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General Incorporated Association

Spay Vets Japan

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<https://spayvetsjapan.org>

Surgical Training for Vets is in Full Swing!



SVJ offers a training program for our members to improve the spay/neuter skills of graduate veterinarians. In 2024, a total of 6 training days were held, providing technical instruction to a total of 15 veterinarians. In addition, 23 veterinarians attended the training course as observers. During this training, 138 cats were spayed or neutered by the trainees. Training is provided on a one-on-one basis by one trainer and one trainee, with the observer managing anesthesia and serving as a timekeeper for the surgical process.

SVJ training project team members always discuss safer animal handling techniques and drugs with the latest findings.

After the training, we review our teaching methods and reflect on areas for improvement for the next courses.

In addition, meetings are held in advance according to the skill level of each trainee. Feedback is provided based on evaluations after

the course is completed, so that each trainee can be supported in achieving his or her goals.

We intend to further enhance and expand our training program to raise future Spay Vets!

This project is supported by Happy Tabby, a general incorporated association that sponsors the training program, as well as by our generous donors. We sincerely appreciate your warm support and we would also like to express our sincere appreciation to the cooperating cats and their caretakers.



■Voices from Trainees

・Not only was I able to resolve the questions and concerns I had during the surgery, but I was also able to learn tips on how to proceed smoothly and practice them on the spot, which definitely improved my skills.

The exchange of information with the participating vets was also very helpful.

・ I was thrilled to receive the evaluation form and was very impressed with the attention to detail.

・ It was stimulating to interact with like-minded veterinarians during lunch and after training.

■Online study sessions!

In addition to the surgical practice training, a total of six online study sessions were conducted in 2024. Starting with a passionate lecture by Dr. Hashimoto on the role of animal welfare, veteran trainers led the class in learning not only basic knowledge about spay/neuter surgery, but also how to determine whether cats can safely undergo surgery, how to respond to emergencies, and irregular cases related to surgery. The SVJ members who attended each lecture listened attentively and had a lively exchange of opinions after the lecture.

Veterinarians at spay clinics need not only to be able to perform spay/neuter surgeries, but also to have the clinical ability to make a diagnosis based on a physical examination alone. This is because feral cats have no preoperative examinations or prior information. Also, because this may be a once-in-a-lifetime medical support for feral cats, it is important for us to be able to provide as much support as possible for necessary procedures, and attend to injuries in addition to spay/neuter. We would like to continue to hold such workshops in the future, while constantly updating our knowledge and techniques to keep up with the latest updates!

【We need your support for training veterinarians!!】

For cats participating in training courses, the surgery is performed free of charge. We need operating funds to continue our activities. We are sincerely looking forward to your warm support!

(For details, please see the donation information at the end of this brochure.)



Feel free to visit
our course!

【Date set for Training Day 2025】



トレーニング講習会 見学無料

場所: Happy Tabby Clinic

こんなお悩みありませんか？

- ☒ 不妊去勢手術の指導を受ける機会が無い
- ☒ 不妊去勢手術をスキルアップしたい
- ☒ 早期不妊去勢手術を見てみたい

早期不妊去勢手術（生後5ヵ月齢までに行う手術のこと）

講習会で高速高回転手術・早期不妊去勢手術を学べる！

トレーニング受講者・見学者の声

トレーナーの先生がマンツーマンで指導してくれるので安心して手術に取り組めた

高速高回転手術（1日30匹の手術）を進めるコツが見れて勉強になった

早期不妊去勢手術を受けた仔猫が術後すぐにご飯を食べるほど元気なことに驚いた



2025年 講習会年間日程（10時～）

3/5	(水)
4/16	(水)
6/11	(水)
9/23	(火・祝)
10/12	(日)
12/10	(水)

お申込みはこちらから

獣医師・獣医学生・動物看護士対象

お問い合わせ

二次元コードまたは、WEBサイトからお願いします。

SPAY VETS JAPANで検索

Spay Vets Japan



一般社団法人

SPAY VETS JAPAN

■ Dog spay/neuter surgical demonstration was held at SVJ Cat and Dog Birth Control Clinic (Nanki Shirahama)

On February 17 and 18, 2024, we held a dog spay/neuter surgical demonstration. The problem of overpopulation is not limited to cats. Dogs also have problems such as feral dogs, hoarding and well-meaning people overwhelmed by too many dogs in their care. In addition, dog surgery is more difficult and time-consuming than cat surgery. And advanced surgical techniques are needed to perform surgery on as many dogs as possible, in a short period of time, with as little pain as possible.

Therefore, we held a surgical demonstration of dog spay/neuter at the SVJ Cat and Dog Birth Control Clinic (Nanki Shirahama) to provide SVJ members with an opportunity for technical exchanges and learning. With the cooperation of Wanlife, 14 SVJ members including three surgeons from the training project team (Dr. Daimon, Dr. Hirano, Dr. Endo) and four government veterinarians from outside the membership participated in this two-day event. A total of 20 dogs were spayed or neutered, ranging from 4-month-old puppies and small dogs, to large dogs over 30 kg.

Veterinarians from both the public and private sectors, who are eager to improve their canine surgical techniques and resolve the problem of dog overpopulation, gathered in one place to observe surgeries with great enthusiasm.

Above all, this is the first time that a dog surgery demonstration has been held in Japan in this form. The venue was filled with the excitement of friendly competition as participants eagerly observed the surgeries, asked questions to the surgeons, and exchanged opinions with each other!



■ Surgery Demonstration and lectures begin at government facilities!

