disease when they gain access to other body sites – e.g. Pasteurella haemolytica (pneumonia) and Staphylococcus aureus (mastitis). \*Impairment of animal's immune defense is the principle factor leading to opportunistic infections. 10/18/1999)

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**opportunistic pathogen** Parasites that are usually harmless commensals in their normal habitat, but can cause disease when they gain access to other body sites 10/18/1999)

---

**opsinizing antibody** A type of antibody that coats particles, such as bacteria to promote phagocytosis. 10/18/1999)

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**optic nerve** Formed by axons of the ganglion cells of the retina. 4/17/2001)

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**optic neuritis** Inflammation of the optic nerve; can be unilateral or bilateral 4/17/2001)

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**oral** Giving something by mouth or referring to the mouth. 10/18/1999)

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**oral cavity** The mouth. 10/18/1999)

---

**oral transmission** Common route of animal-to-animal exposure due to contact with infected placenta, fetal fluids, milk. 10/26/1999)

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**orbicularis oculi** Muscle which is responsible for eyelid closure and is innervated by cranial nerve 7. 4/16/2001)

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**orbicularis oculi muscle** Muscle that encircles the eye and acts to closes the eye. It is innervated by cranial nerve 7, the facial nerve. 4/18/2001)

---

**orbital fascia** The connective tissue sheath that lines the orbit and envelopes all the structures within the orbit. 4/18/2001)

---

**orbital rim technique** A surgical technique that is no longer recommended for correction of prolapse of the gland of the third eyelid. This technique fixed the gland so it could no longer sweep across the eye spreading tears. 5/25/2000)

---

**orbitotomy** Surgical procedure to access the back of the globe for a biopsy. 4/18/2001)

---

**orchitis** Inflammation of the testicles. 10/18/1999)

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**organ system** A group of organs that function together. For example the digestive system includes the esophagus, intestinal tract, liver and pancreas because they all function to absorb and digest food. 10/18/1999)



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**osmolality** A property of fluids determined by the number and size of particles in the fluid. Fluids with large numbers of small particles have a high osmolality. 11/29/1999)

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**osmolality** The concentration of osmotically active particles in solution expressed in as osmoles of solute per liter of solution. 5/19/2003)

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**osteomyelitis** An infectious disease of bone that is often of bacterial origin.

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**otitis externa** Inflammation of the external ear canal 2/16/2001)

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**otoacariasis** Ear mites. 2/15/2001)

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**otodectes cynotis** Ear mite. 2/16/2001)

---

**out side tie** When the male ejaculates with the bulbus glandis engorgement outside of the vagina. Females bred with an 'out side tie' usually don't get pregnant. 8/28/2000)

---

**ova** eggs 2/28/2001)

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**ova** An egg. 7/3/2001)

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**ovarian bursa** A structure that surrounds the ovaries and collects eggs released from the ovary and channels those eggs to the uterus. 7/3/2001)

---



**ovariohysterectomy** *Abrev: OHE OVH* Surgical removal of the ovaries and uterus. 2/28/2001)

---

**ovary** The part of the female reproductive tract that produces eggs (ova) and female hormones. 7/3/2001)

---

**over the counter drugs** *Abrev: OTC* Drugs that can be purchased without a prescription. 11/16/1999)

---

**ovine progressive pneumonia** *Abrev: OPPA* chronic inflammatory disease of the lung leading to eventual suffocation. 2/14/2000)

---

**ovulation** The process of releasing eggs (ova) from the ovary. 2/28/2001)

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**Oxyglobin** A red blood cell substitute made from polymerized bovine hemoglobin.

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**P3** The third phalanx, or the third bone in a digit. 11/2/1999)

---

**packed cell volume** *Abrev: PCV* The percentage of anticoagulated whole blood that is comprised of red blood cells. The remainder is plasma. 11/29/1999)

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**packed RBC's** Red blood cells from which much of the plasma has been removed. Used to provide RBCs to patients that may not be able to handle a large fluid load, for example patients with cardiac disease. Separation of cells from plasma also allows for early freezing of the plasma to preserve labile coagulation factors. 5/19/2003)

---

**pain** An unpleasant sensory and emotional experience which may cause tissue damage. 6/19/2003)



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**palatability** The appeal and acceptability of feedstuffs. Affected by the taste, odour, texture and temperature of the feed. 2/11/2000)

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**palliative treatment** Palliative treatment is given to patients with untreatable diseases in order to make them more comfortable. Includes a combination of supportive and symptomatic treatments. 11/29/1999)

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**palpation** To examine something by touching and feeling it. 7/5/2001)

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**palpebrae** Eyelids 4/16/2001)

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**palpebral** Pertaining to the eyelids. 5/25/2000)

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**palpebral fissure** The opening between the eyelids. 5/25/2000)

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**palpebral or blink reflex** Used to assess sensation and the ability to close the eyelids. 4/18/2001)

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**panniculitis** Inflammation of subcutaneous fat. Several proposed causes and is sterile in some breeds such as the Dachshund. 2/16/2001)

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**pannus** Chronic superficial keratitis presumed to be immune-mediated. 4/18/2001)

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**PAO2** The concentration of oxygen in the blood. 5/19/2003)

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**papule** A small solid elevation of the skin. Larger lesions are called nodules or tumors and if flat, a plaque. 2/16/2001)

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**parabasal cell** Epithelial cells exfoliated from the vagina during proestrus. The cells are small and round with large and distinct nuclei. The total area of the cytoplasm of the parabasal cell is smaller than the nucleus. 9/1/2000)

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**parabasal cell** A small and round cell with a large and distinct nucleus. Parabasal cells, along with red blood cells (RBCs), are present during proestrus. 2/28/2001)

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**paradoxical CSF acidosis** Paradoxical CSF acidosis is a condition caused by the administration of a large amount of bicarbonate to an acidotic patient, which will result in neurologic dysfunction. When one gives bicarbonate, the equation is shifted towards the left of the screen, towards the generation of CO<sub>2</sub>. CO<sub>2</sub> is very diffusible, and will diffuse across the blood brain barrier and then shift the equation in the cerebral spinal fluid towards the right with a generation of hydrogen ions. Even though additional bicarbonate is being generated in the CNS, the neurons perceive the increase in hydrogen ions and malfunction. The bicarbonate that was administered IV cannot cross the blood brain barrier. 11/30/1999)

---

**parakeratosis** Abnormal process of cornification. 2/16/2001)

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**paralysis** Abnormal function of nerves resulting in an inability to walk. 10/18/1999)

---

**paraphimosis** The inability to retract the penis back into the prepuce. Paraphimosis has been reported following semen collection. 2/16/2001)

---

**paraphimosis** Paraphimosis is when the penis is extruded from the prepuce and cannot be returned to its normal position. This may occur following breeding or sexual excitement such as being kenneled next to a bitch in heat, or by a traumatic fracture of the os penis. 9/8/2000)

---



**parasiticide** A substance that kills parasites. 10/14/1999)

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**parasitism** Denotes organisms which survive and persist on or within another living organism. The parasite usually does not harm the animal. The most successful parasites achieve a balance whereby both the parasite and host animal survive. 7/19/1999)

---

**parasympathomimetic effects** A drug that produces effects similar to the effects produced by stimulation of parasympathetic nerves. 5/19/2003)

---

**paronychia** Inflammation of the nail fold. 2/15/2001)

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**paroxysmal** The sudden onset of a symptom that reoccurs. For example paroxysmal seizures begin suddenly and occur more than once. 11/16/1999)

---

**partial parenteral nutrition** *Abrev:* ppn Providing energy and nutritional supplementation to a patient at 50 to 70% of the patient's nutritional needs. 5/19/2003)

---

**particle size** Measure of the diameter of granular feed materials and/or the length of roughage fragments. Particle size can affect mixing of feed ingredients and digestion rate. 2/11/2000)

