

# Feline Medicine for Veterinary Technicians

Edited by **Paula Plummer**



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*Edited by Paula Plummer*

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This textbook is dedicated to veterinary technicians and their feline patients. May this textbook be the resource you need to become your best feline patient advocate.



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## Preface

As a credentialed veterinary technician, I have dedicated my career to the idea of “lifelong learning” as outlined in the Veterinary Technician Oath. This commitment extends to both my personal development and assisting others in achieving their goals. A significant part of my career has been focused on caring for my patients, particularly feline patients. Serving as a patient advocate is a great privilege that I hold dear. Being their voice in times of need, providing support, and ensuring their well-being are the most rewarding aspects of my role as a veterinary technician. Early in my career, this meant acquiring as much knowledge and skill as possible to effectively advocate for my patients. As my career has progressed, I have transitioned into sharing knowledge with others so they, too, can become the best veterinary technicians and patient advocates they can be.

This book is designed for clinical veterinary technicians working with feline patients. It caters to those working in multi-species hospitals as well as those exclusively with feline patients, offering comprehensive knowledge about this species. It also targets individuals aspiring to become a feline veterinary technician specialist. The book covers a broad knowledge base of feline diseases, including physical examination findings, clinical signs, and step-by-step procedure lists for common diagnostic techniques.

The book is divided into sections that address patient care needs and special considerations for feline patients, as well as systematic diseases and conditions. The first section focuses on the cat and specific considerations, covering topics from behavior and interactions to feline-specific pharmacology and analgesic considerations. The second section delves into patient care, including critical thinking, wound care, and bandaging. The third section focuses on diseases and conditions of the feline body systems. The companion website offers study questions for each chapter, educational tools, and clinical handouts, providing study materials and clinical tools for readers.

The book is a result of the collective effort of a group of phenomenal veterinary technician specialists dedicated to feline patients. Your devotion to this book as well as the profession inspires me to continue to grow and reach for the stars. It has been my honor to work with you all.

Paula Plummer





## Acknowledgment

As I sat down to write this portion of the book, I quickly realized how challenging this page would be. I took a moment to reflect on my years as a credentialed technician and I am reminded of so many people that I not only consider a friend but family. So many people have touched my life and helped shape who I have become not just a technician but as a person. There are a few that I want to recognize a little more formally.

First and foremost, I give all the glory and recognition to God. His grace has provided me with this extraordinary life and has made endless opportunities possible. Reflecting on my career, I realize that many mentors were strategically placed in my life at pivotal points, guiding and shaping my professional journey. I am forever grateful to each of you for generously sharing your knowledge and unwavering belief in me, providing constant encouragement to reach for greatness.

To my husband, Josh, thank you for years of constant support and encouragement to reach for the next dream. I call myself blessed to walk through this life by your side. And to my family and friends, your constant presence in my corner is not just comforting, but inspiring.

Without the dedication and hard work of all the contributors and the publishing team, this book would not have been possible. I extend my heartfelt gratitude to everyone involved for bringing this cherished dream to fruition.