《 Surgery demonstration and lectures in Niigata City June 5-6, 2024 》

We performed a surgery demonstration and lecture at the Nyangata Center Clinic within the Niigata City Animal Protection Center. This clinic is Japan's first public-private partnership spay clinic, where veterinarians from across the prefecture take turns performing surgeries in a room within the animal control facility.

In preparation for its opening in autumn 2024, veterinarians from Spay Vets Japan conducted a surgery demonstration to provide guidance on the high-volume surgeries characteristic of spay clinics. This was also the first attempt conducted within a government facility for our organization!





Dr. Daimon and Dr. Endo performed the spay hook method, while Dr. Hashimoto provided guidance on how to achieve a high-volume, high-quality spay-neuter procedure, mainly to assistants and volunteers. Prior to the surgery demonstration, we explained the mission of the Spay Clinic, the current state of the overpopulation issue that necessitates such procedures, and the importance of early spay-neuter surgeries, to the veterinarians who will be collaborating with this clinic project in the future. Despite their busy schedules, many vets participated and actively exchanged information with the surgeons. This showed the high level of interest in this project, which I thought was wonderful!

Many people, including vets, participated in the public lecture, which provided a valuable opportunity to convey the importance of spay-neuter surgery and how it is necessary to prevent overpopulation in the event of a disaster.

We hope that the audience will spread the word about the lecture and contribute to the advancement of future spay-neuter surgery.

《 Surgery demonstration at Miyagi Prefecture Animal Protection Center December 12, 2024 》

Dr. Daimon, a local veterinarian, performed surgeries on adult male and female cats, adult male and female dogs, and a female kitten weighing just over 1 kg, followed by a discussion session. For the male kittens, we provided hands-on guidance to shelter vets as they performed the neutering procedure.

A total of 11 participants, including staff from the Animal Protection Center and public health centers, attended the event. Out of the 12 Animal Disease Control and Hygiene staff members, 9 had clinical experience, and everyone actively participated in the Q&A session and observed the procedures with great interest from start to finish.

In Miyagi Prefecture, vets from the five health centers and the Animal Protection Center actually perform spay-neuter surgeries, including early surgeries, in the center's operating room prior to adoption. We hope that this attempt will contribute to improving and streamlining routine surgical techniques and ultimately promote the adoption of surrendered animals.



We are now accepting applications for on-site surgery demonstration and training!

SVJ will continue to accelerate surgery demonstrations and training at government facilities in 2025. By conducting demonstration surgeries and technical guidance on site for government veterinarians who have few opportunities to learn about spaying and neutering, we aim to create a society where it is the norm to perform surgeries prior to adoption. This includes early spaying and neutering of puppies and kittens. Local governments that wish to request surgery demonstrations and training on-site, feel free to contact us by email.



Visiting the United States

Travelers (veterinarians): Eriko Hashimoto, Miyuki Daimon, Ayako Hirano
Schedule: August 12-19, 2024

SVJ member vets visited Spay Clinics and shelters in the United States to greet Professor Levy of the University of Florida, who is scheduled to speak at a conference in December. We visited Florida and Los Angeles, California. It was a trip where we strongly felt the differences between the States and Japan.

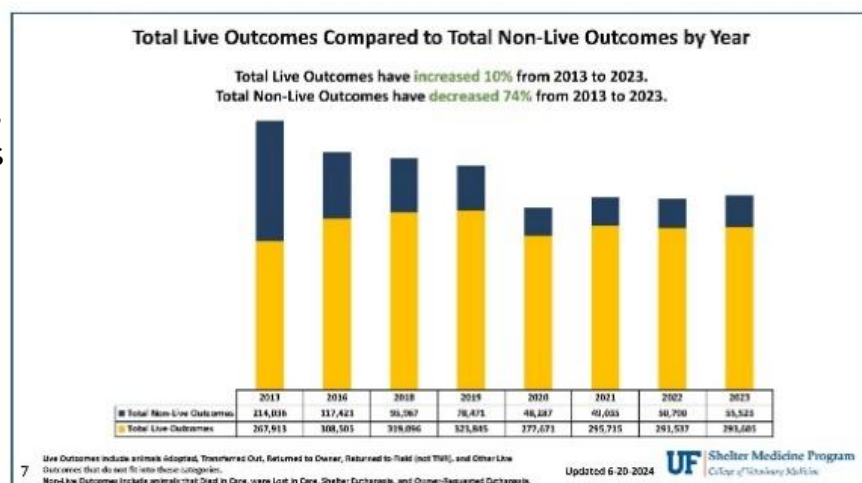
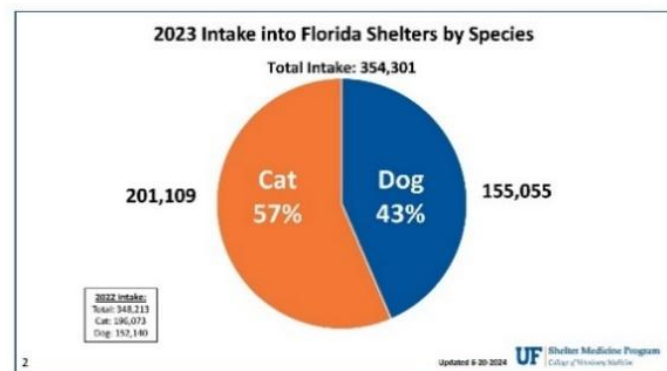
Visited locations:

- 3/13 Peggy Adams Rescue League (Private shelter: West Palm Beach, Florida)
- 3/14 University of Florida (Gainesville, Florida)
 - Citrus County Animal Services (Government shelter: Citrus County, Florida)
 - Marion County Animal Services (Government Shelter: Marion County, Florida)
- 3/15 Operation Catnip (Private TNR clinic: Gainesville, Florida)
- 3/16 CAMP LA (Private low-cost animal hospital: Los Angeles, California)
- 3/17 North Figueroa Animal Hospital (Private animal hospital: Los Angeles, California)
 - Eastwood Ranch Foundation (Private shelter: Los Angeles, California)
 - The Amanda Foundation (NPO animal hospital: Los Angeles, California)

■ Florida

Since 1998, the University of Florida has been collaborating on stray cat management and veterinary student education, providing students with opportunities to gain practical experience not only at the university but also at nearby shelters and TNR clinics. Most of the dogs housed at the shelters were mixed breeds and large pit bull-type dogs. For sheltered cats, all facilities conducted high-volume TNVR (TNR combined with rabies vaccinations), in order to reduce the numbers of cats sheltered.