---

**parturition** The process of giving birth. 1/12/2001)

---

**passive transfer** The transfer of antibodies from colostrum into the cria's blood. 7/5/2001)

---

**patent period** The parasites are producing eggs with in the host. 10/26/1999)

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**pathogen** Organism that generally will cause disease 7/19/1999)

---

**pathogen/pathogenicity** Capacity of parasite to produce disease. 10/18/1999)

---

**Pavletic** A surgical technique used to repair lid defects using skin from the lip. 4/18/2001)

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**peak milk** Maximum daily milk yield during lactation. Good peak yield is 100-120 lbs and occurs between 60-90 days in milk. 2/11/2000)

---

**pediatric administration set** An administration set for intravenous fluid administration. The set has a spike to penetrate the container of fluids, a drip chamber and a long flexible tube that connects to the patient's catheter. The drip set drips 60 drops to deliver one ml of fluid. The drops form in the drip chamber through a rigid needle-like structure. This needle-in-the-drip chamber identifies a pediatric drip set. 11/30/1999)

---

**pediculosis** Infestation with lice.

---

**PEG tubes** Feeding tubes placed percutaneously using endoscopic guidance. 11/30/1999)

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**pelodera dermatitis** Rhabditic dermatitis. Larvae of the free living nematode, *Pelodera strongyloides* which penetrate the skin of animals. 2/15/2001)

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**pemphigus erythematosis** *Abrev:* PE Possibly an abortive form of pemphigus foliaceus. The clinical presentation is as a facial dermatitis. 2/16/2001)

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**pemphigus foliaceus** *Abrev:* PF The most common form of pemphigus recognized in the dog...also seen in the horse and other species. 2/16/2001)



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**pemphigus vegetans** *Abrev:* PVU A benign variant of pemphigus vulgaris with two classifications: the Neumann type which may begin and end as PVU and Hallopeau which is thought to be more of a benign form. 2/16/2001)

---

**pen mating** A small number of females are penned with a male at regular intervals and are supervised during breeding. 7/5/2001)

---

**penetration** The penis entering the female reproductive tract. 7/5/2001)

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**penis** The male organ used to deposit semen in the female. 7/5/2001)

---

**perianal** The region around the anus. 10/18/1999)

---

**pericardium** A very thin tissue surrounding the heart. Abnormal fluid can accumulate between the heart and the pericardial membrane causing pericardial effusion. 10/18/1999)

---

**perineal** The region around the anus. 7/5/2001)

---

**peripheral IV catheter** A catheter placed in a smaller vein in a limb (cephalic or saphenous). These catheters are relatively short in length. 5/19/2003)

---

**peritoneal** The abdominal or belly cavity. 10/18/1999)

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**peritoneal cavity** The abdominal cavity between the visceral and parietal peritoneum. 11/30/1999)



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**permethrin** Defend, Coopers) a topical antiparasitic agent. 2/15/2001)

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**peroxidase-antiperoxidase staining** This technique uses an immunohistochemical procedure designed to demonstrate the presence of Ig or complement in a tissue section. 2/16/2001)

---

**persistent pupillary membranes** *Abrev:* PPMs Remnants of a blood vessels that once filled the anterior chamber and nourished the developing lens. 4/18/2001)

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**PETA** People for the Ethical Treatment of Animals, an animal rights organization. 11/2/1999)

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**pH** A measure of acidity or alkalinity. Values range from 0 (most acidic) to 14 (most alkaline or basic). A pH value of 7.0 is neutral (neither acidic or alkaline). 2/11/2000)

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**phaeohyphomycoses** Subcutaneous nodules, granulomatous lesions and draining tracts caused by *Pythium* sp.(*Hyphomyces* sp.), *Dreschlera* sp and other species. 2/15/2001)

---

**phagocytosis** The process of capture and destruction of foreign material. The two leading cells in this process are neutrophils and macrophages (Phagocytes). 10/18/1999)

---

**pharmacologic reactions to foods** An adverse reaction to as a result of a naturally derived or added chemical that produces a drug-like or pharmacologic effect. 2/2/2001)

---

**pharynx** Back of the mouth. Throat. 10/18/1999)

---



**phimosis** The penis cannot be extruded from the prepuce. Phimosis may be congenital due to a small preputial orifice or a persistent frenulum. Acquired inflammation or neoplasia can reduce the size of preputial orifice or increase the size of the penis causing phimosis. 9/8/2000)

---

**photoreceptor layer** Layer of the retina composed of the rods and cones. 4/17/2001)

---

**phthisis bulbi** An eye that has degenerated after injury. 4/18/2001)

---

**physiology** The science dealing with the functions of animals. 7/2/2001)

---

**pigmentary keratitis** The accumulation of pigment in the cornea in response to inflammation. 4/18/2001)

---

**pink-up** A lay term used to indicate pink nipples in a queen which indicates increased blood flow to the nipples under the influence of progesterone. 1/12/2001)

---

**pinna-femoral" reflex** "When the ear is rubbed, the dog scratches aggressively with the hind leg! Not a "real" reflex but is highly suggestive of scabies. 2/15/2001)

---

**pinnae** The flap of the ear. 2/14/2003)

---

**pinna dermatitis** Skin lesions on the ears. 2/16/2001)

---

**pituitary gland** A small gland located in the brain. Several hormones are produced in this gland. 2/28/2001)

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**pizzle** Prepuce. 2/11/2000)

---

**placenta** After birth. An organ that allows for the mother to provide nutrition and remove wastes from the developing baby in the uterus. 7/5/2001)

---

**plans** In a problem oriented record there are diagnostic plans, therapeutic plans and plans to inform the client. 10/20/2000)

---

**plaque** A flat elevated lesion of the skin. 2/16/2001)

---

**plasma** The clear part of blood that remains after blood is separated into cells and fluid before the blood clots. If the blood is allowed to clot then separated into cells and fluid, the fluid is then called serum. 10/18/1999)

---

**platelets** Small pieces of cells in the blood stream that help an animal stop bleeding when it has been injured. 10/18/1999)

---

**pluronic gel** Topical application of an analgesic. 6/19/2003)

---

**pneumonia** Inflammation of the lung. 10/18/1999)

---

**pneumothorax** The abnormal accumulation of air in the chest cavity outside the lungs. 5/19/2003)

---

**pocket technique** Surgical technique for replacing a prolapse of the gland of the third eyelid. 4/18/2001)

---



**poison** Any substance that can cause an adverse effect when introduced into a biological system (not acting mechanically). 10/21/1999)

---

**poliosis** Whitening of the hair. 2/16/2001)

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**pollakiuria** Frequent passage of small amounts of urine. Pollakiuria is indicative of diseases of the lower urinary tract and genital tract. 9/27/1999)

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**polled** Breed where there has been a genetic selection for no horns. Some sheep breeds are horned in both sexes, in others only the males are horned and in yet others (the majority of breeds) neither sex is horned. 2/11/2000)

---

**poly** Means several or too much such as polydactyly means having too many toes. 10/18/1999)

---

**polyarthropathy** Inflammatory joint disease that involves multiple joints. 2/13/2003)

---

**polyclonal antibody** The term used to describe a mixture of Ig to a wide array of antigens. 10/19/1999)

---

**polycystic kidney disease** *Abrev: PKD* A disease in which kidney tissue is replaced by multiple cystic structures. There is an inherited form of polycystic kidney disease in Persian cats. 9/27/1999)

---

**polycythemia** Polycythemia is an increased number of circulating RBC. Most animals with increased PCV have relative polycythemia due to hemoconcentration. Splenic contraction can increase PCV by 10 to 15%. Absolute polycythemia is an increased total hemoglobin/RBC mass with normal plasma volume. Absolute polycythemia can be a primary myeloproliferative disorder called polycythemia vera. The signs of polycythemia vera can include polyuria and polydipsia, bleeding from small capillary rupture, neurologic disturbances caused by increased viscosity of blood. 11/30/1999)





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**polydipsia** Drinking large amounts of water. 2/28/2001)

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**polydipsia** *Abrev:* PD Drinking too much water. 10/18/1999)

---

**polymer** A molecule made of repeating units (monomers). For example starch is a polymer of glucose molecules. 5/19/2003)

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**polymerase chain reaction** *Abrev:* PCR A technique to rapidly produce many copies of a fragment of DNA. 2/13/2003)

---

**polymyositis** Inflammation of several muscles at one time. 10/18/1999)

---

**polysaccharide** A carbohydrate containing a large number of sugar groups. Starch is an example of a polysaccharide. 5/19/2003)

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**polyurethane** A type of plastic used to make, among other things, IV catheters. 5/19/2003)

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**polyuria** *Abrev:* PU Increased volume of urine. 2/10/2003)

---

**polyvalent** A vaccine containing several antigens (multivalent).

---

**post coital** After sex. 7/5/2001)

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**post renal azotemia** An increase in nitrogen containing wastes in the blood due to an inability to excrete urine as a consequence of an obstruction to urine passage or to a ruptured bladder.

