

A Comprehensive Approach

Continued advances in veterinary knowledge and technology have made possible a level of healthcare for companion animals that parallels what is available in human medicine. We believe that, despite the cost associated with advanced diagnostic testing and treatment, specialty level care can ultimately reduce veterinary expenses by expediting diagnosis, treatment and patient recovery. We understand, however, that the costs of specialty level care are significant, and we are committed to managing those expenses through thorough review of prior testing, careful diagnostic planning, and treatment recommendations tailored for each individual patient.



Our Facility

SFVS is proud to be the first (and currently only) veterinary specialty hospital in Georgia to earn accreditation under the American Animal Hospital Association's Referral Standards. We are also one of only a few in the country accredited in the three disciplines of Surgery, Internal Medicine and Radiology. Our Decatur facility is specifically designed and equipped for specialty veterinary medicine services.



About our specialists:

Internal Medicine:

Laura J. Smallwood, DVM, Dipl. ACVIM



Dr. Smallwood is the Medical Director and staff internist at Saint Francis Veterinary Specialists. Dr. Smallwood completed her veterinary training at Kansas State University in

1984, her internship in small animal medicine and surgery at Santa Cruz Veterinary Hospital in 1985, and her residency in small animal internal medicine at the University of Georgia in 1991. Dr. Smallwood was a general veterinary practitioner for three years between her internship and residency training. She has practiced in Atlanta as a veterinary internal medicine specialist since 1991.



Surgery:

Jenifer Newton, MS, DVM, Dipl. ACVS



Dr. Newton is the staff surgeon at Saint Francis Veterinary Specialists. Dr. Newton completed her veterinary training at the University of Georgia in 1992, her

internship in small animal medicine and surgery at the University of Georgia in 1993, and her surgical residency and master's degree at The Ohio State University in 1996. Dr. Newton has practiced specialty veterinary surgery in Atlanta since 1996.



Radiology/Diagnostic Imaging:

Tasha Axam, DVM, Dipl. ACVR



Dr. Axam is the staff radiologist at Saint Francis Veterinary Specialists. Dr. Axam completed her veterinary training at Tuskegee University in 2004, her internship in

small animal medicine and surgery at Purdue University in 2005, and her residency in diagnostic imaging at the University of Georgia in 2008. Dr. Axam joined the staff at Saint Francis Veterinary Specialists in 2008.



Information for Veterinarians from



Our promise to you:
Considerate Care[®]



Why is *Considerate Care* important to referring veterinarians, pet owners and patients?

Considerate Care represents our commitment to our partnership with you, the primary care veterinarian. We recognize the essential and ongoing role that your knowledge and experience play in your patients' healthcare--both before and after the referral visit. We understand that in choosing Saint Francis, you are placing trust in us as partners in patient care.

Considerate Care for pet owners is our promise to consider the unique needs and concerns of each pet owner. The quality time our specialists spend with your clients empowers them and better informs their decision making.

Considerate Care for patients is our promise to provide superior quality and continuity of care for each patient. Our specialists work not as separate departments, but together as a team--combining and focusing multiple disciplines to solve medical problems.

Considerate Care embodies our promise to you, your patients and your clients. We look forward to serving you.

Saint Francis Veterinary Specialists

625 Dekalb Industrial Way, Suite 500, Decatur, GA 30033
Open M-F 8a-6p, Ph: 404-924-2000, Fax: 404-974-2006

www.sfv.com

Referral Coordinators: Azra Ahmic and Tamara Williams
Ext. 0 or referrals@sfvs.com

Nurse Station: Ext. 115

Surgery: Jenifer Newton DVM DACVS
Ext. 109 or jnewton@sfvs.com

Radiology: Tasha M. Axam DVM DACVR
Ext. 130 or taxam@sfvs.com

Internal Medicine:
Laura Smallwood DVM DACVIM
Ext. 110 or lsmallwood@sfvs.com
Katie Belz DVM
Ext. 129 or kbelz@sfvs.com

Hospital Administration: Tommy Meers
Ext. 108 or tmeers@sfvs.com

Diagnostic Imaging Services

Radiography

- Radiographic imaging
- Gastrointestinal & urinary contrast studies
- Myelograms
- OFA images for certification

Ultrasound

- Abdominal & thoracic ultrasound
- Superficial structure ultrasound (thyroid, parathyroid, masses)
- Ocular ultrasound
- Portosystemic shunt evaluation
- Ultrasound guided biopsy & aspiration

Outpatient Services

- Outpatient ultrasound
- Outpatient ultrasound guided aspiration

Consultation Services

- Radiographic interpretation
- CT interpretation
- On-site staff training
- Images for AAHA accreditation

Telemedicine

- Server: SOUNDSERV1
- IP address: 74.7.134.78, port# 5678



Internal Medicine Services

General

- Complex case evaluation and treatment
- Endocrine disease evaluation, diagnosis & mgmt.
- Bone Marrow aspirates & biopsies
- Feeding tube placement
- Urethral hydropulsion

Endoscopy

- Gastrointestinal endoscopy, bronchoscopy, rhinoscopy, cystoscopy, vaginoscopy
- Endoscopic biopsy, foreign body retrieval, esophageal dilation, nasopharyngeal dilation

Cancer Medicine

- Cancer staging, chemotherapy & palliative mgmt.

Cardiopulmonary Medicine

- Diagnosis & mgmt. of acquired cardiac disorders
- Echocardiography, ECG
- Diagnosis/management of airway/lung disease

Surgical Services

Soft Tissue Surgery

- Portosystemic shunt intervention (amerooid ring)
- Herniorrhaphy
- Ear disease (Bulla osteotomy, TECA)
- Plastic & reconstructive surgery
- Oncologic surgery
- Complex ovariohysterectomy or neuter (cryptorchid, pyometra)
- Intervertebral disc surgery
- Arytenoid lateralization
- Brachycephalic surgery
- Complex thoracic procedures (lung lobectomy, thoracic duct ligation, thoracic and mediastinal mass removal)
- Complex abdominal procedures (biliary surgery, liver lobectomy, adrenalectomy, colectomy)

Orthopedic Surgery

- Lameness: comprehensive workup & treatment
- Cruciate stabilization: TTA (tibial tuberosity advancement) and LSS (lateral suture)
- Patellar luxation
- OCD (osteochondritis dessicans)
- UAP (united anconeal process)
- FCP/MCP (fragmented coronoid/medial process)
- Fracture repair
- FHO (femoral head ostectomy)
- Bone biopsy
- Limb amputation
- Mandibulectomies / maxillectomies

Minimally Invasive Surgery

- Laparoscopy
- Laparoscopic biopsy
- Ovariohysterectomy
- Cryptochid
- Laparoscopic assisted cystotomy
- Thoracoscopy
- Pericardectomy
- Thoracic duct ligation
- Thorascopic biopsies