Another interesting initiative to reduce the number of cats staying in shelters is the Working Cat Program, which involves adopting multiple cats to farms and other locations to be kept outdoors while performing pest control work. Since there is no such initiative taken in Japan, it was interesting to hear that this program is reportedly progressing smoothly. This is also called the Barn Cat Program.





■Peggy Adams Rescue League (West Palm Beach, Florida)

Although it is a private facility, its vast grounds include an adoption center and clinic, with approximately 6,000 animals adopted annually and approximately 12,000 animals receiving spay/neuter surgeries and medical care. The facility operates solely on donations, without any financial support from the government, and has made efforts to secure large donations through naming contests and other initiatives. Despite being donation-funded, the well-maintained facilities allow the sheltered animals to live comfortably while waiting for their new families. The facility also conducts large-scale TNVR surgeries as part of student training, provides rabies vaccinations and food support for low-income individuals, and offers humane education programs for children.



■University of Florida



Practical training at the university

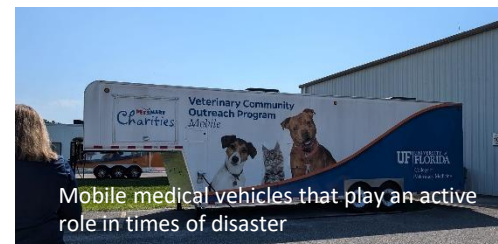
At the University of Florida, students performed surgeries and provided care for feral dogs and cats in need of medical attention, creating a wonderful educational program in which the practical training itself contributed to society. In addition, there was a position called Shelter Medicine Course Assistant filled by Cameron. This position served as a liaison between the university and the shelter; it also involved adoption and played a supporting role between the university and the shelter.

We felt the importance of continuous and close cooperation between the university and the shelter. We hope that such educational programs will become the global standard in the future.

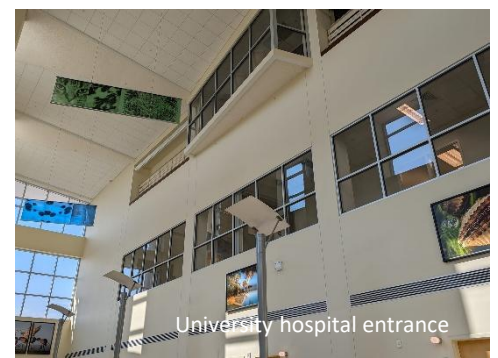


↑From left: Cameron, Dr. Hashimoto, Dr. Daimon, Dr. Hirano, and Professor Julie K Levy.

← Dr. Levy heading toward the Community Outreach entrance. This is where animals from the shelter are brought in. Dr. Levy kindly gave us a tour of the university.



Mobile medical vehicles that play an active role in times of disaster



University hospital entrance

■Citrus County Animal Services & Marion County Animal Services

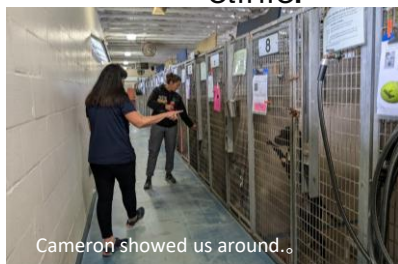
(Government Shelter: Citrus County, Florida)

(Government Shelter: Marion County, Florida)

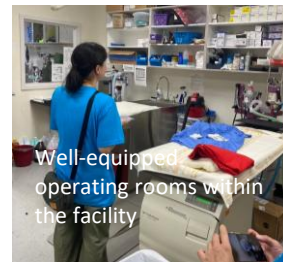
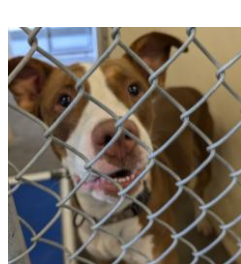


The government shelter also employs highly skilled veterinarians, and it was impressive to see that many dogs and cats undergo spay-neuter surgeries every day. We were surprised to hear Marion's veterinarian say that the surgery takes 10 minutes for female dogs and 3 minutes for female cats. The target animals include shelter animals, TNVR, and, when necessary, pet dogs and cats.

There is collaboration with many foster volunteers, and specific initiatives. This includes providing necessary resources and medical expenses, free TNVR, and basic medical care for pet dogs and cats in need of support to prevent their shelter admission. Marion County's facility also had a mobile clinic.



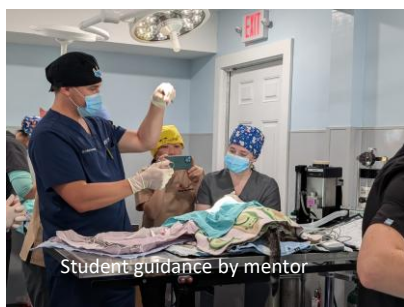
Cameron showed us around..