---

**post-partum** After parturition. After giving birth. *1/12/2001)*

---

**posterior chamber** Space between the iris and lens. *4/17/2001)*

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**posterior synechia** Occurs when the inflamed iris sticks to the lens. *4/18/2001)*

---

**postpartum** The period of time immediately following birth

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**postprandial** The period of time immediately after eating. *10/18/1999)*

---

**potato dextrose agar** A fungal growth media that promotes rapid sporulation making identification possible at an earlier time than when using standard culture media. *2/15/2001)*

---

**povidine-iodine** Betadine. A topical antibacterial available as a shampoo or in solution. *2/15/2001)*

---

**PPPP** People Pet Partnership Program *12/27/1999)*

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**pre-anesthetic** A drug given before general anesthesia; usually a sedative or tranquilizer which is given to reduce apprehension and to allow the use of lower doses of the more potent anesthetic agents. *12/22/1999)*

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**pre-breeding evaluation** Examination of potential breeding animals to assess their capability to produce offspring. 7/5/2001)

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**pre-emptive analgesia** Refers to the prophylactic administration of analgesics to reduce the requirements for pain medication. Administration of an analgesic before an injury or surgery, lessens the amount of analgesic (or anesthetic) required later on. 6/19/2003)

---

**predicted transmitting ability** *Abrev:* PT A Genetic merit of parent transmitted to its progeny. 2/11/2000)

---

**preemptive analgesia** The administration of analgesic drugs before the onset of a painful stimulus, administered to reduce the perception of pain. 2/13/2003)

---

**premature** Born too early. 7/5/2001)

---

**premix** A uniform mixture of one or more microingredients and a carrier, used to facilitate uniform dispersion of micronutrients into a larger mixture. 2/11/2000)

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**prepuce** The skin sheath covering the penis.

---

**prerenal azotemia** An increase in nitrogen containing waste products in the blood caused by reduced renal blood flow as a consequence of hypovolemia or dehydration. Untreated prerenal azotemia can progress to intrinsic renal disease.

---

**prevalence** The proportion of sampled animals that display a condition of interest at a given point in time. It is a single measurement of each animal in a group. It is usually a static measure in which the time is short (1-7 days).

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**primary abnormality** Morphologic abnormalities of sperm that occur while the sperm are being produced in the testes. 10/24/2000)

---

**primary closure** Suturing the raw edges of the wound together. 10/21/1999)

---

**primary oocyte** The immature egg as it is released from the ovary.

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**primary uterine inertia** Ineffective or absent uterine contractions during parturition. Primary uterine inertia should be considered when a bitch is not able to start uterine contractions. This condition occurs most often in older bitches and/or bitches with hypocalcemia and/or hypoglycemia. 1/12/2001)

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**prion** Infectious protein. Scrapie in sheep, Creutzfeldt Jakob disease in humans, and Bovine Spongiform Encephalopathy in cattle (Mad Cow Disease) are all caused by prions. 10/14/1999)

---

**probiotics** A live microbial feed supplement which beneficially affects the host animal. Claims include reduced early mortality, increased growth rate, improved feed conversion, egg quality and animal health. 2/11/2000)

---

**problem** A problem is anything that interferes with the patient's well being and requires further management or evaluation or anything that the owner is concerned about 10/19/2000)

---

**problem list** A list of what is wrong with a patient based on the information that is gathered from history, physical examination and the results of diagnostic tests. 10/19/2000)

---

**problem oriented medical record** *Abrev:* POMR A logical records system centered around the identification and resolution of the patient's problems.

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**problem specific data base** The minimum amount of information that is planned to be collected for patients with specific types of problems. For example, a chest radiograph may be recommended to be preformed on all patients that were hit by a car. 10/20/2000)

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**problem-specific data base** Certain types of data bases may be defined for certain classes of patients. For example a data base may be defined based on the presenting problem and is called a Certain types of data bases may be defined for certain classes of patients. For example a data base may be defined based on the presenting problem and is called a "problem-specific data base". 11/29/1999)

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**procainamide** Antiarrhythmic used in treatment of ventricular arrhythmias. 5/19/2003)

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**ProcalAmine®** A pre-made solution used in partial parenteral solution.

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**progeny** Offspring. 7/5/2001)

---

**progress notes** A written description in a patient record that summarizes data; plans; treatment; rationelle for diagnostics and treatments; and the patient response to treatment.

---

**prolapse** An organ or part of an organ that abnormally sticks out through an opening. 2/28/2001)

---

**prolapse** The abnormal position of an organ in which the organ pouches through an opening from which it does not normally protrude. 7/5/2001)

---

**proprioception** Maintenance of posture and movement through stimuli originating in the receptors in the joints, tendons, muscles, and labyrinth. 6/19/2003)

---



**proptosis** Bulging of the eye out of the socket. 4/18/2001)

---

**prostaglandin** *Abrev:* PGF2alpha A drug that among other actions, causes contraction of the uterus and is used in treatment of pyometra. 2/28/2001)

---

**prostaglandin analogs** Drugs used in the treatment of glaucoma. They cause extreme miosis and may have an influence on the unconventional outflow of aqueous. Lantoprost (trade name Xalatan) is available as a 0.005% topical solution. 5/23/2000)

---

**prostaglandin F2 alpha** A hormone that destroys the corpus luteum which in turn causes progesterone to decrease. 7/5/2001)

---

**prostate** A accessory gland of the male that contributes to semen production. 7/5/2001)

---

**prostate** A sex gland of the dog which contributes liquid to semen. 10/24/2000)

---

**prosthesis** An artificial eye placed after enucleation for cosmetic purposes. 4/18/2001)

---

**protected fat** A fat that has been treated or combined with another substance to prevent breakdown in the rumen. 2/11/2000)

---

**protein** Naturally-occurring compounds containing nitrogen, carbon, hydrogen and oxygen, and sometimes sulfur or phosphorus. Proteins are made up of complex combinations of amino acids and are essential for animal growth, production and reproduction. 2/11/2000)

---

**protein nitrogen units** *Abrev:* PNU Unit of strength for antigens used in intradermal skin testing. 100,000 PNU - 1 mg protein. 2/15/2001)



---

**protein supplement** A feed or mixture of feeds containing 20% or more protein. Examples: soybean meal, canola meal. 2/11/2000)

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**prothrombin time** *Abrev:* PT Measurement of clotting time of plasma in the presence of excess tissue thromboplastin. Factors measured are fibrinogen, prothrombin, and factors V, VII, and X. 5/19/2003)

---

**protozoa** Single-celled organisms. 10/26/1999)

---

**protozoans** Eukaryotic (true nucleus) organisms without chlorophyll and cell walls. 10/18/1999)

---

**proud flesh** Excessive granulation tissue, seen especially on wounds on horse's lower legs that are allowed to heal themselves. 10/21/1999)

---

**pruritis** Itchy 10/18/1999)

---

**pseudohyperparathyroidism** Pseudohyperparathyroidism causes hypercalcemia and most commonly occurs in patients with lymphoma or tumors of the apocrine anal sac. Pseudohyperparathyroidism has been reported associated with other tumor types. 11/30/1999)

---

**pseudomycetomas** Deep dermal or subcutaneous infections by dermatophytes. They present as nodules and draining lesions, that histologically are pyogranulomatous to granulomatous panniculitis. *M. canis* is the causative organism in the cat. 2/15/2001)

---

**pseudopregnancy** Giving the appearance of being pregnant when not really pregnant. Signs may include weight gain, enlarged abdomen, mammary gland enlargement, and nesting behavior. Pseudopregnancy is considered a normal occurrence in the bitch.



