



## AO VET NA Masters Course—Feline Orthopedics (with feline orthopedic specimens)



December 1, 2021 - December 2, 2021  
Las Vegas, Nevada, USA

The lame cat can represent a significant diagnostic challenge. The relative paucity of specific literature available addressing feline orthopedic patients, the inherent complexity in performing feline gait analysis and orthopedic examination and the discrete, distinct signs that cats exhibit associated with orthopedic disease all represent hurdles to overcome.

This course is designed to provide participants with a comprehensive knowledge of specific feline orthopedic diseases and the clinical signs associated with them through the precourse module as well as onsite lectures and interactive sessions. Both non-surgical and surgical treatment modalities will be discussed and demonstrated in hands-on laboratory sessions and case-based discussions. Emphasis will be placed on challenging conditions commonly encountered in cats and circumstances where therapeutics may differ to those universally employed in canine patients. The entire patient experience will be considered including choice of therapeutic approach, preoperative planning, postoperative patient management and physical rehabilitation. Opportunities will be provided for participants to tailor their course experience to the equipment readily available in their workplace with both minimally invasive and open approaches being demonstrated where appropriate.

Participants should leave this course with the information and experience necessary to feel confident in the diagnosis and management of most common feline-specific orthopedic conditions.



### Target Audience:

Practicing Veterinary Surgeons, Fellows and Residents

### Prerequisite:

***\*The AO VET Small Animal Principles 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: Resident  
Tuition: \$1,500.00

Level Name: Participant - Veterinary  
Pricing Tier: Attending  
Tuition: \$1,800.00

### Course Prerequisite(s):

- Principles of Small Animal Fracture Management

### Venue:

Renaissance Las Vegas Hotel  
3400 Paradise Road  
Las Vegas, NV, USA  
Phone Number: 702 784 5700  
[www.renaissancelasvegas.com](http://www.renaissancelasvegas.com)

Viticus Group - Oquendo Campus  
2425 East Oquendo Road  
Las Vegas, NV, USA  
Phone Number: 702.739.6698  
<https://www.viticusgroup.org/oquendo-campus>

### Language(s):

English

### Directly Provided by:



**Professional Level Prerequisite(s):**  
No Prerequisites

## CME

### Continuing Education Credit: 17.00

- 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:

- Articulate the key anatomical differences between cats and dogs
- Structure an appropriate history for a feline orthopedic patient, including the use of clinical metrology instruments
- Execute feline gait assessment and grade lameness accordingly
- Adapt orthopedic examination techniques to maximize success in cats; Interpret feline joint and long bone radiographs while identifying feline-specific radiographic findings
- Demonstrate a comprehensive awareness of the causes of feline non-traumatic joint disease
- Adapt standard-of-care joint disease treatments for dogs in order to optimize outcomes in cats
- Display cognizance of feline specific considerations when developing a treatment plan for the traumatically injured cat

## Faculty



### Perry, Karen - Chairperson

BVMS, CertSAS, DECVS, MSc, FHEA, MRCVS  
Pat Carrigan Professor of Feline Medicine  
Professor in Small Animal Orthopedics  
Veterinary Medical Center  
Michigan State University  
East Lansing, Michigan

Karen Perry graduated from The Royal (Dick) School of Veterinary Studies, Edinburgh in 2005. After a short period in mixed practice and an internship in small animal orthopedics Dr. Perry returned to the R(D)SVS to complete a residency in small animal surgery from 2007 to 2010. Following achievement of ECVS status in 2011, Dr. Perry joined the Royal Veterinary College (RVC), London as a lecturer in small animal orthopedics. During her tenure at the RVC, Dr. Perry completed a postgraduate certificate in veterinary education and became a Fellow of the Higher Education Academy. After four years at the RVC Dr. Perry moved to Michigan State University where she is currently a Tenured Professor in Small Animal Orthopedics. In 2022, Dr. Perry was also named the Pat Carrigan Professor of Feline Medicine. Dr. Perry's passion for veterinary education led her to pursue further qualifications in this ever-expanding field. In 2019, whilst at MSU, Dr. Perry completed her Masters of Science in Veterinary Education, the thesis of which focused on the importance of feedback during veterinary residency programs. Due to her knowledge in education, Dr. Perry was elected to serve on the AOVET NA education committee. Dr. Perry has published widely in the veterinary literature with her main research interests being feline orthopedics, traumatology and the correction of limb deformities associated with patellar luxation. Dr. Perry, an International AO Faculty, created the first AO Master Course in Feline Orthopedics and has presented her work throughout the world including in Colombia, Brazil, Mexico, Russia, Italy, Spain, Poland and the UK.