Well-equipped operating rooms within the facility



■Operation Catnip



Student guidance by mentor



Experienced students teaching other students



The students who participated in the training on this day

This project, launched by Dr. Levy in 1998, focuses on TNVR and support for community cats, as well as training veterinary students. To date, more than 80,000 sterilization surgeries have been performed. On the day we visited, veterinary student training was underway, and we were able to observe the proceedings for the entire day. The whole team, including nurses, worked together to support the students in their studies. First-time participants undergo a step-by-step training program, starting with assisting the surgeon, then neutering, and finally spaying surgeries. A well-established program ensures surgeries are conducted safely. Among the students who frequently participate, there are "expert students" with hundreds of surgical experiences, who not only contribute as seasoned team members but also take on educational roles as a mentor.

Beyond being a high-volume clinic with seamless collaboration, the space prioritizes education for the next generation, offering us much to emulate and learn from.

■ Los Angeles, California



In Los Angeles, in the post-coronavirus era, a severe shortage of veterinarians and the resulting lack of primary care (basic medical care such as vaccinations and spaying/neutering) has led to a shelter occupancy rate of 200%, making euthanasia unavoidable. We also heard that there are many immigrants, and that language and cultural issues make it difficult to promote animal welfare. The dogs in shelters include not only large breeds but also purebreds and small dogs. The economic downturn has led to issues with illegal breeders, who breed animals for profit to cover living expenses.

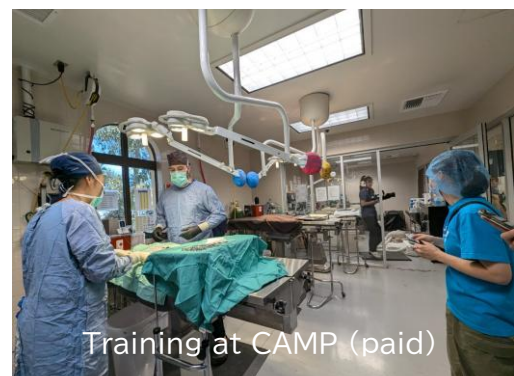
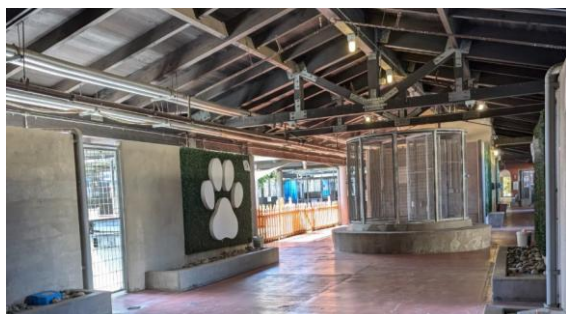
Additionally, many people are giving up their pets due to the economic downturn, and efforts are being made to ensure that those in need can access adequate medical care to prevent such situations.



■ Community Animal Medicine Project (CAMP Mission Hills)

CAMP is an organization that aims to promote primary care in underserved areas of Los Angeles and to reduce euthanasia and shelter intakes. It operates four permanent or mobile clinics in Los Angeles. At Mission Hills, which we visited this time, they also provide training for veterinarians. The Mission Hills facility is a former government shelter that was no longer in use. It is jointly leased free of charge from the city by the dog rescue organization Paws For Life K9 Rescue, the cat rescue organization Rory To the Rescue, and the animal hospital CAMP.

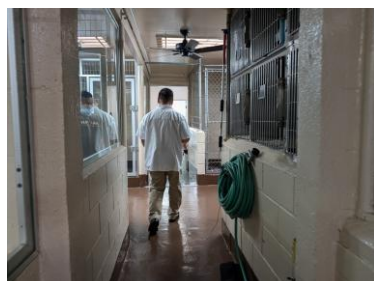
This collaboration has contributed to reducing the number of animals held in government centers. We were deeply impressed by this mutually beneficial partnership between the city and the rescue organizations.



■ North Figueroa Animal Hospital Dr. [Ronaldo Joey Vasquez](#)

Dr. Joey's animal hospital, known as Champion for LA Pets, is committed to preventing new shelter intakes by providing spay/neuter surgeries to shelters and rescue organizations, as well as offering surgeries at low prices. The day before our visit, this highly skilled veterinarian performed surgeries on over 70 dogs and cats in a single day.

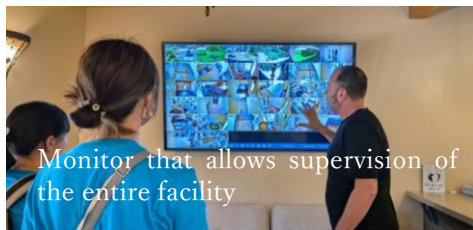
He has long supported Spay Vets Japan, and in 2023, through an introduction by Hiro Yamazaki, he visited our clinic in Osaka, which serves as our base. He is teaching us about the role of a veterinarian with significant social impact.





■ Eastwood Ranch Foundation

This foundation, headed by Alison Eastwood, was newly established with the mission of not only rescuing animals from shelters with high euthanasia rates, but also working to address the problem of pet overpopulation through campaigns, educational activities, and spay/neuter surgeries. We visited the facility before it opened, thanks to an introduction from Dr. Joey. Our guide was Christine Harte of Catnippers, who works at this facility alongside Alison and is also actively involved in TNR and cat rescue activities in Los Angeles. The facility already sheltered cats that Christine had rescued and Dr. Joey had spayed or neutered. Given the frequent occurrence of disasters such as hurricanes, the facility also had a large stockpile of disaster preparedness supplies, including food and cages.



amanda

■ The Amanda Foundation

In addition to providing full medical services, this historic NPO also operates mobile clinics, provides adoption support, and conducts educational activities for children. The largest number of pets are taken in from low-income areas where services are lacking. So, they visit these areas and provide free TNVR services. A friendly dog that had been working as a therapy dog welcomed us.



