AO VET NA Masters Course—Principles of Deformity Correction: Thoracic Limb

October 2, 2025 - October 4, 2025
Glendale, Arizona, USA

The purpose of this course is to provide the participant with the basic fundamentals of understanding how to assess the alignment of the forelimb of the dog. These principles will then be applied to a number of conditions that arise from pathologic malalignment of the forelimb, such as growth disturbances, angular limb deformation and joint incongruity. Participants will learn a variety of pre-operative assessments and operative techniques in a highly interactive environment involving lectures, workbook exercises, software-based planning sessions and hand-on laboratory experiences.

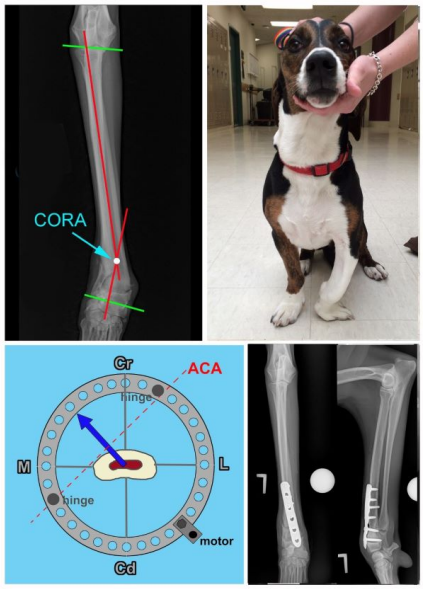
REGISTERED PARTICIPANTS ARE REQUIRED TO BRING EITHER A LAPTOP OR IPAD TO THE COURSE IN ORDER TO ACCESS THE COMPUTER SOFTWARE TEMPLATING PROGRAM.

Target Audience

Enrollment is open to Veterinary residents and practicing veterinarians.

Prerequisite

Completion of an AO VET Principles of Small Animal Fracture Management course is a prerequisite for this Masters level course since familiarity with instrumentation and techniques will be assumed.



Event Summary

Tuition:
Level Name: Participant - Veterinary
Pricing Tier: Attending
Tuition: $2,100.00

Level Name: Participant - Veterinary
Pricing Tier: Resident
Tuition: $1,890.00

Course Prerequisite(s):

- Principles of Small Animal Fracture Management

Venue:
Renaissance Phoenix Glendale Hotel
9495 W Entertainment Blvd
Glendale, Arizona, USA
Phone Number: (623) 937-3700
https://www.marriott.com/en-us/hotels/phxgr-renaissance-phoenix-glendale-hotel-and-spa/overview/

Language(s):
English
Directly Provided by:
AO North America
Professional Level Prerequisite(s):
No Prerequisites

CME

- Activity will be certified for continuing education.

The Continuing Medical Education (CME) mission of AO North America (AONA®) is to provide comprehensive multidisciplinary needs based education to surgeons, fellows, and residents in the specialties of orthopedic, hand, craniomaxillofacial, spine, neurosurgery, and veterinary surgery in the areas of trauma (i.e.), operative reduction and fixation), degenerative disorders, deformities, tumors, and reconstruction.

Expected results of AONA's CME activities for surgeons, fellows, and residents are to:
• Increase their knowledge base and surgical skill level
• Improve competence by applying advances of knowledge in patient care in the areas of trauma, degenerative disorders, deformities, tumors, and reconstructive surgical techniques
• Address practice performance gaps by improving management of aspects of traumatic injuries and musculoskeletal disorders (i.e., pre-operative planning to post-operative care)

Learning Objectives

Upon completion, participants should be able to:

- Assess the limb alignment of the thoracic limb (both normal and abnormal) in the dog
- Utilize the determined limb alignment to document and define any malalignment or deformity present
- Use the map of documented malalignments to develop a pre-surgical plan for correction

Faculty

Fox, Derek - Chairperson

DVM, PhD, DACVS
Professor, Small Animal Orthopedic Surgery
Veterinary Health Center
University of Missouri
Columbia, Missouri