---

**puberty** When the female starts to have some reproductive activity 7/3/2001)

---

**pulseless electrical activity** *Abrev: PEA* A new term for electrical-mechanical disassociation in which an ECG shows electrical activity of the heart but there is no associated mechanical activity (heartbeat). 5/19/2003)

---

**punctum** Holes in the edges of the eyelids through which tears enter the nasolacrimal ducts. 4/18/2001)

---

**pupillary light response** *Abrev: PLR* The ability of the pupil to constrict in response to light. 4/18/2001)

---

**purulent** Containing pus. 7/5/2001)

---

**pustule** A small pus filled raised lesion. 2/16/2001)

---

**pyelonephritis** A bacterial infection of the kidneys.

---

**pyoderma** Skin infection with bacteria. Pyodermas involve coagulase positive bacteria, most commonly *Staphylococcus intermedius*. 2/15/2001)

---

**pyometra** Infection of the uterus.

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**pyometra** The accumulation of pus inside the uterus.

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**pyrexia** Elevated temperature, fever. 12/22/2000)

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**pyuria** White blood cells in the urine. 10/18/1999)

---

**Quick Mix®** A pre-made solution used in partial parenteral solution. 5/19/2003)

---

**radial immunodiffusion** *Abrev:* RID A test used to evaluate whether the newborn has received antibodies in colostrum. 7/5/2001)

---

**radio-allergosorbent test** *Abrev:* RAST Test to measure specific serum IgE levels. 2/16/2001)

---

**radiograph** The picture taken using x-ray. 2/28/2001)

---

**radiograph** The image generated by an x-ray. Often the term x-ray is used incorrectly to refer to a radiograph. 10/18/1999)

---

**radioimmunoassay** *Abrev:* RIA A method used to measure the concentration of some hormones. 2/28/2001)

---

**ramp-up** A period of time during which effective blood levels of a drug are building up. 6/19/2003)

---

**ration** The 24-hour feed allowance for an individual animal. 2/11/2000)

---

**reaginic antibody** IgE



---

**receptive** The female is accepting of being mounted and bred by a male. 7/5/2001)

---

**receptivity** When the female starts becoming receptive to the male and is ready to breed. 7/3/2001)

---

**recombinant vaccine** A vaccine containing antigen prepared using recombinant DNA techniques. 4/16/2001)

---

**rectus muscles** There are 4 rectus muscles that allow for movement of the globe: dorsal, ventral, lateral, and medial.

---

**rehydration solution** A solution administered to a dehydrated animal to return it's hydration state to normal. Most dehydrated dogs and cats have isotonic dehydration and are rehydrated with iostonic, iso-ionic solutions such as LRS or RS. 11/30/1999)

---

**relaxin** A hormone which is detectable when a fertilized egg is implanted, which usually occurs around day 21 following fertilization. Marketed as ReproCHEK by Synbiotics. 2/16/2001)

---

**renal blood flow** *Abrev:* RBF The blood presented to the kidneys. The kidneys receive about 20 to 25% of cardiac output each minute. Renal blood flow is determined by blood volume, blood pressure and cardiac output. The kidneys can also autoregulate their blood flow within certain ranges of blood pressure. 9/27/1999)

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---



**reproductive cycle** Events that happen in the female such as ovulation, hormone production, receptivity, etc. In camelids the cycle does not follow regular time periods as it does in horses or cattle.

---

**reservoir** Where a disease causing organism lives and multiplies. Therefore the reservoir may not be the source of the organism, that is only where it lives and multiplies.

---

**resolved** Problems are resolved if they no longer exist either because they were treated or resolved spontaneously with the passing of time.

---

**respiratory transmission** The most common route of human exposure in countries where infection is controlled in animals and where there is pasteurization of milk. 10/26/1999)

---

**resting membrane potential** *Abrev:* RMP The electrical charge of resting myocardial cells. Normally the RMP is -90 mV. Hyperkalemia elevates the RMP to a less negative state. 11/30/1999)

---

**resuscitative fluid** A fluid used in cardiopulmonary resuscitation (CPR) in an attempt to restore circulation. 5/19/2003)

---

**reticular activating formation** A collection of neurons in the brain that mediates many aspects of consciousness. 6/19/2003)

---

**retinal dysplasia** A congenital anomalous development of the retina. 4/17/2001)

---

**retinoids** Synthetic derivatives of vitamin A. 2/16/2001)

---

**retractor bulbi muscle** The muscle that pulls the eyeball back into the orbit. 4/18/2001)



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**retrobulbar** Located behind the globe. 4/18/2001)

---

**retropulsion** Pushing on the orbit to evaluate the ability to compress the soft tissue structures behind the orbit. 4/18/2001)

---

**ringer's solution** Ringer's solution does not contain lactate. It contains a higher concentration of chloride compared to lactated Ringer's solution. Ringer's solution is considered an acidifying solution. This does not mean that it can cause metabolic acidosis, but it can assist a patient who has a metabolic alkalosis correct their own acid base abnormality. 11/30/1999)

---

**rolling herd** The most recent 12 month herd milk production average. 2/11/2000)

---

**roughage** A feed which has a relatively high crude fiber content. 2/11/2000)

---

**route of administration** The way a drug is administered to an animal; i.e. orally, intramuscularly, intravenously. 11/16/1999)

---

**route of infection** The manner by which an infectious agent gains access to the animal. 10/18/1999)

---

**rule out** *Abrev: R/O* A possible cause for a patient's problem. Also called a differential diagnosis. 10/20/2000)

---

**rule-outs** *Abrev: R/O* Rule-outs are also known as differential diagnoses and are possible causes for the problems displayed by a patient. For example, kidney failure is one rule out (or possible cause) for polyuria in a dog or cat. 11/29/1999)

---



**ruminant** A cud-chewing animal having four stomach compartments. The rumen (first stomach), is a major site of microbial fermentation of feeds permitting breakdown of fibre. Examples: cattle, sheep, goats. 2/11/2000)

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**Sabouraud's dextrose agar** The standard media for fungal culture. 2/15/2001)

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**sagittal** Longitudinal view 6/19/2003)

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**Salmonella DT104** An enteric bacteria that causes bloody diarrhea, has resistance genes in its genome, and is zoonotic. 11/15/1999)

---

**SALT** *Abrev:* ALT Serum alanine aminotransferase (SALT) or alanine aminotransferase (ALT). An enzyme found in hepatocytes (liver cells) released with cellular injury including cellular hypoxia. 9/16/2003)

---

**sanitizer** A disinfectant of low toxicity used to reduce microbial contamination of food handling equipment.

---

**SAP** Serum alkaline phosphatase. Also known as AP. An enzyme found in many tissues but most often elevated in serum in response to cholestasis and bone remodeling and glucocorticoid excess. 9/16/2003)

---

**saprophytism** Organisms survive and persist in non-living or decaying organic matter. They are not usually parasitic, although may cause disease under certain circumstances

---

**sarcoid** A tumor that occasionally occurs on the eyelids of horses.

---

**sarcoma** Cancer originating from fibrous tissues.



---

**saturated fat** A completely hydrogenated fat. Saturated fats are solid at room temperature. Example: animal tallow.

---

**sclera** Dense connective tissue of the eye which is the site of attachment for the extraocular muscles.

---

**scours** The discharge of more fluid than normal fecal matter from the bowel; often more frequently than normal. *11/16/1999)*