### Kerwin, Sharon - Co-Chairperson

DVM, MS, DACVS, DACVIM  
Professor  
Small Animal Clinical Sciences  
College of Veterinary Medicine  
Texas A & M University  
College Station, Texas

Dr. Kerwin received her DVM from Texas A&M University, completed a small animal rotating internship at Louisiana State University and completed a small animal surgery residency at LSU along with a Master of Science degree in veterinary physiology. She is a diplomate of both the American College of Veterinary Surgeons and the American College of Veterinary Internal Medicine (neurology). Her clinical and research interests involve orthopedics and neurology, with a special interest in fracture repair and spinal surgery, as well as feline orthopedics and neurology.



### Bruecker, Kenneth - Evaluator

DVM, MS, DACVS, DACVSMR  
Dr.  
Continuing Orthopedic Veterinary Education (COVE)  
Ventura, California

Dr. Kenneth A. Bruecker, DVM, MS Diplomate American College of Veterinary Surgeons Diplomate American College of Veterinary Sports Medicine and Rehabilitation Dr. Bruecker is the Founder of the Veterinary Medical and Surgical Group and Founder of Continuing Orthopedic Veterinary Education (COVE). [www.covesurgery.com](http://www.covesurgery.com) Dr. Bruecker is a board certified surgeon and also board certified in veterinary sports medicine and rehabilitation with special interests in orthopedics and spinal surgery. He has authored over 100 textbook chapters, journal articles, scientific manuscripts, veterinary and pet owner educational materials. He has been an innovator in the development of new surgical techniques and orthopedic implants. He has been performing arthroscopy for over 25 years. Due to his expertise in spinal surgery, orthopedics and arthroscopy he has been invited to educate and train veterinarians throughout the world. His commitment to the education of veterinarians, technicians and pet owners earned him the California Veterinary Medical Association's Veterinarian of the Year in 2004 as well as Viticus Hands-On Educator in 2022.



### Déjardin, Loic - Lecturer

DVM, MSc, DACVS, DECVS  
Wade O. Brinker Endowed Chair of Veterinary Surgery  
Professor – Small Animal Orthopaedic Surgery  
ACVS Founding Fellow – MIS Orthopaedics SA  
College of Veterinary Medicine  
Michigan State University

East Lansing, Michigan

Dr. Déjardin is the Wade O. Brinker Endowed Chair of Veterinary Surgery. He is Professor and head of Small Animal Orthopaedic Surgery at Michigan State University and a Founding Fellow of the ACVS Minimally Invasive Small Animal Orthopaedic Surgery Fellowship. Dr. Déjardin graduated from Toulouse Veterinary School (France) and completed his Surgical Residency then MSc with Dr. Arnoczky at MSU. Dr. Déjardin authored ~90 research proposals (~\$7M), eight inventions and holds three patents on an interlocking nail and a targeting device for minimally invasive osteosynthesis. He received several prestigious awards in both veterinary and human medicine as well as in engineering, including the O'Donoghue Sports Injury Research Award (AOSSM), the Zandman Award (Soc. Exp. Mechanics), Distinguished Postdoctoral Veterinary Alumnus Award (MSU) and the Pfizer-Zoetis Award for Excellence in Research. His publications include >160 peer-reviewed scientific papers and abstracts, 20 book chapters and ~475 presentations in the US, Europe, Latin America and Asia. As an AO Foundation International Faculty and former Trustee committed to continuing education worldwide, Dr. Déjardin regularly speaks at national and international meetings and courses. He started a Minimally Invasive Osteosynthesis (MIO) program at MSU in the early 2000s' and developed a novel interlocking nail suited for MIO, well as a new technology devised for the MIO of sacroiliac luxations. Since 2009, Dr. Déjardin created and chaired the first comprehensive AOVET Master Course on MIO. His clinical interests include comparative orthopaedics, traumatology, MIO, revision surgery, as well as total joint replacement. His current research activity focuses on biomechanics, implant and instrument design, total joint replacement (elbow, hip, knee, ankle), as well as robotics and kinetics.