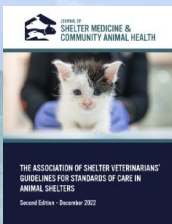
■ After visiting the United States

We had the impression that there were many adoption facilities and that many people chose to adopt shelter dogs and cats, but in reality, only about half of the people chose to adopt shelter dogs and cats. In fact, we felt that the number of dogs and cats in shelters was more serious than in Japan. In order to reduce the shelter intakes of dogs and cats, it is necessary to perform high-volume spaying and neutering of both dogs and cats, and it was impressive that the training of veterinarians and veterinary students, who are responsible for this work, was being carried out not only at veterinary universities but also at government and private facilities as a matter of course.

Additionally, many facilities cited ASPCA Pro as a reference for medical technology and ASV guidelines as a standard for shelter operations. The importance of having publicly available information that can serve as a common reference point was emphasized, even though facilities vary in terms of funding and scale.

Furthermore, it was common practice to tattoo all dogs and cats, regardless of ownership status, with a mark indicating they had undergone surgery. The widespread use of tattoos makes it easier to identify animals that have undergone surgery and could also be useful in disaster situations.

During our visit to the United States, everyone at each facility warmly welcomed us and we learned a great deal. As individuals sharing the same goal of addressing social issues caused by overbreeding, we hope to continue exchanging ideas and experiences in the future.



▲ ASV Guidelines



▲ Tattoo placed near the surgical wound

Spay Vets Japan presents

Conference *on* Humane Population Control *for* Companion Animals

J A P A N 2 0 2 4

In Osaka Metropolitan University (OMU) Rinku Campus
Sponsored by: OMU Veterinary Clinical Center



The conference was held on Sunday, December 1, 2024, at Osaka Metropolitan University's Rinku Campus. It was attended by a total of 120 participants, including government veterinarians, clinical veterinarians, veterinary students, university staff, volunteers, and others from a wide range of backgrounds.

Participants from various backgrounds engaged in open discussions and information exchange across national borders, shared challenges, and seriously considered what each could contribute from their respective positions. Spay Vets Japan believes that fostering such active exchange opportunities is essential for improving animal welfare and can bring about significant changes in public awareness.

■ Performers and lecture content



Online lecture

Julie K Levy, DVM

University of Florida College of
Veterinary Medicine Fran Marino
Endowed Distinguished Professor of
Shelter Medicine Education

「地域の猫」の
高負荷一斉TNRと譲渡が
シェルターの受入に
及ぼす影響について

Effect of targeted TNR on cat intake to
sheltering facilities in specific communities.



Patricia A Dingman, DVM, MS

University of Florida College of
Veterinary Adjunct Lecturer In Shelter
Medicine

野良猫管理における、
民間動物病院と
獣医学生教育との
共同事業の成功例

Successful collaborative efforts between
veterinary college and private sectors on
free-roaming cats management.



**Director of Spay Vets Japan
Mei Nomura, DVM**

6ヶ月齢以下のメス猫の
発情率の実態と、
現在の日本における
開業獣医師の
不妊去勢手術に関する
意識調査について

- The estrus rate of kittens before 6 months old
- A Survey of the Current Attitudes of General Practitioner Veterinarians in Japan Concerning Spay/Neuter Surgery



Keiichiro Tazawa, MVB

WVS International Project Officer

WVSの取り組みについて

About WVS/Worldwide Veterinary
Service Initiatives

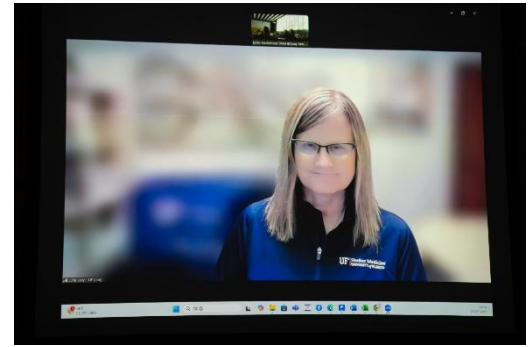
- Discussion: Dr. Eriko Hashimoto, Zoey Knittel (CAMP)
- Translators: Dr. Naoko Yoshida, Dr. Keiichiro Tazawa

The speakers from the United States were Dr. Julie Levy from the University of Florida and Dr. Patty Dingman from the Colorado State University Veterinary Teaching Hospital. Dr. Julie Levy, from the perspective of a university professor, discussed effective TNR and community cat management methods, as well as how veterinarians and educators should approach their work, based on actual empirical research published in academic papers. Dr. Patty Dingman shared examples of successful collaborative projects between private animal hospitals and veterinary student education programs.

Additionally, Dr. Keiichiro Tazawa from the international NGO Worldwide Veterinary Service (WVS), introduced WVS's initiatives, including Mission Rabies. These are activities to promote rabies prevention and control in regions where rabies is prevalent, such as rabies vaccination campaigns, community education, and consulting with government agencies. It also included the International Training Center, which provides training on dog sterilization surgery for veterinarians and veterinary students.

From our organization, we reported on the results of our own survey conducted between 2022 and 2023 regarding the actual rate of estrus in female cats under six months of age, as well as a survey on the current awareness of spaying and neutering surgeries among practicing veterinarians in Japan.

In the panel discussion following the lecture, Zoe Nittel, (Executive Director of CAMP, Southern California's largest non-profit veterinary medical organization) participated as a panelist, and we were able to engage in lively exchanges of opinions that transcended domestic and international boundaries.

