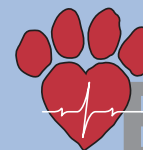




# EMERGENCY B·Y·T·E·S



Chicago Veterinary  
Emergency Services

# ER

Open Nights, Weekends & Holidays

773.281.7110

News and information from the Chicago Veterinary Emergency Services

Winter 2007

## Specialty Products/Services

Below is a list of services and products we can supply to day practices:

**Antizol Vet:** Used to treat antifreeze poisoning.

**Zofran and Cerenia:** Anti-vomiting drugs not commonly stocked by general practices.

**Calcium EDTA:** For treatment of heavy metal poisoning.

**Canine Cryoprecipitate:** Plasma product used for bleeding disorders.

**Oxyglobin:** A blood substitute to help the patient carry oxygen through the body.

**Plasma:** Blood component used to treat low protein.

**Canine Packed Red Blood Cells:** Red blood cell replacement for anemic patients.

**Whole Blood:** For trauma cases, etc.

**Blood Filters, etc.:** Used in the administration of whole blood transfusions.

**Jackson-Pratt Drains:** Abdominal drains that have a fluid reservoir.

**Central Venous Catheters:** Elongated catheters for repeated blood collections and pressure measurements.

**Hetastarch:** Expands blood volume to maintain blood pressure.

**Freamine:** Injectable amino acid (protein) supplement.

**Acetylcysteine:** Used to treat Tylenol toxicity.

**Canine Pancreatic Lipase Snap Test:** To test for pancreatitis (until recently, available only at reference labs).

**Cardiac Troponin Test:** To look for heart injury (until recently, only available at reference labs).

**Septiserum:** For treatment of parvovirus patients.

*The Hospital staff is available until 2:00 pm daily. If you need to reach us, you may contact us on our hospital-to-hospital line.*

## A Career in Emergency

Chicago Veterinary Emergency Services has been open for 29 years, and Dr. Rick Pehta has been here for all of them.

Dr. Pehta grew up in the western suburbs, where he still lives with his family and their faithful dog. He first took a job at a veterinary hospital at the age of 16 in an effort to impress a girl who worked there. However, it was he who ended up really impressed – with how the world of veterinary medicine operated. Already intrigued by his own pet's biology and envisioning a medical career, the experience compelled him to focus on veterinary medicine.

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In pursuit of this goal, Dr. Pehta attended Western Illinois University for two years, followed by four years at the University of Illinois College of Veterinary Medicine. After graduating, he worked for three years in private practice in Downers Grove and Wheaton. However, it didn't take him long to realize that the pace of private practice wasn't for him. Searching for a more challenging, fast-paced work environment, he learned of an emergency hospital soon to open in Chicago. He submitted his resume, and along with another doctor, was hired to open the facility. The other original veterinarian left after a few years, but Dr. Pehta has stayed through it all: from the small two-room original hospital to the one room trailer to our new, modernized facility.

He has stayed because nothing gives him more joy than helping people with their pets. Dr. Pehta enjoys the challenges of emergency medicine: quickly determining the situation and how best to treat it. His primary concerns are always the welfare of the patient and the concerns of the owners.

In addition to his duties as a veterinarian, Dr. Pehta is also the hospital's Medical Director, a position that brings with it the challenging task of keeping everyone happy – clients and staff alike. When asked how he handles all those responsibilities, he coyly

answers, "By not sleeping." In truth, Dr. Pehta is involved in many recreational activities to relax and recover from his challenging work-weeks. He likes to stay active and in tip-top shape. To this end, he bikes, plays racquetball, runs, does yard work, and fishes.

After 29 years, Dr. Pehta has encountered just about everything. One case that stands out to him was a West Highland Terrier that came in with vomiting and diarrhea; it turned out to be one of the first cases of parvovirus anyone had ever seen. Dr. Pehta suggested a blood transfusion that saved the animal's life. He also remembers the tension pneumothorax cases he has saved. These cases are important to him because the outcome is dependent on the personal touch of the caregiver.

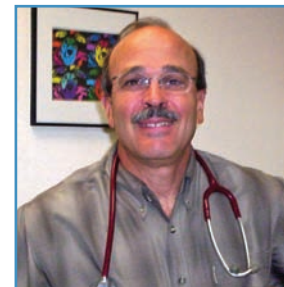
Professionally, Dr. Pehta is very proud of his part in helping the hospital grow and develop into the thriving establishment it is today. He feels this success is a result of the staff's dedication and ability to provide competent and compassionate care to every patient at CVES. He would like to see the hospital grow into a 24-hour facility, as well as expand its diagnostic capabilities.

On the personal side, Dr. Pehta is most proud of his happy and fulfilling family life, having raised two children with his wife.