**Dyce, Jonathan - Lecturer**

MA, Vet. MB, MRCVS, DSAO, DACVS  
Associate Professor Small Animal Orthopaedics  
ACVS Founding Fellow, Joint Replacement Surgery  
OSU Veterinary Medical Center  
Hospital for Companion Animals  
The Ohio State University  
Columbus, Ohio

Jon Dyce graduated from University of Cambridge (UK) in 1989 and remained there to train as an orthopaedic surgeon. In 1997 he joined the surgery faculty at The Ohio State University Veterinary Medical Center, and is currently associate professor of small animal surgery. He is a regular speaker at national and international meetings on the topics of small animal orthopedics and total hip replacement. Among other continuing education responsibilities, he has been the chairperson for the OSU-BioMedtrix Canine Total Hip Replacement Workshop since 2002. Clinical research interests include failure mechanisms and the refinement of canine total hip replacement.

**Langley-Hobbs, Sorrel - Lecturer**

MA, BVetMed, DSAS(O), DECVS, FHEA, MRCVS  
Professor  
Chair in Small Animal Orthopaedic Surgery  
RCVS Specialist in Small Animal Surgery (Orthopaedics)  
EBVS European Specialist in Small Animal Surgery  
Bristol Vet School - University of Bristol  
Bristol

Sorrel Langley-Hobbs graduated from The Royal Veterinary College, London (RVC). She did an internship there before spending 2 years in private practice and then returning to do an orthopaedic residency. She gained her RCVS Diploma in Small Animal Surgery (Orthopaedics) in 1997 and her ECVS Diploma in Small Animal Surgery in 1999. She spent six months at the University of Pennsylvania in 1998 before she moved back to the UK and worked at Cambridge University until 2013. She has been a Professor in Small Animal Orthopaedic Surgery at the University of Bristol since 2013. She was awarded the BSAVA Simon Award in 2012 for outstanding contributions in the field of small animal surgery. She has a particular interest in feline orthopaedics and heads the feline orthopaedic clinic at Bristol. She has co-edited a textbook on Feline Orthopaedic Surgery and Musculoskeletal Disease in 2009 and Feline Soft Tissue and General Surgery in 2013.

**Meeson, Richard - Lecturer**

MA, Vet. MB, PhD, MVetClinStud, DECVS, FHEA, FRCVS  
Professor of Orthopaedics  
Head of Orthopaedic Surgery  
Royal Veterinary College  
University of London  
London

Prof Richard Meeson is Head of Orthopaedics and Professor of Orthopaedics at the Royal Veterinary College, University of London. He graduated from the University of Cambridge in 2007 having also intercalated a degree in immunology in 2004. He then moved to the Royal Veterinary College to undertake specialist clinical training, and became a European board-certified surgical specialist in 2012. He has remained at the RVC as clinical faculty since, other than several years as an MRC funded Clinical Research Fellow working at the internationally renowned Institute of Orthopaedics and Musculoskeletal Science, UCL (Stanmore, London). This led to the award of a PhD on stem cell mobilisation and fracture healing. Since 2018, he has been Head of the Orthopaedic Service at the Queen Mother Hospital for Animals. In the clinic, he enjoys traumatology and joint surgery, including total hip replacement. He has trained over 25 surgical residents and is actively involved in undergraduate and postgraduate teaching and assessment. Prof Meeson manages a research programme focused on One Medicine including advanced imaging of osteoarthritis to detect early biomarkers, osteosarcoma and tendon degeneration research. He held the post of Scientific Chair for the British Veterinary Orthopaedic Association (BVOA) from 2015-2022, and has been an associate editor for BMC Veterinary Research and The Veterinary Record. He lectures nationally and internationally and has published over 100 papers and abstracts on a variety of topics relating to veterinary orthopaedics, with many on the subject on feline orthopaedics, and has been awarded over £1M in grant funding. He was elected to the Fellowship of the Royal College of Veterinary Surgeons (FRCVS) for his meritorious contributions to clinical practice in 2020, which is the highest level of recognition in the UK.

