

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.



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 nearly 30 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 signs.

NEW & NOTEWORTHY

A 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.

QUESTIONS & TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE

Questions concerning medical content, references, and Web links can be forwarded to Dr. Maurice E. White at mew6@cornell.edu

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 at <http://www.vmls.mlanet.org/vlindex.htm>
- Contact a commercial document supplier listed at <http://library.med.utah.edu/docsupp/>
- Use Loansome Doc delivery services available through PubMed at <http://pubmed.gov>

Compiled by Susanne Whitaker (skw2@cornell.edu) with ann viera (annviera@utk.edu)

Revised April 2010



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
Maurice E. White, D.V.M.
Professor, Dept. of Population
Medicine and Diagnostic Sciences
College of Veterinary Medicine
Cornell University
Ithaca, New York 14853-6401
E-mail: mew6@cornell.edu

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.

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.

CONSULTANT

A Diagnostic Support System for Veterinary Medicine

Dr. Maurice E. White

LEPTOSPIROSIS IN HORSES- ZONOSIS

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. Outbreaks or sporadic cases of a sometimes-fatal disease of foals were attributed to Leptospirosis. Renal dysfunction was associated with leptospirosis in horses.

Species Equine

Signs Abortion or weak newborns, Agalactia, Anorexia, Ataxia, Diarrhea, Dullness, Dysmetria, Dyspnea, Epistaxis, Fever, Generalized weakness, Hematuria, Hemoglobinuria or myoglobinuria, Icterus, Inability to stand, Increased respiratory rate, Pale, Proteinuria, Red or brown urine, Sudden death, Tachycardia

References Jung BY et al. Seroprevalence of Leptospira spp. in Clinically Healthy Racing Horses in Korea. Journal of Veterinary Medical Science 2010;72:197-201 [Web Reference]

Adlera B, de la Peña Moctezuma A. Leptospira and leptospirosis. Veterinary Microbiology 2010;140:287-296 [Web Reference]

Whitwell KE et al. Two cases of equine pregnancy loss associated with Leptospira infection in England. The Veterinary Record 2009;165:377-378 [Web Reference]

Monahan AM et al. Host-Pathogen Interactions in the Kidney during Chronic Leptospirosis. Vet Pathol 2009;46:792-799 [Web Reference]

Bernard W. Leptospirosis. Equine Veterinary Education 2009;21:485-486 [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.

Cornell University
College of Veterinary Medicine

Search Veterinary Medicine Search Cornell

Home Search by Diagnosis Search by Signs N & N Support Help

CONSULTANT
A Diagnostic Support System for Veterinary Medicine
Dr. Maurice E. White

Search by Diagnosis

Species: All

Diagnosis Keyword: corneal ulcer Search

4 Possible Diagnoses

- Corneal ulcers in birds
- Keratitis, corneal ulcer in ruminants
- Ulcerative canine or feline keratitis, corneal erosion, acute, chronic, indolent
- Ulcerative keratitis, corneal erosion, acute, chronic, indolent, in horses

Copyright © 2010 Cornell University College of Veterinary Medicine

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., *pruritis*
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 until an appropriate number of clinical signs has been selected. (The more 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, associated clinical signs, references and Web links.

CONSULTANT can be searched by:

- Diagnosis / Cause
- Clinical Sign(s) / Symptoms

Cornell University
College of Veterinary Medicine

Search Veterinary Medicine Search Cornell

Home Search by Diagnosis Search by Signs N & N Support Help

CONSULTANT
A Diagnostic Support System for Veterinary Medicine
Dr. Maurice E. White

Search by Signs

Species: All

Sign Keyword: ataxia Search Sign List

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

Search for Diagnoses

66 Possible Diagnoses

- Acorn, oak, quercus, poisoning in ruminants
- Adrenal or extra-adrenal (paraganglioma) pheochromocytoma in cats
- Aplastic anemia, aplasia or pancytopenia in dogs, cats, and cattle
- Arsenic toxicity in large animals
- Aspergillosis and other rare disseminated opportunistic systemic mycoses
- Bacterial, vegetative, infective, endocarditis in dogs and cats
- Blastomycosis, blastomyces dermatitidis, in dogs and cats- zoonosis
- Chronic hepatitis in dogs
- Classical swine fever, hog cholera, pestivirus infection in pigs- exotic
- Copper toxicity, chronic hepatitis, in dogs