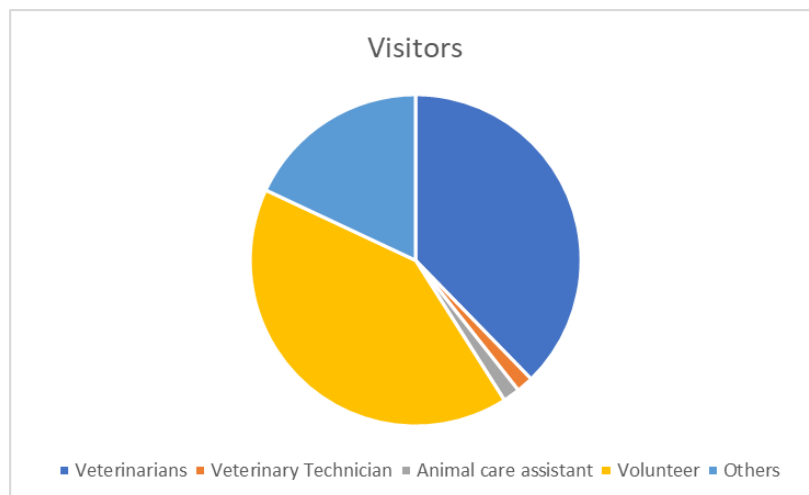


Conference Questionnaire Results

Conference participants responded to the questionnaire and we received many positive comments.

Q: Visitor categories

Veterinarians working at	
General clinic	4
General clinic & spay clinic	3
Spay clinic	3
University	2
Government agency	10
Other	1
Vets total	23
Veterinary Technician	1
Animal care assistant	1
Volunteer	25
Others	11



Q: What left an impression on you?

- Specific examples of successful TNR in the United States.
 - The importance of veterinarians taking the lead in raising awareness.
 - The gap between teaching methods in the United States and Japan regarding student education.
 - The importance of HQHVSN(*) in TNR, and learning about the actual effects of TNR.
 - Confidence gained because the activities being carried out overseas were the same as TNR and adoption, which we are also involved in. Realization that if sterilization surgery education could be implemented within the university, it could be advanced at a significant pace.
 - WVS activities and the rabies vaccination project.
 - The recommended age for sterilization surgery for cats and dogs is completely different between Japan and overseas.
 - Learning that cats can become pregnant at four months of age.
 - It was so impressive that students with no surgical experience were able to perform spaying in about 10 minutes after a year of training.
 - Considering the role of veterinarians from an animal welfare perspective was refreshing.
 - It's good that students in the US participate in volunteer activities.
- (*) High-Quality, High-Volume Spay/Neuter

Q: What do you think could be improved

- Having time for questions and answers and a break.
- Providing subtitles.
- Increasing the light of the venue, so that the materials were easier to see.
- It might have been better to collect questions in advance and select some of them to include.

Q: Questions and messages for presenters

- It was a meaningful time to learn about the implementation status and programs of TNR in the United States, as well as activities overseas, through the conference.
- Question for Dr. Levy, who gave the first lecturer; It is about the slide titled "Optimizing TNR impact." Does the movement that runs counter to TNR refer to management in areas with excessive populations? Or does it refer to protection in shelters with excessive populations? Please explain what it refers to. Also, please explain the reasons for this and how to deal with this movement. (Is it because more people do not want to return?)
- Suggestion; It would be good if there were a system in Japan where students could participate in TNR surgeries.
- How does the government intervene in animal welfare overseas?
- Why are rabies vaccines not administered during TNR in Japan?
- Question about the sterilization surgery method used in the United States at Spay Clinics; Is it the same as the surgery performed in Japan?
- How can we carry out effective TNR activities based on evidence?
- Attendee thought that only island countries such as Japan, the United Kingdom, and Australia, which are rabies-free countries, could achieve this (because it involves not only dogs but also foxes, bats, and other animals), but during the lecture, it sounded like they said, "We know how to eradicate it, but we can't do it." Attendee would like to know the know-how for eradication. Additionally, they would like to hear the thoughts on the fact that Japan, a rabies-free country, continues to mandate annual vaccinations for all dogs under the law.
- How are other organizations besides Spay Vets Japan advocating for this issue?
- Is participation in the WVS program possible for animal care assistants?

■Conference Questionnaire Results

Q: What would you like to learn at future conferences?

- Rather than focusing on advanced practices overseas, we should consider what can be done in Japan (urban/rural areas) and examine specific examples of successful and unsuccessful TNR initiatives in Japan.
- When advancing TNR projects, it is important to negotiate with feeders and build relationships with them.
- Specific details regarding animal control operations and infection control measures should be addressed.
- To help more veterinarians understand the benefits of early spay/neuter surgery, we should share detailed information about anesthesia and surgery, including videos, and have members provide explanations.
- How many more hospitals have started recommending early spay/neuter surgeries since the establishment of SVJ? Please conduct a survey and publish the results in a few years.
- Activity reports from spay clinics operating in Japan.
- What Japan can do to improve animal welfare and address issues related to overpopulation.
- Early spay/neuter for dogs.
- Since collaboration with local governments is necessary, we should have discussions to establish a unified approach across Japan regarding what local governments can and should do.
- Issues with organizations and facilities that do not perform pre-adoption spaying and neutering on rescued dogs

Q: Message for SVJ

- Hope for new laws and progress in animal welfare.
- Participating boosted motivation.
- Desire to participate in surgery training.
- Early sterilization is effective for both animals and solving social issues, but it won't spread among clinical veterinarians just by communicating that fact alone. Just as incentives are important when incorporating it into university programs, it will take time for early sterilization to spread among clinical veterinarians unless they understand that it is technically and economically beneficial for them.
- Follow-up on the 456 survey Results
- Training should be conducted in easily accessible locations.
- The general public tends to rely on animal welfare centers or municipal offices, so there should be deeper collaboration with government bodies.
- I want to achieve TNR for stray and/or feral dogs.