## Agenda

### Day 1

**Wednesday, December 01, 2021 - 08:00 - 18:15 - (includes breaks, travel-time and meals)**

Schedule	Title	Moderator	Faculty	Room
08:00 - 08:10	Welcome and Description of Course Organization		Kerwin, S Perry, K	
08:10 - 09:50	INITIAL ASSESSMENT	Kerwin, S		
08:10 - 08:30	Why Do Cats Deserve Their Own Orthopedics Course?		Perry, K	
08:30 - 08:50	INTERACTIVE SESSION: What Challenges Have You Encountered in Feline Orthopedics? (Based on points raised by delegates in pre-course discussion forum)	Kerwin, S	Dejardin, L Dyce, J Langley-Hobbs, S Meeson, R Perry, K	
08:50 - 09:10	Feline Degenerative Joint Disease (prevalence, pathophysiology, diagnosis thereof)		Langley-Hobbs, S	
09:10 - 09:30	Treatment of Feline Degenerative Joint Disease		Langley-Hobbs, S	
09:30 - 09:50	Q & A on Degenerative Joint Disease		Langley-Hobbs, S	
09:50 - 10:10	Coffee Break			
10:10 - 10:50	FELINE JOINT DISEASE 1	Perry, K		
10:10 - 10:30	Feline Hip Dysplasia		Dyce, J	
10:30 - 10:50	Conditions Affecting the Proximal Femur (slipped capital femoral epiphysis and metaphyseal osteopathy)		Langley-Hobbs, S	
10:50 - 11:00	Change into Scrubs / Travel to Lab			
11:00 - 12:10	PRACTICAL EXERCISE I			
11:00 - 12:10	Repair of Slipped Capital Femoral Epiphysis Using Parallel K-Wires (ORIF or MIO)	Dejardin, L Langley-Hobbs, S		
12:10 - 13:10	Lunch			
13:10 - 14:30	FELINE JOINT DISEASE 2	Dyce, J		
13:10 - 13:30	Feline Cranial Cruciate Ligament Rupture (traumatic vs. degenerative, treatment options)		Perry, K	
13:30 - 13:50	Feline Medial Patellar Luxation (patellectomy, block recession, + need for tension-band-wire etc.)		Kerwin, S	
13:50 - 14:10	Patellar Fractures in Cats (patellar fracture and dental anomaly syndrome)		Langley-Hobbs, S	
14:10 - 14:30	Traumatic Stifle Disruption		Kerwin, S	
14:30 - 14:40	Coffee Break			
14:40 - 14:50	Travel to Lab			
14:50 - 16:30	PRACTICAL EXERCISES II			
14:50 - 15:40	1) Placement of Lateral Fabelotibial Suture using Suture Anchor in Femoral Condyle or Mini TPLO (surgeon preference)	Perry, K		
15:40 - 16:30	2) Placement of Prosthetic Collaterals, Prosthetic Caudal Cruciate and Transarticular External Skeletal Fixator for Traumatic Stifle Disruption	Kerwin, S		
16:30 - 16:40	Change out of Scrubs / Travel to Lecture Hall			
16:40 - 18:15	FELINE JOINT DISEASE 3	Langley-Hobbs, S		
16:40 - 16:55	The Feline Shoulder (glenoid dysplasia, osteochondrosis)		Kerwin, S	
16:55 - 17:15	The Feline Elbow (medial humeral epicondylitis)		Perry, K	
17:15 - 18:15	INTERACTIVE CASES: How Would You Handle this Case of Feline Joint Disease?	Perry, K	Kerwin, S Langley-Hobbs, S Meeson, R	

## Day 2

Thursday, December 02, 2021 - 08:00 - 18:40 - (includes breaks, travel-time and meals)