---

**screenings** Small, imperfect kernels, broken grains, hulls, weed seeds and other foreign material obtained from the cleaning of grain. *2/11/2000)*

---

**scrotal hernia** The abnormal protrusion of part of an organ or tissue through the structures that normally contain it. An animal may be born with a hernia in which case it is congenital or it can get it can be acquired after birth. *1/12/2001)*

---

**scrotum** The skin sac that covers the testes.

---

**season** A lay term used to refer to the beginning of proestrus. *9/1/2000)*

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**seasonally polyestrous** Estrous cycles which are under the influence of light. The queen is a seasonally polyestrous animal. *9/1/2000)*

---

**seborrhea** Increased scaling of the skin with or without increased sebum production.

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**seborrhea, primary** Metabolic seborrhea. Scaling caused by endocrine disorders, aberrations in lipid availability, nutritional imbalances. 2/16/2001)

---

**seborrhea, secondary** Scaling due to allergies, ectoparasite infestation, mycotic infections, immune-mediated disease. 2/16/2001)

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**sebum** Formed of diester waxes, cholesterol and free fatty acids in sebaceous glands, which empty into the hair follicle or onto the skin. 2/16/2001)

---

**secondary abnormality** Morphologic abnormalities of sperm that develop while sperm are moving through the epididymus or occur as a result of handling sperm. 10/24/2000)

---

**secondary closure** Do not suture the wound and let the tissue granulate in.

---

**secondary oocyte** The egg after it has matured and is ready to be fertilized.

---

**seizure** Another term for convulsions. 10/18/1999)

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**selemectin** Trade name is Revolution, marketed by Pfizer. A neurotoxin recommended as a monthly topical "pour'on" insecticide. This product is also labeled for use as against scabies, ear mites, internal parasites, and for tick control. 2/16/2001)

---

**semen** The composite fluid ejaculated which includes sperm and supporting fluids.

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**semen extender** A substance added to semen to provide an appropriate environment and energy for the sperm to survive in vitro. 8/28/2000)



---

**seminal plasma** Fluid produced by the prostate gland which is part of semen.

---

**seminal vesicles** Accessory sex glands in the male.. 7/5/2001)

---

**seminiferous tubules** The location in the testes in which sperm are produced. 10/24/2000)

---

**seminoma** A type of cancer of the testes. 10/27/2000)

---

**seminoma** A testicular tumor that usually displays benign biologic behavior. 1/12/2001)

---

**semipermeable membrane** A membrane that allows water and small molecules to pass through it but prevents passage of large molecules such as colloids. The peritoneal membrane lining the abdominal cavity is an example of a semipermeable membrane. 5/19/2003)

---

**senile iris atrophy** Atrophy of the constrictor muscle: poor pupillary light reflexes but normal vision. Pupil margin looks a bit moth-eaten and irregular. 4/18/2001)

---

**sensible fluid losses** Sensible fluid losses are those that can be easily detected and measured. Sensible losses can occur through the urinary and gastrointestinal tracts. The loss of fluid through the GI tract is negligible in healthy dogs and cats but can be substantial through vomiting or diarrhea. In the adult, healthy dog or cat, sensible loss is through urine and is about 12-20 ml/lb/day. Loss of water through the urinary and GI tracts is usually accompanied by loss of electrolytes (in both health and disease) (an isotonic loss). 11/29/1999)

---

**sensitizing soup** Chemical mediators released by cells following tissue damage and inflammation that individually or collectively results in pain sensitivity. 6/19/2003)

---





**sensory-discriminative dimension of pain** This dimension of pain gives the individual information about the location, onset, intensity, type and duration of pain. 6/19/2003)

---

**sepsis** The presence of infectious organisms in the blood. 5/19/2003)

---

**septic arthritis** A bacterial infection in a joint causing inflammation. 2/11/2000)

---

**seroconversion** A change in immune status from having no measurable antibodies against an infectious agent to development of measurable antibodies in the blood. 2/13/2003)

---

**seroprevalence** The frequency of occurrence of exposure to an infectious agent based on measuring antibodies to the agent in the blood. 2/13/2003)

---

**serotype** Strains of a virus. 2/13/2003)

---

**sertoli cell** Cells in the testicle which support the testosterone-producing cells. These cells can produce the female hormone, estrogen. 10/27/2000)

---

**sertoli cell tumor** A type of testicular cancer that may result in a male showing signs of feminization.

---

**serum** The fluid component of blood after the blood has clotted.

---

**serum alanine aminotransferase** *Abrev: SALT (ALT)* Also known as alanine aminotransferase (ALT). An enzyme found in hepatocytes (liver cells) released with cellular injury including cellular hypoxia.

---



**service/conception** Number of AI or natural services needed to achieve pregnancy (conception). Goal is 2-2.5 Svc/con. 2/11/2000)

---

**shearing** Mechanical removal of fleece. Done yearly and in some breeds more frequently.

---

**signalment** This is the physical description of the animal including species, breed, sex, neuter status, age and color and/or markings.

---

**silage** Pickled forage, a feed that is harvested at 30-60% dry matter and allowed to ferment as a means of preservation. 2/11/2000)

---

**silage additives** Substances added during the ensiling process to enhance the correct and rapid fermentation of the feed. 2/11/2000)

---

**silicone** A polymer of alternating oxygen and silicon atoms combined with other organic groups. Catheters made of silicone are relatively inert and have less stimulation of clot formation compared to other materials. 5/19/2003)

---

**simultaneous ventilation compression CPR** For every compression, you give the patient a simultaneous ventilation. The ventilatory rate is very high and matches the chest compression rate. 5/19/2003)

---

**sire** The breeding male, also called a stud. 7/5/2001)

---

**skin turgor** Skin elasticity. Skin turgor is used to assess hydration. 11/29/1999)

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**slit-lamp biomicroscopy** Provides magnification and depth for examination of the eyelids, puncta, conjunctiva, sclera, cornea, anterior chamber, iris, lens, and anterior vitreous. 4/18/2001)

---

**SOAP** SOAP's are progress notes recorded in a medical record.

S = subjective information

O = objective information

A = assessment of information

P = plans for diagnoses, treatment or client information

---

**soluble intake protein** *Abrev:* SIP Portion of the protein intake that is completely soluble in rumen fluid and rapidly utilized by bacteria. Soluble protein forms part (or all) of the degradable intake protein (DIP) value of a feed. 2/11/2000)

---

**somatic** Relating to the wall of the body as distinguished from the viscera. 6/19/2003)

---

**somatic cell count** An indicator of mastitis, the accumulation of cells, chiefly leukocytes, in the milk in response to an antigen. Goal: greater than 95% of all cows with counts less than 200,000 cells/ml milk, and a bulk tank (herd average) count of < 200,000 cells/ml. 2/11/2000)

---

**somatic cell count:** Leukocytes and epithelial cells in milk. Count will increase with mastitis. 2/11/2000)

---

**somatosensory** Sensory signals from tissues. Somatic usually refers to input from body tissue other than viscera. 6/19/2003)

---

**source-oriented record** A record keeping system in which all data of a similar type are clustered together, e.g. all laboratory reports and together. 10/20/2000)

---



**specific treatment** Treatment that will eliminate or modify the primary cause of a disease process. For example, surgical removal of a tumor. *11/29/1999)*

---

**sperm** Spermatozoa. The male structure that fertilizes an egg. *7/5/2001)*

---

**spermatogenesis** Formation of sperm in the testes. *10/24/2000)*

---

**spermatozoa** Sperm. The male structure that fertilizes an egg. *7/5/2001)*

---

**sphincter** A structure that closes and opens. *7/5/2001)*

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**spillover** What spillover means is that rabies viral variant isolated from a rabid animal will be the variant from the terrestrial wildlife reservoir in that area. That is why if you have a rabid raccoon in Montana it will be spill over from a skunk because that is the only wildlife reservoir that maintains the virus in that area. *10/26/1999)*

---

**spinoreticular** A tract in the spinal cord leading to behavioral responses that help the individual determine whether a painful input is tolerable or not. Also conveys visceral pain. *6/19/2003)*

---

**spinothalamic** A tract in the spinal cord which conveys impulses associated with pain and temperature sensation, and tactile sensation. Somatic pain pathway. *6/19/2003)*

---

**spitting off** When the female is no longer receptive to the male indicating she has ovulated. *7/5/2001)*

---

**splay-legged** A condition in newborn pigs that involves a muscle weakness so they are unable to stand and bear their weight. *11/15/1999)*



---

**spleen** An organ in the abdomen that stores cells. The spleen can be removed if it is diseased. 10/22/1999)

---

**Sporotrichosis** Cutaneous nodules; draining, ulcerative tracts caused by *Sporothrix schenckii*. Lesions may be focal or disseminated. 2/15/2001)

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**Stades procedure** A surgical procedure for correcting upper eyelid entropion.

