

## Stem Cell Therapy comes to Veterinary Medicine!

McKenzie Animal Hospital is excited to offer a new treatment using stem cell therapy for Dogs & Cats with tendon or ligament injuries, or the pain and inflammation caused by arthritis. Stem cells are found in abundant numbers in normal fat tissue, which can easily be taken from under the animal's skin. This tissue is processed to remove stem cells, which can then be injected into the affected site.



Founded in 2002, Vet-Stem is a San Diego-based company. It is at their laboratory where your animal's own stem cells are extracted from fat samples, then returned in the form of injections that are ready for use.

Did you know that your pet's stem cells can be stored for future treatments? Vet-Stem has a cryofreezer where your animal's cells can be stored for years to come.

The first year of storage, or "banking," is included in the initial processing fee. At the one year anniversary date, you will be contacted by Vet-Stem to renew your cell banking agreement. As your veterinarian, I think this is a great bio-insurance policy for future ailments.

You never know when you might need them, and I know you would agree that banking the cells versus re-collecting another fat sample is definitely preferable for both you and your pet. Your banked doses can be used for osteoarthritis, tendon and ligament repair and fracture healing. In addition, Vet-Stem is looking into future applications for stem cells, increasing the possible uses for your banked doses.

Dr. Matthew Fricke has been trained and certified to perform this procedure for your pet. Please give us a call so that we may schedule an appointment to evaluate your animal and discuss this exciting new treatment option!

## Staff News...

- Selected staff members attended this year's Oregon Veterinary Conference in Corvallis, Oregon. Highlights of this year's conference include Dentistry, Companion Animal Behavior, and Client service.
- Angela and fiancé Brandon tied the knot on February 27th. Congratulations and we wish you both true happiness.
- Dr. Fricke was presented with the Presidents Award at this year's Oregon Veterinary Conference by the Oregon Veterinary Medical Association. This award is given by the president of the OVMA to the veterinarian of their choose for outstanding work in the field and for the OVMA.
- Inpatient technician, Rolinda, passed the National Examination Boards to become a Certified Veterinary Technician in March of 2009. We are proud of you, Good Job Rolinda!
- This year McKenzie Animal Hospital is participating in many local school career days to help students determine what High School or College track they should take. We attended this year's Lane County Career Fair for High School Seniors, which had record student attendance of 1800 students!

## Protecting Your Pet with Health Insurance

Over the years, the attitude of pet owners has seen revolutionary changes. Pets have evolved from outside "fixtures" to bedroom companions. Our clients consider their pets as members of the family and will do anything to keep them happy and healthy. Yet, we find that our clients often have to weigh "their heart against their wallet" when facing treatment decisions for a pet's illness or accident.

Our clients are used to human

healthcare plans that cover basic care, but few are aware that coverage is also available for their pet. We have seen too many heartbroken pet owners who could have avoided an unhappy outcome if they had insured their pet. That's why we want you to know that you have options available, and we would like to see more of our clients taking advantage of this opportunity.

**For more information contact:**

Pets Best Insurance Co. 1-877-738-7237 [www.petsbest.com](http://www.petsbest.com)

Ask about the extent of coverage; exclusions; dollar maximums; pre-existing conditions; add-on options for routine care, cancer, hereditary or congenital diseases.





5303 Main St.  
Springfield, OR 97478

Phone: 541-747-3859

Fax: 541-868-3001

www.mckenzieanimalhospital.com

## Employee of the Quarter...

Dr. Jacoby received her Doctorate in Veterinary Medicine from Oregon State University in 2008. She grew up in a small town in Northern California and received her B.S. in Animal Science from Cal Poly San Luis Obispo in 2003, before relocating to the Eugene area. Her interests include internal medicine, preventative medicine and senior pet wellness. She also feels community service is important and serves on the board of Pro-Bone-O, a veterinary service for the homeless. Outside of the hospital she enjoys hiking, camping, biking and traveling with her husband and shares her home with two dogs, Brady and Lena as well as two cats, Izzy and Sidney.



### Dog Tired?

Animal behaviorists have documented when dogs yawn that doesn't mean they're tired. One notable reason has been labeled "calming signals," which are a dog's attempts to defuse stressful situations with other dogs or humans. Dogs may also yawn when they're excited, such as the anticipation of going for a walk. Observe your dog, and enjoy discovering what makes him yawn!

**Scratch That...** Scratching is a normal feline behavior, so it's important to provide your cat with an acceptable place to scratch. Scratching helps remove the old, outer nail sheath called the "husk." Scratching posts come in many shapes, sizes and textures. Be sure to choose one that is sturdy and allows a full stretch. Entice your cat to scratch her post by occasionally sprinkling it with catnip. To help deter unwanted scratching in other spots, try placing some double sided tape on the spot your cat has scratched. And finally place the scratching post in a location near where you cat likes to scratch.

## Feline Heartworm Associated Respiratory Disease (HARD)

When it comes to heartworm disease, dogs and cats have a lot in common. But new research shows that in cats there is the potential for more severe reactions and even sudden death. Indoor cats are also at risk for heartworm disease.

**What are the signs?** The most common signs of heartworm disease in cats - coughing, vomiting, breathing difficulties, weight loss, and lethargy - are often mistaken for other conditions such as asthma, pneumonia and digestive problems.

In fact, most common clinical signs of heartworm disease in cats resembles bronchial asthma.

**Prevention** Once a cat is diagnosed with heartworm disease, managing the disease can be difficult. Treatment, as well as non-treatment, is very risky, because there's currently no approved product for eliminating adult heartworms, and the onset of clinical signs is impossible to predict in cats that are left untreated. Even if the disease is treated, your

cat may experience severe complications or even death when the worms die. Prevention is the best medicine. Ask your veterinarian about heartworm disease prevention for your cat. It will help give your feline friend the best chance for a long and healthy life.

Cases of heartworm disease in cats have been reported across the United States and in many other countries. Heartworm disease in cats is most common in areas where dogs are also at risk.