Schedule	Title	Moderator	Faculty	Room
08:00 - 10:00	TRAUMATIC INJURIES	Meeson, R		
08:00 - 08:20	Antebrachial Fractures in Cats – One or Two Plates?		Dyce, J	
08:20 - 08:40	Humeral Fractures in Cats – The Challenges of Supracondylar Fractures		Dejardin, L	
08:40 - 09:00	Tibial Fractures in Cats – The Equivalent of the Toy Breed Radius / Ulna?		Dejardin, L	
09:00 - 09:20	Femoral Fractures in Cats		Dejardin, L	
09:20 - 09:40	Pelvic Fractures in Cats – Dorsal Plating		Meeson, R	
09:40 - 10:00	Tail Pull Injuries		Meeson, R	
10:00 - 10:10	Coffee Break			
10:10 - 10:20	Change into Scrubs / Travel to Lab			
10:20 - 12:00	PRACTICAL EXERCISES III			
10:20 - 11:10	1) Medial Plating or Interlocking Nailing of Supracondylar Humeral Fracture	Dejardin, L		
11:10 - 12:00	2) Dorsal Plating of Iliac Fracture	Langley-Hobbs, S Meeson, R		
12:00 - 13:00	Lunch			
13:00 - 15:00	TRAUMATIC INJURIES 2	Dejardin, L		
13:00 - 13:15	The Feline Carpus and Tarsus (collateral ligament differences and reconstruction techniques)		Dyce, J	
13:15 - 13:30	Shearing Injuries		Kerwin, S	
13:30 - 13:50	High-Rise Syndrome		Meeson, R	
13:50 - 14:20	Feline Maxillofacial Trauma		Meeson, R	
14:20 - 15:00	INTERACTIVE PANEL DISCUSSION: How Would You Handle This Case?	Dejardin, L Dyce, J Langley-Hobbs, S Meeson, R		
15:00 - 15:15	Coffee Break			
15:15 - 15:20	Travel to Lab			
15:20 - 16:50	PRACTICAL EXERCISES IV			
15:20 - 15:50	1) Placement of Prosthetic Ligaments in Feline Tarsus	Dyce, J		
15:50 - 16:20	2) Stabilization of Traumatic Split Palate	Meeson, R		
16:20 - 16:50	3) Excision Arthroplasty of Temporomandibular Joint	Meeson, R		
16:50 - 17:00	Change out of Scrubs / Travel to Lecture Hall			
17:00 - 18:40	FELINE PATIENT MANAGEMENT	Kerwin, S		
17:00 - 17:20	Postoperative Patient Management (cage rest, coaptation difficulties and decisions etc.)		Perry, K	
17:20 - 17:40	Physical Rehabilitation in Cats – What are the Possibilities?		Perry, K	
17:40 - 18:25	INTERACTIVE CASES: Challenging Cases from Start to Finish	Perry, K	Dejardin, L Dyce, J Kerwin, S	
18:25 - 18:40	Summary and Concluding Remarks		Bruecker, K Dejardin, L Dyce, J Kerwin, S Langley-Hobbs, S Meeson, R Perry, K	

18:40 - 18:40      [End of Course](#)

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## AO NA Disclaimer Information

### Faculty Disclosure:

It is the policy of AO North America to abide by the Accreditation Council for Continuing Medical Education Standards for Commercial Support. Standard 2: "Disclosures Relevant to Potential Commercial Bias and Relevant Financial Relationships of Those with Control over CME Content," requires all planners, including course directors, chairs, and faculty, involved in the development of CME content to disclose their relevant financial relationships prior to participating in the activity. Relevant financial relationships will be disclosed to the activity audience. The intent of the disclosure is not to prevent a faculty with a relevant financial or other relationship from teaching, but to provide participants with information that might be of importance to their evaluation of content. All potential conflicts of interest have been resolved prior to the commencement of this activity.

### Off-Label / Experimental Discussions:

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.

### Conflict of Interest Resolution Statement:

When individuals in a position to control or influence the development of the content have reported financial relationships with one or more commercial interests, AO North America utilizes a process to identify and resolve potential conflicts to ensure that the content presented is free of commercial bias.

### Liability Statement:

AO North America faculty and staff assume no personal liability for the techniques or the use of any equipment and accessories used for teaching purposes in the laboratory. The certificate provided pertains only to the participants' completion of the course and does not, in any way, attest to the proficiency of the participants' clinical experience.

### 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.

### 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

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