---

**Stage 1** This is the stage of cervical dilation and lasts 6-8 hrs in the bitch and queen. 1/12/2001)

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**Stage 2** This is the stage of fetal expulsion in the labor of a bitch or queen and lasts 3-6 hrs. 1/12/2001)

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**Stage 3** This is the stage of placental expulsion in the labor of a bitch or queen and lasts 5-15 min. 1/12/2001)

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**standard drip sets** An administration set for intravenous fluid administration. The set has a spike to penetrate the container of fluids, a drip chamber and a long flexible tube that connects to the patient's catheter. The end of the drip set vary by manufacturer, requiring anywhere from 10-20 drops to comprise a milliliter. 11/30/1999)

---

**stenosis** A narrowing of a tubular structure. For example the intestine may stricture interfering with movement of food through the intestine. 10/18/1999)

---

**sterilize** To destroy all microorganisms; usually not possible with chemical disinfectants, and requires physical disinfection.

---



**sternal** Laying down on the chest and belly. 7/5/2001)

---

**stomatitis** Inflammation of the mouth including the gums and tongue. 10/18/1999)

---

**storage diseases** Diseases in which cells of the body accumulate (store) a substance that causes the cells to malfunction. For example cells may store too much fat or sugar. 11/16/1999)

---

**stranguria** Straining to urinate. 10/18/1999)

---

**strategic worming** Worming during the times of year that infection is most likely to occur. 10/26/1999)

---

**stratum corneum** The outer layer of skin. 2/14/2003)

---

**stria** Streaks in the cornea caused by the cornea stretching from increased pressure. 5/23/2000)

---

**stricture** Similar to stenosis. Narrowing of a tubular structure. 10/18/1999)

---

**strip** To remove residual milk from the mammary gland (udder). 2/11/2000)

---

**stroma** Thickest layer of the cornea. 4/18/2001)

---

**structural carbohydrates** Complex carbohydrates (fiber) including cellulose, hemicellulose, lignin and pectin that form the plant cell wall. Measured in the laboratory as neutral detergent fibre (NDF). 2/11/2000)



---

**stud** The breeding male also called a sire. 7/5/2001)

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**subalbinotic** Animals with blue irises. 4/18/2001)

---

**subcorneal** Just under the stratum corneum. 2/16/2001)

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**subcorneal pustular dermatosis** *Abrev:* SPD A rare condition characterized by the formation of pustules which are subcorneal in location. 2/16/2001)

---

**subcutaneous** *Abrev:* SC or SQ Giving a drug, fluid or vaccine under the skin. 10/18/1999)

---

**subjective information** Information told to the physician by a patient. Not relevant to veterinary patients. 10/20/2000)

---

**subunit vaccine** A vaccine that use parts of a pathogen rather than the whole organism. 2/13/2003)

---

**Sudden Acquired Retinal Degeneration Syndrome** *Abrev:* SARDS Acute (2 days-2 weeks) degeneration of the photoreceptors followed by the other retinal layers affecting both eyes simultaneously.

---

**suffering** An unpleasant emotional state, but the external expression of suffering through behavior is distress. 6/19/2003)

---



**superficial cells** Epithelial cells from the vagina which are also called cornified or anucleated cells and are the largest of the epithelial cells present during estrus. If 80-90% of the cells in the smear are superficial cells that can be used as an indication to start breeding.

---

**Superficial intermediate cells** Epithelial cells exfoliated from the vagina during late proestrus to early estrus. They are larger than parabasal cells and have small nuclei and irregular/folded borders.

---

**supplement** Feed or feed mixtures rich in one or more of protein, energy, vitamins, minerals or antibiotics. Combined with other feeds to produce a more complete feed. 2/11/2000)

---

**supportive treatment** supportive treatment corrects or modifies abnormalities that occur secondary to a disease process. For example fluid and electrolyte therapy for a patient with hypoadrenocorticism.

---

**sweet feed** A commercial feed sweetened with molasses to improve palatability. 2/11/2000)

---

**symblepharon** Adherence of the conjunctiva to the cornea. 4/18/2001)

---

**symptomatic treatment** symptomatic treatment eliminates or suppresses clinical signs without affecting or knowing the underlying cause of the sign. For example antiemetics to suppress vomiting. 11/29/1999)

---

**synapse** The location at which a nerve impulse is transmitted from one neuron to another.

---

**synergistic** Two or more drugs which enhance the effectiveness of each other.

---

**synovial fluid** Fluid made by the synovial cells that lubricates joints . 10/21/1999)





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**systemic** Body-wide process (e.g. systemic infection). 10/24/2000)

---

**systemic lupus erythematosus** *Abrev:* SLE A multisystemic autoimmune disorder.

---

**T cell** A population of lymphocytes that moderates cell mediated immunity.

---

**T cytotoxic cells** *Abrev:* TC cells Their function is to use perforins and cytotoxins to destroy target cells that are carrying foreign proteins on their surface. 10/19/1999)

---

**T-cell** This population has been trafficked through the thymus and is important in cellular immunity. 10/19/1999)

---

**tachycardia** An abnormally rapid heart rate. 5/19/2003)

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**Tacrolimus** Protopic® -Fujisama. A compound with similar actions as cyclosporine (inhibition of IL-2 through inhibition of calcineurin). Available as a topical ointment (0.1%)

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**TAN-SAL** Tannic acid solution used as a topical drying agent. 2/15/2001)

---

**tapetum** A highly reflective layer located in the dorsal half of the choroid in most domestic species (pig and llama being exceptions). 4/17/2001)

---

**tarsal plate** A plate of cartilage that gives rigidity to the eye. 4/18/2001)

---



**tarsorrhaphy** Suturing together of the eyelid margins partially or totally to make the palpebral fissure smaller or to protect the cornea.

---

**telogen** The resting phase of the hair cycle before it is shed.

---

**tertiary hyperparathyroidism** Tertiary hyperparathyroidism is a relatively uncommon event occurring in some chronic renal failure patients, which may result in a moderate increase in calcium. *11/30/1999)*

---

**testes** Structures that produce sperm. *7/5/2001)*

---

**testicles** Same as testes. An organ that produces sperm. *7/5/2001)*

---

**testicular degeneration** The deterioration of the testicular tissue with resultant decrease in function. *1/12/2001)*

---

**testicular hypoplasia** Testicles that are smaller than normal. *7/5/2001)*

---

**testosterone** The male sex hormone produced by the testes. *10/27/2000)*

---

**thoracic pump theory** CPR performed in patients over 7 kg positioned in dorsal recumbency likely uses the thoracic pump theory which says that when the chest is compressed, the heart underneath the chest wall is not directly compressed but rather the chest compression is causing an increase in intrathoracic pressure. The increase in intrathoracic pressure collapses veins, prevents retrograde blood flow back towards the abdomen and compresses arteries which pushes blood forward towards the heart and brain. The heart is just acting as a passive conduit and doesn't change shape very much at all. *5/19/2003)*

---



**thorax** Another term for chest. 10/18/1999)

---

**three-in-one formula** A formula for partial parenteral nutrition that can be tailored to the individual patients by compounding the formula. Most, if not all, commercial solutions provide amino acids and dextrose but don't typically provide lipids. 5/19/2003)

