

## HISTORY & BACKGROUND

Dr. Maurice “Pete” White started working on the CONSULTANT database in 1982 as a computer-based resource for maintaining information about disease entities in veterinary medicine. Given Dr. White's long standing interest in medical informatics, he worked with John Lewkowicz, director emeritus of the Veterinary Computing Service, in developing a computer program to support such a database. Initially offered to practicing veterinarians by dial-up access on a paid subscription basis, CONSULTANT became freely available on the World Wide Web in 1997.



## DISCLAIMER

CONSULTANT can not and should not be used to make a diagnosis. It is intended to support veterinarians' decision making and is not a substitute for clinical experience and judgment.

Veterinarians should use CONSULTANT in conjunction with textbooks, journal articles, diagnostic tests, colleague consults, and experience.

Animal owners should always consult their veterinarians for diagnostic evaluation and treatment options.

## CONTENT

The CONSULTANT database currently contains approximately 7,000 diagnoses/causes, about 500 signs/symptoms, more than 18,000 literature references, and over 3,000 Web links.

CONSULTANT covers the primary domestic animal species including:

Dogs  
Cats  
Cattle  
Horses  
Sheep  
Goats  
Swine  
Birds & Poultry

CONSULTANT serves as a continually updated and dynamic online resource. Dr. White reviews and selects the published literature *daily*, frequently adds relevant, quality journal article references and Web links, and removes older or less useful citations. With his more than 25 years of experience in education, research, and clinical practice at Cornell University, Dr. White also regularly reviews and maintains the content of the diagnoses descriptions and clinical

## NEW & NOTEWORTHY

This new feature begun in 2010, New & Noteworthy (N&N), is a rolling list of important articles from the veterinary literature on new disorders or with content of special interest. Check this feature on a regular basis for the latest developments.

## MOBILE APP available NOW!

Check CONSULTANT using your smart phone or other mobile device. Get the app at:



## WEB LINKS TO ONLINE ARTICLES

CONSULTANT includes an increasing number of links to full-text journal articles, either freely available on the Web or as pay-per-view items from publisher's Web sites.

For example, see **LEISHMANIASIS, LEISHMANIOSIS, IN DOGS- ZOONOSIS** and click on [[Web Reference](#)] links. If you have access rights, the PDF's will be viewable immediately, or you can enter a credit card to see the papers.

## DOCUMENT DELIVERY & REPRINTS

You may be able to obtain articles cited in CONSULTANT from a local university library or through interlibrary loan services of a public library. If not, there are some additional sources to consider, including:

- Contact a U.S., Canadian, or other veterinary library
- Contact a commercial document supplier listed at <http://library.med.utah.edu/docsupp/>
- Use Loansome Doc delivery services available through PubMed at

## QUESTIONS & TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE

Questions concerning medical content, references, and Web links can be forwarded to

Compiled by the Flower-Sprecher Veterinary Library  
[vetref@cornell.edu](mailto:vetref@cornell.edu) - 607-253-3510



Cornell University  
College of Veterinary Medicine

# CONSULTANT

## A Diagnostic Support System for Veterinary Medicine

<http://www.vet.cornell.edu/consultant/consult.asp>

Created and maintained by  
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## CONSULTANT...

- Is **freely** accessible on the Web, 24 hours/day, 7 days/week.
- Intends to provide clinical diagnostic support for veterinarians and others interested in animal health.
- Serves as a filtered, expert-compiled information database for clinical decision making.
- Offers easy-to-use but powerful search capabilities.
- Can be searched by:
  - Diagnoses/causes
  - Clinical sign(s) or symptoms.
- Updated continually.
- Lists selected recent references to the veterinary literature, including increasing access to full-text, and links to relevant Web sites.
- “New & Noteworthy” references of special interest to clinicians

## LEPTOSPIROSIS IN HORSES, LEPTOSPIRA IN EQUINES

**Description** Many horses have titers to LEPTOSPIRA but clinical signs of Leptospirosis other than abortion from the sixth-to-tenth month of gestation are rarely recognized. Renal dysfunction was associated with leptospirosis. A sometimes-fatal disease of foals that might present as acute respiratory distress was attributed to Leptospirosis.