We would like to express our sincere gratitude to our sponsors and supporters!

Mr. Nishiyama: provided interpretation services on the day

Ms. Zoe, Director of CAMP

Osaka Metropolitan University Veterinary Clinical Center

All those involved in the planning, operation, and publicity of the event!



Supported by  大阪公立大学 獣医学部附属
獣医臨床センター
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Thank you sponsors



有限会社アメディコ



しろねこスベイクリニック



You can watch the conference recordings until the end of December 2025!

For more details, please visit the special page on our website.

<https://spayvetsjapan.org/conference2024.html>



■ Report of the Surgery Demonstration Held on the Day After the Conference

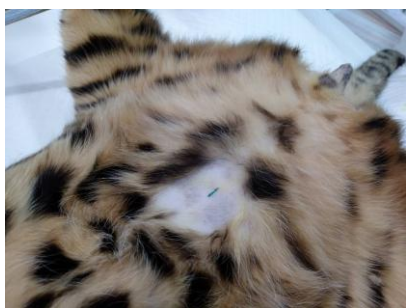
The day after the conference, we invited Dr. Patty Dingman to perform a surgery demonstration at Happy Tabby Clinic in Osaka.

First, we shared the surgical techniques used in SVJ training program, and Dr. Dingman taught us techniques such as Pedicle Tie (a vascular ligation method without sutures) and the tattoo method commonly used in the United States as proof of sterilization surgery.

In the operating room, we had a lively discussion about differences in surgical techniques and teaching methods between overseas and domestic practices, while sharing new knowledge. Everyone was so engrossed that we lost track of time.

As a veterinarian, it is a great source of motivation to exchange information and to adopt good practices with overseas counterparts. It was an unforgettable day for everyone.

We sincerely thank Dr. Patty Dingman for her cooperation over the two days!





犬猫繁殖予防病院

(南紀白浜)

Cat and dog birth control clinic



In the Cat and Dog birth control clinic, 15 SVJ member operated on a total of 1,093 Cats and 71 Dogs. 7.3% of cats were under 5 months old.

●Number of surgeries performed

2024	Owned cat♂	Owned cat♀	Feral cat♂	Feral cat♀
January	33	19	15	10
February	26	32	16	22
March	20	39	10	14
April	6	8	25	53
May	15	9	17	26
June	14	17	17	24
July	27	22	39	57
August	13	19	8	31
September	21	15	28	25
October	22	21	26	36
November	19	32	17	35
December	20	13	25	35
Total	236	246	243	368
			Total	1093

●Number of surgeries by municipality (top 10)

Tanabe	419
Shirahama	290
Minabe	125
Kamitonda	105
Kushimoto	38
Susami	25
Shingu	21
Arita	13
Gobo	10
Innami	9
Nasukatsuura	9

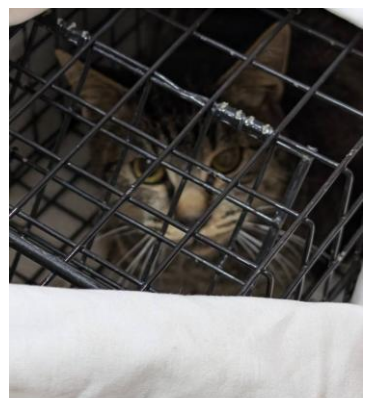


●Number of pregnancies and pregnancy rate

2024	Number of surgeries	pregnancy rate	Number of abortions
January	0	0	0
February	0	0	0
March	8	15.1	32
April	33	54.1	130
May	2	5.7	8
June	4	9.8	26
July	10	12.7	32
August	4	8	9
September	2	5	8
October	0	0	0
November	0	0	0
December	0	0	0

●Early sterilization less than 5 months old

2024	Number of surgery	%
January	11	14.3
February	8	8.3
March	6	7.2
April	1	1.1
May	2	3
June	24	33.3
July	74	51
August	43	60.6
September	55	61.8
October	33	31.4
November	25	24.3
December	16	17.2
Total	298	27.3



■ Hospital reception desk questionnaire

Since opening in September 2023, the Clinic has conducted a survey of 199 users. The results are summarized in the table below. The purpose of this survey is to understand how the Spay Clinic is perceived by the local community. In the Nanki-Shirahama region, there are few TNR and rescue volunteers, so the hospital itself must actively promote, educate, and support caretakers and cat guardians. For sustainable and efficient TNR, direct support from the hospital to cat guardians and caretakers is ideal. However, it is challenging for the hospital to educate caretakers and actually get them to bring the cats in. TNR volunteers not only provide capture and transportation support but also promote sterilization surgeries and raise awareness about Spay Clinics. In regions with few such volunteers, promoting surgeries is a major challenge.

However, even in these challenging circumstances, as we continue our activities, we have encountered people who, though not volunteers, have stepped forward to help the community cats, and those who support and encourage our efforts. Gradually, a network of people between the local community and Spay Clinic is beginning to form. We will spare no effort in nurturing this network and strive to connect it to the promotion of surgeries!

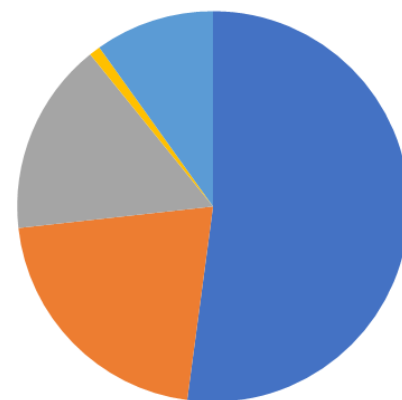
In 2025, we aim to participate in local events to advance awareness, actively engage with local government agencies for information exchange, and focus on proactive support such as consultation responses and transportation assistance to connect cats to surgeries.