---

**thrombocytopenia** Low platelet count. 10/18/1999)

---

**thromboemboli** A blood clot which forms in a blood vessel, then breaks loose into circulation and may lodge and obstruct other blood vessels. 5/19/2003)

---

**thrombophlebitis** Inflammation of a vein associated with thrombus formation. The thrombus may break loose as a thromboembolus and then plug other blood vessels. 5/19/2003)

---

**thrombosis** The formation of blood clots in blood vessels. 9/27/1999)

---

**titer** The reciprocal of the highest dilution of serum that gives a reaction in an immunological test.

---

**TNTC** Too numerous to count. Used primarily to describe the number of red or white cells observed per high power field when performing a urinalysis. 9/16/2003)

---

**tolerance** Specific unresponsiveness to a given antigen 10/18/1999)

---

**tolerance levels** 1/1000th the level where birth defects were induced by a drug and 1/100th the level where other side effects were induced. 11/16/1999)

---



**tonometry** Measuring pressure in the eyeball. 5/23/2000)

---

**Tonopen tonometer** An applanation tonometer used to calculate IOP from the force required to flatten (applanate) the cornea. 4/18/2001)

---

**torsion** Twisting of a body part. For example, a retained testicle may twist, cutting off its blood supply. 10/27/2000)

---

**total body water** Total body water accounts for ~ 60 to 70% of an animal's body weight. Total body water is distributed across interconnected compartments. 2/3 of total body water is located within cells and 1/3 in extracellular locations including plasma and interstitial locations 11/29/1999)

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**total digestible nutrients** *Abrev:* TDN A term describing the energy value of feedstuffs, comparable to DE in accuracy. TDN over- estimates the energy value of roughages in comparison to grains. 2/11/2000)

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**total mixed ration** *Abrev:* TMR A ration where all feed ingredients (mineral, vitamins, grains) are mixed in a nutritionally balanced ration. 2/11/2000)

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**total mixed ration** *Abrev:* TMR All ration ingredients, including roughages, mixed mechanically to provide one homogenous mixture. TMRs are used in large dairy or beef feedlot operations. 2/11/2000)

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**total parenteral nutrition** *Abrev:* TPN Providing 100% of a patient's caloric needs by the intravenous route through a central catheter. 5/19/2003)

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**total protein** *Abrev:* TP All the proteins in the blood stream including albumin, immunoglobulins and other globulins. TP can be measured with a refractometer or by chemical methods. 11/29/1999)



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**toxemia** Capacity of parasite to produce toxins (endotoxins or exotoxins). Be cautious about differentiating this from a toxic substance, such as lead poisoning from old batteries, or toxic plants. 10/18/1999)

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**toxic epidermal necrolysis** *Abrev:* TEN Cutaneous lesions with 2 forms in humans: Staphylococcal scalded skin syndrome (SSSS) which is seen generally in children and is caused by the elaboration of an exfoliating toxin from *S. aureus*. TEN (Lyell's disease) is the adult form which is identical clinically, but thought to be caused by a different factor. 2/16/2001)

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**toxicity** Potency; amount of a poison that will cause an adverse effect. 10/26/1999)

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**toxicology** The study of poisons (toxicants). 10/21/1999)

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**toxins** Poisons either from the environment or wastes accumulating in the blood due to organ failure. E.G. uremic wastes are those toxins that accumulate in the blood when the kidneys fail. 10/18/1999)

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**toxoid** Inactivated toxin from a particular bacteria that is injected and generates antibodies to the toxin. 10/19/1999)

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**TPR** A common medical abbreviation for temperature, pulse, and respiration. 10/21/1999)

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**trachea** A synonym for the windpipe. 10/18/1999)

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**tranquilizer** A drug that calms an animal without affecting consciousness.

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**transabdominal ultrasonography** Passing sound waves through the belly to see internal organs and structures. 7/5/2001)

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**transdermal** Absorption of a drug across the intact skin. 2/14/2003)

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**transitional cell carcinoma** *Abrev:* TCC A tumor originating from the transitional epithelium lining the urinary tract. The most common location for development of transitional cell carcinoma tumors is in the trigone of the urinary bladder. 9/27/1999)

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**transmissibility/contagiousness** Capacity of parasite to spread between animals – e.g. Salmonella dublin is regard as highly contagious between heifers and calves via feces. 10/18/1999)

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**transplacental** Transplacental means crossing the placenta. The placenta is the in-utero connection between the mother and the fetus. Transplacental means something (a drug, antibodies, an infectious agent, etc.) crosses from the mother to the fetus before birth. This can be good in the case of antibodies that protect the newborn from disease early in life or bad if it is an infectious agent that transfers from mother to baby. 2/15/2000)

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**transrectal ultrasonography** Placing the ultrasound probe into the rectum in order to more clearly recognize internal organs and structures 7/5/2001)

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**transverse** Cross sectional view of a structure. 6/19/2003)

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**Travasol®** An amino acid solution used in TPN and PPN. 5/19/2003)

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**trichiasis** Normal hair from around the eyes is directed towards the eye, causing irritation. 4/18/2001)

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**trichiasis** Condition in which hairs originating from normal locations turn inward and cause irritation. 5/25/2000)

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**trichogram** This is a hair "plucks". The trichogram is useful to evaluate the integrity of hair shafts and also serves as a test for demodicosis and dermatophytosis. 2/15/2001)

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**tris-EDTA solution** A combination of EDTA, tromethane [hydroxymethyl]aminomethane) and sodium dodecyl sulfate used intreatment of Pseudomonas otitis. 2/16/2001)

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**Trombiculidiasis** Chiggers 2/15/2001)

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**tumor** A swelling of any structure but not always neoplastic. 2/16/2001)

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**tumor** A synonym for cancer.

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**ulcer** Loss of continuity of the epidermis. Often slow to heal. 2/16/2001)

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**ultrasonography** Passing sound waves through a structure or organ in order to see its internal structure and consistency. 7/3/2001)

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**ultrasound** *Abrev: US* An imaging technique in which sound waves are passed through body tissues in order to view the size, shape, location and internal structure of an organ or tissue.

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**umbilical cord** The tubular structure that connects the fetus to the placenta and carries nutrients to the fetus and removes its wastes. 7/5/2001)

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**unavailable protein/heat damaged protein** Portion of the protein irreversibly bound to the fibre fraction in feedstuffs. It is usually a small fraction of the total protein, but can be greatly increased by heat. 2/11/2000)

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**undegradable intake protein** *Abrev: UIP* Portion of ingested protein that escapes rumen degradation and is digested directly in the other stomachs or small intestine; generally a more expensive source of protein. Commonly referred to as 'bypass' protein. 2/11/2000)

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**unilateral** Involving one side. 10/27/2000)

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**unsaturated fat** Any fat that is not completely hydrogenated. Unsaturated fats are liquid at room temperature. Examples: corn oil, vegetable oil. 2/11/2000)

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**upright silo** Storage unit for high moisture feed, generally silage, either upright. 2/11/2000)

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**ureter** A small tubular structure leading from the kidney to the bladder. There are 2 ureters, one from each kidney. 10/18/1999)

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**urethra** The small tubular structure leading from the bladder to the outside.

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**urinary bladder** The sac-like structure that holds urine until the animal passes the urine. 7/5/2001)

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**urination** To pass urine. 7/5/2001)

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**urine** Liquid wastes. 10/18/1999)

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**urine specific gravity** *Abrev: USG* The weight of urine compared to an equal volume of water. In general, the greater the USG, the more concentrated is the urine.

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**uro-vagina** Presence of urine in the vagina. *7/5/2001)*

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**urticaria** An allergic reaction of the skin characterised by reddened irregular, elevated patches and severe itching. Also called hives. *5/19/2003)*

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**urticaria** Hives, an eruption of wheals. *2/16/2001)*

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**uterine inertia** Ineffective or absence of uterine contractions during delivery.