**Species** Equine

**Signs** **A**bnormal lung or pleural sounds, **A**bstortion or weak newborns, **A**galactia, **A**norexia, **A**taxia, **D**iarrhea, **D**ullness, **D**ysmetria, **D**yspnea, **E**pistaxis, **F**ever, **G**eneralized weakness, **H**ematuria, **H**emoglobinuria or myoglobinuria, **H**emoptysis coughing up blood, **H**indlimb swelling, **I**cterus, **I**nability to stand, **I**ncreased respiratory rate, **L**ymphadenopathy, **P**ale, **P**roteinuria, **R**ed or brown urine, **S**kin edema, **S**udden death, **T**achycardia

**References** **Velineni S.** Preliminary evaluation of a dual antigen ELISA to distinguish vaccinated from Leptospira infected horses. Vet Rec 2016;179:574 [Web Reference]

**Simbizi V.** A study of leptospirosis in South African horses and associated risk factors. Prev Vet Med 2016;134:6 [Web Reference]

**Pozor M.** Equine placenta – A clinician`s perspective. Part 2: Abnormalities. Eq Vet Educ 2016;28:396 [Web Reference]

**Hamond C.** Molecular Characterization and Serology of Leptospira kirschneri (Serogroup Grippotyphosa) Isolated from Urine of a Mare Post-Abortion in Brazil. Zoonoses Pub Health 2016;63:191 [Web Reference]

## Diagnosis / Cause —

Use this approach if you already know a disease diagnosis and want more current information about it.

1. Choose a species from the pull-down menu (default is ALL species)

2. Enter one or more letters or words of a diagnosis & click **Search**.

e.g., *dermatitis*

*hyperthyroidism*

*Cornea* [Searches both cornea and corneal]

*j* [Picks up any word beginning with one or more letters in the diagnosis title field]

*neuro* [No truncation symbol is needed]

*paratuberculosis*

*anemia*

*terrier* [For diseases of those breeds]

3. Click on any of the diagnoses listed to see the description, species affected, associated clinical signs, references and Web links.

Search by Diagnosis

Species:

Diagnosis Keyword:

5 Possible Diagnoses

Anagen effluvium, defluxion, hair loss following fever, illness, stress, chemotherapy  
 Fever of undetermined, unknown, origin, munchausen syndrome by proxy  
 Rickettsia rickettsii, spotted fever, in dogs  
 Shar pei fever syndrome, excessive skin and periodic fever  
 Tick-borne relapsing fever, borrelia turicatae, hermsii

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## Clinical Sign(s) / Symptoms —

Use this approach to determine what diagnoses have a certain combination of clinical signs.

1. Choose a species from the pull-down menu (default is ALL species)

2. Choose one or more clinical signs in several ways:

a. ONE-BY-ONE—Enter one or more words or letters of the first sign & click **Search**.

e.g., *pruritus*

*anestrus*

*fever*

*tachycardia*

*myo* [no truncation symbol is needed]

*hyper*

*weight loss*

CONSULTANT will display a list of standardized symptom phrases.

Mark one or more of the most relevant symptom phrases & click **Add to Signs**.

Repeat the process of adding additional

signs you add the fewer possible diagnoses will be found.)

b. BY SIGN LIST—Click **Sign List**, choose a body system from the pull-down menu, and mark one or more signs.

Click **Add to Signs**.

c. AS STRINGS—Enter a string of complete words or fragments separated by semi-colons.

e.g., *weight loss;fever;thirst vom;fev;diarr;prur*

Chose additional signs from the lists if any related symptoms are displayed.

d. COMBINATION—Use combination of a, b, or c above.

3. Then, when all of the signs have been chosen, click **Search for Diagnoses** to view the list of diagnoses corresponding with that combination of clinical signs.

4. Click on any of the diagnoses listed to see the description, species affected, as-

Search by Signs

Species:

Sign Keyword:

Signs:  Diarrhea  
 Fever, pyrexia, hyperthermia  
 Polydipsia, excessive fluid consumption, excessive thirst  
 Weight loss  
 Ataxia, incoordination, staggering, falling

13 Possible Diagnoses

Acorn, oak, quercus, poisoning in ruminants  
 Acute kidney injury, chronic renal failure, disease, dysplasia, in ruminants  
 Aplastic anemia, bone marrow aplasia, pancytopenia, hemorrhagic diathesis  
 Arsenic toxicity in large animals  
 Coenuriasis, coenurosis, taenia, echinococcus, cysticercosis, cestodiasis, hydatidosis  
 Hepatic encephalopathy, bilirubin, kernicterus  
 Mercury toxicity in cattle  
 Organophosphate, carbamate, acetylcholinesterase inhibitor toxicity  
 Postparturient hemoglobinuria  
 Ruminal acidosis, grain overload  
 Stachybotryotoxicosis in large animals  
 Urea, anhydrous ammonia, nitrogenous fertilizer toxicity, soybean poisoning  
 Water intoxication, toxicity, salt poisoning, of ruminants

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