Dr. Fox is a Professor of Small Animal Orthopedic Surgery and Chief of the Small Animal Surgery Service at the University of Missouri's Veterinary Health Center. He graduated from veterinary school at Michigan State University in 1998, after which he completed an internship, surgical residency and PhD at the University of Missouri, becoming faculty in 2004. He teaches courses and lectures on a variety of topics regarding small animal orthopedic surgery both nationally and internationally. Dr. Fox's special research interest is in limb alignment and deformity correction. He has authored or co-authored over 60 peer reviewed papers, 8 text book chapters and numerous abstracts. He adapted the use of the Center of Rotation of Angulation methodology for the quantification and pre-surgical planning of angular limb deformities in dogs. He is a member of the American College of Veterinary Surgeons, Veterinary Orthopedic Society and AO.

Jaeger, Gayle - Co-Chairperson

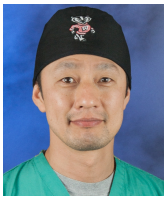
DVM, MSpVM, DACVS
Pet Emergency Treatment and Specialties
Lancaster, Pennsylvania

Gayle Jaeger, a native of Long Island New York, received her Bachelor's of Science from Syracuse University, and then earned her Doctorate of Veterinary Medicine from North Carolina State University. She completed an academic internship at Oklahoma State University and a Specialized Orthopedic Surgical Internship in Orlando, Florida at Affiliated Veterinary Specialists. Dr. Jaeger then returned to North Carolina State University for her Surgical Residency training while earning a Masters Degree in Specialized Veterinary Medicine. Dr. Jaeger, was inducted into the American College Of Veterinary Surgeons In 2004 and has been faculty with AONA since 2008. She currently practices in Lancaster Pennsylvania. In her free time she enjoys snowmobiling in Maine and boating on the Chesapeake.

Bleedorn, Jason - Lecturer

DVM, MS, DACVS
Associate Professor
Small Animal Orthopedics
Colorado State University
Department of Clinical Sciences
Fort Collins, Colorado

Dr. Bleedorn is an associate professor of orthopedics at Colorado State University. His clinical and research interests include bone deformity correction, 3D imaging/modeling/printing, implant design/biomechanics, fracture innovation, and arthroscopic surgery. He has published manuscripts and book chapters in these areas and is concurrently an instructor for AO VET, Arthrex, and IMEX. He is passionate about innovation, improving orthopedic care for pets, and teaching of veterinarians, residents and students. Dr. Bleedorn's academic training includes a veterinary degree (University of Illinois, 2005), internships (Purdue University, 2006 and Dallas Surgical Center, 2007), and residency (2010) and MS degree (University of Wisconsin, 2015). He was on faculty at the University of Wisconsin for 10 years prior to moving to Colorado in 2022.



Hayashi, Kei - Lecturer

DVM, PhD, DACVS
Professor Emeritus
College of Veterinary Medicine
Cornell University
Ithaca, New York

Dr. Kei Hayashi graduated from the University of Tokyo with BVMS/DVM/PhD degrees (1986-1997), and then obtained MS and PhD degrees at the University of Wisconsin (1997). He completed a small animal surgery residency at the University of Wisconsin (2003) and became a Diplomate of the American College of Veterinary Surgeons (ACVS). He served as an assistant professor of small animal orthopedic surgery at the Michigan State University (2003-2005) then moved to UC Davis and was tenured with accelerated promotion in 2012. He began his appointment at Cornell University in 2013. His research focus is in pathology of ligament/tendon injury and wound healing, evaluation of total joint replacement systems, molecular profiling of osteoarthritis, and comparative orthopedics and sports medicine. His clinical interests are in arthroscopy, total joint arthroplasty, biological approach to joint surgery, minimally invasive fracture treatment, and application of novel research discoveries to clinical patients.