He is pleased to say that he has taught many people many things. One of the most rewarding aspects of his job is that of teacher. In fact of all the professions out there the only other one he ever considered going into was education. Being able to practice medicine and teach others what he has learned at CVES fulfills two dreams come true.

Dr. Pehta feels he will eventually retire, most likely breaking away from CVES gradually, but only after he wins the lottery and becomes a millionaire. At that point, he will fish and bike more often, and then just sit back and enjoy the weather.

In the end, Dr. Pehta says the greatest lesson he has ever learned, and what he tries to keep with him at all times, is that, "In the long run, everything is fine."





Chicago Veterinary  
Emergency Services

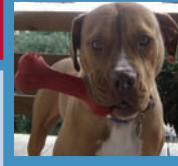
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*Emergency Bytes is published by Chicago Veterinary Emergency Services (CVES). The only after-hours animal emergency facility in Chicago, we provide the highest quality emergency medical and surgical care when your regular veterinarian is closed. Fully staffed with veterinarians and technicians who are specially trained and experienced in handling animal emergencies, we are just a phone call away!*

# EMERGENCY B·Y·T·E·S

## CVES Blood Bank – Help Save A Life



### Update on CVES Canine Blood Bank

Earlier this year, we stepped up our efforts to promote the canine blood bank and began actively recruiting donors into our program. Interest in the program has gradually increased, as dog owners throughout the city have heard about the blood bank. We now have 12 universal blood donor dogs and add an average of two per month to our growing pack of lifesavers!

In the past two months, we have developed a rotating donation schedule to help ensure that there is always an adequate supply of blood for our emergency use and for utilization by other veterinary hospitals. If a day practice should need canine blood for a patient, a CVES staff member is on call from 8 am-7 pm. Please page them at 773-215-0258.

For further information, or to schedule an appointment to have your dog screened, please call 773-281-7110, extension 67, or e-mail [cvesbloodbank@yahoo.com](mailto:cvesbloodbank@yahoo.com).

Chicago Veterinary Emergency Services  
3123 N. Clybourn Ave.  
Chicago, IL 60618  
773-281-7110  
[www.chicagoveterinaryemergency.com](http://www.chicagoveterinaryemergency.com)

### We're Hiring!

CVES is looking for compassionate and skilled veterinary staff to join our team. Stop in or visit our web site to apply!

## Meet Our Veterinarians

**Dr. Richard Pehta** has been with CVES since its beginning in September 1978. A 1975 graduate of the University of Illinois, he is dedicated to providing the best and most compassionate critical care for Chicago's pets and pet owners. Dr. Pehta is married with two grown children and enjoys the outdoors, biking, fishing and gardening.

**Dr. Jerry Klein** grew up in Cleveland, Ohio, and graduated with a B.A. from Miami University in 1975. Dr. Klein graduated from Ohio State University College of Veterinary Medicine in 1979. He has been employed at CVES for the last 25 years. Dr. Klein's interests include travel, food, music, dog show judging, and breeding award-winning Afghan Hounds.

**Dr. Laura Beyer** grew up in Grand Blanc, Michigan. She received a Bachelor's degree in Zoology from Michigan State University in 1987, and then her D.V.M. from the College of Veterinary Medicine from MSU in 1991. Dr. Beyer started in mixed animal practice, but found her niche in emergency medicine and has been at CVES for over 13 years. In her free time, she enjoys sailing, downhill skiing and snow boarding, scuba diving, and traveling the world. She lives with her dog, Josie, four pussycats, and boyfriend Craig.

**Dr. Joseph Hahn** grew up around Chicago and graduated with a B.B.A. from the University of Iowa in 1989. He received his M.S.A. from Northwestern University in 1990 and graduated from the University of Illinois College of Veterinary Medicine in 1998.

**Dr. June Lafave** graduated from the University of Pennsylvania School of Veterinary Medicine in 2003. She is a member of the Veterinary Emergency and Critical Care Society and the AVMA. Having recently moved to the Midwest from Philadelphia, Dr. Lafave and her husband enjoy exploring their new city. She also likes biking, music, going to golf driving ranges, and spending time with her akita-mix, Ruki.

**Dr. Stacia Volbrecht** most recently resided in Baltimore, Maryland, where she moved after graduating from the University of Wisconsin School of Veterinary Medicine. She decided to return to her Midwest roots in 2006, leaving the East Coast for Chicago. Originally from Wisconsin, Dr. Volbrecht is happy to be closer to home. In her free time, she enjoys running, shopping, and trying new restaurants.

**Dr. Belinda Nguyen** worked for two years in daytime practice after graduating from the University of Florida in 2004. Last year she made the switch to emergency medicine and hasn't looked back. Originally from the Southeast, Dr. Nguyen recently moved to the Chicago area. Dr. Nguyen's other interests include salsa dancing, cooking, exercise and fitness, traveling, and playing Frisbee with her two dogs, Lucky & Jack.