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**uterine prolapse** A side effect that may occur after a difficult birth where the the uterus comes out the birth canal.

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**uterine torsion** Twisting of an organ, in this case, twisting of the uterus. *7/5/2001)*

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**uterine tubes** Tubes that connect the ovarian bursa to the uterus. Eggs are transported through these tubes to the uterus. *7/3/2001)*

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**uteroverdin** A green pigment present in the placenta attached to the endometrium of a bitch. As placental separation occurs during whelping the pigment is discharged. *1/12/2001)*

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**uterus** The female organ in which the fetus develops. Composed of a body and 2 horns.

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**uvea** The vascular layer of the eye comprised of the iris, ciliary body, and choroid. The function is nutritio.n

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**uveitis** Inflammation of the uvea.

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**uveodermatologic syndrome** Vogt-Koyanagi-Harada Syndrome or "uveitis with poliosis and vitiligo". Syndrome of uveitis, alopecia, depigmentation and whitening of the hairs.

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**vagina** The part of the female reproductive tract connected to the vulva on one end and the cervix on the other.

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**vaginal prolapse** Prolapse of the vagina through the lips of the vulva. Vaginal prolapse most often occurs during proestrus or early estrus, during the time of estrogen stimulation.

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**vaginal prolapse** Eversion of the vagina outside of the vulva. 7/5/2001)

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**vaginitis** Inflammation of the vagina. 7/5/2001)

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**Variable Accreditation Program** *Abrev:* VAP A set of standards set by the American Animal Hospital Association (AAHA) which serve as a yardstick for measuring quality of patient care and a vehicle for setting specific goals for the hospital staff. 10/19/2000)

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**vascular** Relating to blood vessels, both arteries and veins. 10/18/1999)

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**vasculitis** Inflammation of the endothelial lining of a blood vessel. 5/19/2003)

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**vasopressin** An extremely potent vasoconstrictor. It may replace the use of epinephrine in treatment of refractory ventricular fibrillation. 5/19/2003)

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**vasopressor** A drug that stimulates the contraction of the muscle in the walls of capillaries and arteries causing vasoconstriction and an increase in blood pressure.

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**vector** A carrier, in the case of recombinant vaccines, a "safe" virus used to introduce immunogenic DNA into the host animal during vaccination.

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**vein** A blood vessel that carries blood back to the heart. The pressure in veins is lower than in arteries. Veins contain less oxygen and nutrients than arteries and contain waste products that they carry to the lungs or other organs for disposal. 10/18/1999)

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**venereal** Sexually transmitted. Transmissible venereal tumors occur on the genital organs; penis or vagina, and are transmitted from dog to dog by sexual contact.

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**venous** Referring to the system of veins. 10/18/1999)

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**ventilator** A device that is used to control breathing. 10/18/1999)

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**ventricle** The heart has 4 chambers; the two chambers that make up the bottom of the heart are the ventricles. Fluid filled spaces in the brain are also called ventricles. 10/18/1999)

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**verminous pneumonia** Pneumonia caused by worms. 10/26/1999)

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**vertebrae** The segments of the backbone. Each vertebrae is separated from adjacent vertebrae by a spongy structure called a disk. 10/18/1999)



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**vertical transmission** Ways an infection is spread from a parent to its offspring.

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**vesicle** A small sac containing fluid 7/5/2001)

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**vestibular** Pertaining to balance. The inner ear and the cerebellum of the brain are responsible for maintaining balance. 10/18/1999)

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**vestibulum** The area of the female genital tract between the vulva and the vestibular sphincter that opens into the vagina cavity and has on it's floor the opening of the urethra. 7/3/2001)

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**vicryl rapide** An absorbable suture which breaks down in about 2 weeks.

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**virgin** Never been bred. 7/5/2001)

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**virucide** A substance that kills viruses.

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**virulence** Usually used to define the degree of pathogenicity.

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**viruses** Obligate intracellular parasites. They contain either DNA or RNA, and a protein coat referred to as a capsid. 10/18/1999)

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**viscera** A general term for the abdominal organs which are also called viscera. 10/18/1999)

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**vitamins** Organic compounds that function as parts of enzyme systems essential for many metabolic functions. 2/11/2000)

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**vitiligo** Depigmentation 2/16/2001)

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**vitreocentesis** Obtaining a sample of fluid from the vitreous for cytology or culture. 4/18/2001)

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**Vitreous** Clear, jellylike substance filling the vitreous chamber, the most posterior cavity in the eye, comprising two-thirds of the volume of the eye. Maintains the shape of the globe. 4/17/2001)

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**Vivonex®** by Norwich Eaton. A hypoallergenic elemental diet.

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**Vogt-Koyanagi-Harada syndrome** Uveodermatologic syndrome or "uveitis with poliosis and vitiligo". Syndrome of uveitis, alopecia, depigmentation and whitening of the hairs. 2/16/2001)

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**volatile fatty acids** *Abrev:* VFA By products of digestion in the rumen that make an acidic environment and keep pathogenic bacterial populations down. 11/16/1999)

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**von Willebrand's factor** A blood factor that promotes platelet adhesion.

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**vulva** The external part of the female reproductive tract.

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**walking dandruff** Common name for Cheyletiella infestation.

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**water soluble vitamins** Includes B complex vitamins and vitamin C. Not normally supplemented for ruminants after two months of age because rumen microbes are able to manufacture enough to meet the animal's requirements. 2/11/2000)

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**WBC** *Abrev:* WBC White blood cell. There are several types of WBCs including, neutrophils, lymphocytes, eosinophils and monocytes.

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**weight-averaged molecular weight** The sum of the number of molecules at each number-averaged molecular weight divided by the total number of molecules in solution. The weight-averaged molecular weight gives an indication of how long a solution will exert an oncotic effect. Generally, the larger the weight-averaged molecular weight, the longer it lasts.

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**white muscle disease** Another name for a selenium deficiency. 11/2/1999)

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**wind up** Sensitization of the central nervous system in response to sustained pain. With sustained pain, new receptors (NMDA receptors) are formed in the central nervous system. These receptors use a very fast neurotransmitter and cause a marked increase in the amount of pain transmitted to the brain. They also prevent opioids from working to their full effectiveness.

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**withdrawal periods** The amount of time it takes for a drug to be broken down in the body until it is at a level safe for human consumption. 11/16/1999)

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**withdrawal time** Time meat must be withheld from sale following treatment to avoid sale of residue laden meat.

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**withholding period** The time after a drug is administered, before the animal can be marketed (or the milk used for human consumption).

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**withholding time** Time milk must be withheld from sale following treatment to avoid appearance of residues in milk.



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**wood's light** An ultraviolet light filtered through nickel oxide. Of the common dermatophytes, only *M. canis* fluoresces, 25 to 50% of the time.

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**WSVMA** Washington State Veterinary Medical Association

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**x-ray** The x-ray is the high energy beam that produces a "picture" of a body part which is called the radiograph. Radiographs are commonly, but incorrectly, referred to as x-rays.

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**yearling** Horse 12 to 24 months of age.

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**yeast** A single cell fungi which improves feed digestion by stimulating microbial activity and stabilizing digestive tract pH. Products packaged as "yeast" consist of cells only; "yeast culture" includes live yeast cells plus growth media.

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**Yersinia pestis** Etiologic agent of plague.

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**zona pellucida** The envelope surrounding the egg or ovum.

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**zoonoses** A biologically heterogeneous group of infectious diseases.

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**zoonosis** A disease that can be transmitted from animals to people.

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**zoonotic disease** Infectious diseases naturally transmitted from vertebrate animals to humans. Some of these diseases can be harbored in a vertebrate animal but there might be a vector involved in transmission, so that is still a zoonotic disease because it is harbored in a vertebrate



animal. Additionally, the disease may be food or water borne, so you don't need to have direct contact with an animal to acquire a zoonotic disease.

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**zoonotic Infection** Refers to infectious microorganisms that have the potential to cause disease in humans. Public Health is the study of zoonotic infections.