Karlin, William - Lecturer
DVM, MS, DACVS
Assistant Professor
Orthopedic Surgery
Department of Clinical Sciences
Cummings School of Veterinary Medicine
Tufts University
North Grafton, Massachusetts

Dr. Karlin is currently an Assistant Professor in Small Animal Orthopedic Surgery at the Cummings School of Veterinary Medicine at Tufts University. He earned his DVM degree at Kansas State University College of Veterinary Medicine in 2006. He went on to complete a three-year residency program and Masters Degree at the University of Illinois in Equine Surgery in 2010. He then worked in private practice at two equine surgical referral centers for several years before completing the requirements for dual certification in Small Animal Surgery, at Lauderdale Veterinary Specialists. Dr. Karlin was the first surgeon to pass the requirements for dual certification through ACVS becoming a diplomate of the American College of Veterinary Surgeons (ACVS) in both small animal and large animal. His areas of clinical and research interest include arthroscopy, fracture healing, fracture repair, and orthopedic implants including minimally invasive methods, total joint replacement, osteoarthritis, and assessment and correction of limb deformity.

Marcellin-Little, Denis - Lecturer
DEDV, DACVS, DACVSMR, DECVS
Professor and Chair, Orthopedic Surgery
Department of Surgical and Radiological Sciences
School of Veterinary Medicine
University of California, Davis
Davis, California

Dr. Denis Marcellin-Little is a Diplomate of the American College of Veterinary Surgeons and a charter Diplomate of the American College of Veterinary Sports Medicine and Rehabilitation. Dr. Marcellin-Little specializes in orthopedic surgery. He is professor and service chief of small animal orthopedic surgery at the University of California, Davis. Dr. Marcellin-Little graduated from the French veterinary school of Toulouse, France in 1988. He did an internship at Hollywood Animal Hospital in Hollywood, Florida, followed by a small animal surgery residency at North Carolina State University, where he was on the faculty from 1994 to 2017. He joined UC Davis in 2017. Dr. Marcellin-Little's surgical interests include total joint replacement and the management of limb deformities. His research interests include the medical and surgical management of severe joint disease and limb deformities. Dr. Marcellin-Little has completed all three phases of the faculty development program, Faculty education, Chair education and Leadership education programs. Dr. Marcellin-Little represented veterinary medicine on the Board of Directors of AO North America from 2020 to 2024.

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Some medical devices used for teaching purposes and/or discussed in AO North America's educational activities may have been cleared by the FDA for specific uses only or may not yet be approved for any purpose. Faculty may discuss off-label, investigational, or experimental uses of products/devices in CME certified educational activities. Faculty have been advised that all recommendations involving clinical medicine in this CME activity are based on evidence that is accepted within the profession of medicine as adequate justification for their indications and contraindications in the care of patients.

All scientific research referred to, reported or used in this CME activity in support or justification of a patient care recommendation conforms to the generally accepted standards of experimental design, data collection and analysis.

Disclaimer:
AONA does not endorse nor promote the use of any product/device of commercial entities. Equipment used in this course is for teaching purposes only with the intent to enhance the learning experience.

USE THE BELOW TEXT FOR DIDACTIC COURSES ONLY!

The opinions or views expressed in this live continuing medical education activity are those of the faculty and do not necessarily reflect the opinions or recommendations of
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Laboratory Waiver:
To participate in this surgical skills course, you will be required to sign a waiver of liability prior to the course. In order to participate, AONA's policy mandates that every individual must wear appropriate protective garments provided by AO NA during the lab sessions. Participants who do not sign the waiver and wear protective garments will not be allowed to participate in the laboratory sessions.

Human Anatomic Specimens:
This course will involve exposure to and contact with human anatomic specimens. These specimens are being utilized for purposes of teaching and learning and are to be treated with the utmost respect. Participants should be familiar with and understand the potential risks involved and will be required to observe all customary safety procedures.

Animal Anatomic Specimens:
This course will involve exposure to and contact with animal anatomic specimens. These specimens are being utilized for purposes of teaching and learning and are to be treated with the utmost respect. Participants should be familiar with and understand the potential risks involved and will be required to observe all customary safety procedures.

Acknowledgment

In-Kind Support
AO North America gratefully acknowledges in-kind support for equipment and technical staff from J&JMedTech.

Educational Grant
AO North America gratefully acknowledges funding for its education activities from the AO Foundation. The AO Foundation receives funding for education from Synthes GmbH.