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SIMPLE, EFFICIENT VETSCAN® SEDIMENT ANALYZER DELIVERS ACCURACY, CONSISTENCY AND QUALITY FOR BETTER IN-CLINIC PATIENT CARE

Urinalysis is one of the most frequently performed tests in veterinary practice and is the third major diagnostic screening test in the clinical laboratory, preceded only by serum/plasma chemistry and complete blood count.¹ The two-part Zetis VETSCAN® urinalysis platform allows urine to be examined quickly after collection using a smaller sample volume than traditionally suggested (650 µL vs. 5mL) and without the need for centrifugation.^{1,2}

The VETSCAN Sediment Analyzer (SA) streamlines manual urine Sediment Analysis workflow and helps decrease variation in urinalysis results, which is commonly seen with manual sediment evaluation due to factors such as sample preparation, evaluation and storage. Combined with the VETSCAN Urine Analyzer (UA) for urine chemistry – including microalbuminuria and urine protein:creatinine ratio – the VETSCAN SA/UA is the complete solution for in-clinic, point-of-care urinalysis.

At Merrick Animal Hospital in Brookfield, IL – a full-service veterinary clinic offering a broad range of comprehensive medical, diagnostic, dental and surgical services – accuracy, consistency and efficiency are critical for the busy clinic staff. Lead veterinary technician Jenny Veed uses the VETSCAN SA/UA mainly to check for urinary tract infections



VETSCAN Sediment Analyzer (SA)

“The VETSCAN platform does more than any other analyzer I have ever seen, and the SA portion definitely sets it apart from the rest.”

Jenny Veed, Lead Veterinary Technician, Merrick Animal Hospital

and crystals. Compared to manual testing, Veed said VETSCAN SA/UA saves time and money for the 14-member Merrick staff, which includes three veterinarians, four assistants and three veterinary technicians.

“Our testing is streamlined, our volume is greater, patient care is better and we get consistent, more accurate results,” explained Veed. “I can grab a urine sample, set it up, then go back to that animal and perform whatever other treatments are necessary while the test is running.”

Before the facility had access to the VETSCAN SA, a Merrick veterinary technician would spin down the urine, examine the sample via microscope and manually

read the chemical strip. Testing results lacked consistency, and the process was time consuming.

“In terms of consistency alone, the benefits of VETSCAN SA are huge,” emphasized Veed. “And while the manual costs were a little cheaper on the front end, if you value your tech’s time, VETSCAN SA is definitely a cost saver.”

Merrick also experienced a significant improvement in workflow and testing results compared to manual testing or sending urine reads out to a lab, where bacterial growth can be affected due to storage conditions.

“Time is of essence when it comes to reading urine because results can change in a short period of time, and it’s better for the pet owner, too,” said Veed.

In addition to providing Merrick staff with consistent, accurate results, Veed loves that fact that they can hand the client a printout with integrated test results.

“If the numbers show a high WBC or bacteria count, I can actually bring pictures of that to the client and show them,” described Veed. “The VETSCAN platform does more than any other analyzer I have ever seen, and the SA portion definitely sets it apart from the rest.”

At the Belleville Animal Clinic in Belleville, IL, owner/veterinarian Janet Linton and her team have been using the VETSCAN SA/UA since September 2017 for the full range of urinalysis testing. Dr. Linton, who has been at the clinic for 20 years and is the sole decision maker, said before utilization of the VETSCAN SA/UA, urinalysis was a time and labor-intensive process.

“It required the doctor to leave his or her station downstairs and go upstairs to our lab to run the test and read the slides,” noted Dr. Linton. “The VETSCAN SA and UA really took care of that problem and improved our workflow. Plus, it tells us what kind of crystals, casts or other particulates we might be dealing with. It’s been very useful; we could really use about three more veterinarians, but in the meantime, we have the VETSCAN.”

Efficiency is a critical factor for the Belleville Animal Clinic, and time demands on Dr. Linton and her staff are intense. Dr. Linton said the technicians can get the urinalysis testing going for a patient

even if the veterinarian is not immediately available.

“With our techs able to get testing underway, it makes a huge difference,” explained Dr. Linton. “That helps us better serve our clients so we don’t lose that trust, which is what can happen if urinalysis gets misplaced or not done at all in a busy, hectic clinical practice.”

“The VETSCAN...improved our workflow. We could really use about three more veterinarians, but in the meantime, we have the VETSCAN SA and UA.”

Janet Linton, DVM, Owner,
Belleville Animal Clinic

Because the area Belleville Animal Clinic serves has a high prevalence of heartworm disease, Dr. Linton has also incorporated the VETSCAN UA into its staging and treatment of heartworm-positive patients.

“That’s because we can run the VETSCAN UA and do a UA14 strip with the protein:creatinine ratio,” said Dr. Linton. “We also use VETSCAN SA and UA for diagnosing and monitoring diabetic animals and extensively for our cystotomy surgeries, because we can run that in-house and not have to wait for a full urinalysis to come back from the lab.”

VETSCAN UA14 urine reagent strips provide tests for the semi-quantitative measurement of blood, pH, glucose, ketones, protein, bilirubin, MA and UPC.

Working together, the VETSCAN SA/UA can improve laboratory workflow

and automate complete urinalysis testing. This enables clinics to initiate urine testing on the VETSCAN SA and queue chemical analysis of the urine on the VETSCAN UA, and then see the combined sediment report and urine chemistry on the integrated workstation within minutes.

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