Results of the Cat and Dog Birth Control Clinic Window Survey (From opening date to 199 cases)

Q1. How did you hear about our clinic?

introduction by an acquaintance	111
newspaper advertisement	45
SNS, Internet	34
because it's nearby	2
others	21

public health center			
Hattori Animal Hospital, Kaizan Town, Kitamuro District, Mie Prefecture			
Evergreen			
Introduction to the One-Nyan Club			
attendance at sessions			
From the adoption group (Whale Cat)			
Evergreen advertisement			
Heard at another animal hospital			
I have visited this clinic before.			
wan life			

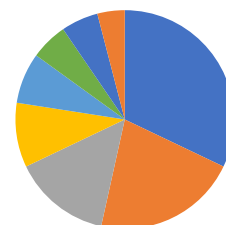


■ introduction by an acquaintance
 ■ newspaper advertisement
 ■ SNS, Internet
 ■ because it's nearby
 ■ others

Q2. Why did you choose our clinic?

low price	111
Surgery performed by specialists	74
agreed with the purpose of SVJ	50
can't get an appointment at other hospitals.	33
Other hospitals won't accept feral cats.	26
Other hospitals do not perform early sterilization	19
there is no hospital	19
others	14

This is the only hospital that can handle so many cats at a day.			
I heard that the doctor is very skilled.			
I am truly grateful.			
By introduction			
It's difficult to make an appointment at other hospitals.			
introduction by an acquaintance			
Keeping a large number of cats			
I have used Wanlife's dog hotel and training services for my dog before.			
I thought there would be fewer feral cats.			
I support the activities of your organization. Keep up the good work!			



■ low price
 ■ Surgery performed by specialists
 ■ agreed with the purpose of SVJ
 ■ can't get an appointment at other hospitals.
 ■ Other hospitals won't accept feral cats.
 ■ Other hospitals do not perform early sterilization
 ■ there is no hospital
 ■ others

Spay Vets Japan Action Plan in 2025

■ Expansion of lecture activities

In order to save dogs and cats from the suffering caused by overpopulation, we must spread awareness of the fact that spay/neuter surgery is the only solution, and make it as commonplace as infrastructure development. From our daily activities, we feel that this idea is currently only supported and implemented by volunteers and a few understanding citizens. Going forward, we believe it is necessary to expand beyond these boundaries and actively reach out to a broader audience, including children, adults who have not previously shown interest, and even those involved in the sale of live animals. Therefore, starting this year, we plan to place greater emphasis on lectures and educational activities.

Previous lectures

(By Dr. Daimon, Dr. Nomura, Dr. Hashimoto, Dr. Hirano)

- Recommendations for Early Spay/Neuter Surgery (September 2022, Conference hosted by Machineko Higashi Osaka (Osaka))
- Recommendations for Early Spay/Neuter Surgery (for veterinarians) (November 2022, In-house seminar at Yasaka Animal Hospital during demonstration surgery (Okayama))
- The New Normal: Feline Spay/Neuter by Five Months of Age (WVS Training (Thailand))
- The Importance of Spay/Neuter Pets from a Disaster Preparedness Perspective (August 2023, Human and Pet Disaster Preparedness Symposium (Saitama))
- What is a Spay Clinic? (June 2024, Technical Training Session at the Establishment of Nyangata Center Clinic (Niigata))
- The Importance of Spay/Neuter from a Disaster Preparedness Perspective (June 2024, Nyangata Center Clinic Establishment Technical Training Seminar (Niigata))
- 456 Survey Results Report (December 2024, Spay Vets Japan Conference (Osaka Metropolitan University))
- The Importance of Spay/Neuter from a Disaster Preparedness Perspective (January 2025, Gifu University)
- Towards community cat activities by Shin-Tama neighborhood associations (February 2025, Kanagawa Prefecture)
- The Importance of Spaying and Neutering from a Disaster Preparedness Perspective (March 2025, Lecture Hosted by Inu Neko Human Life (Wakayama))
- The Practical Aspects of Spaying and Neutering (April 2025, Study Session Hosted by Neko Kara Mesen (Online))



We are accepting requests for lectures!

If you would like to request a lecture, please contact us by email.

info@spayvetsjapan.org



■Conference on Humane Population Control for Companion Animals Japan2025 will be held !

On Sunday, November 30, 2025, Spay Vets Japan will host its second Japan-U.S. Exchange Conference!

We are pleased to welcome Zoey Knittel, Director of the CAMP Clinic in Los Angeles, California, as a speaker. She will share insights into the current state of dog and cat welfare in California and introduce the initiatives of the CAMP Clinic.

Details will be announced on our website or social media as they are finalized, so please check back for updates!

The first conference, held on December 1, 2024, is currently available for on-demand viewing (until December 31, 2025). For more details, please visit our website.



Zoey Knittel serves as the Executive Director of the Community Animal Medicine Project (CAMP)

CAMP is Southern California's largest nonprofit veterinary organization, operating four clinics and two mobile clinics. It provides essential veterinary services throughout Los Angeles, including low-cost, high-volume spay/neuter surgeries and community animal healthcare.

Additionally, CAMP runs the Veterinary Training Project (VTP), a RACE-accredited program that provides veterinarians with training in high-quality spay/neuter surgeries and clinical techniques.

Since it opened in 2007, veterinary staff has performed over 300,000 spay/neuter surgeries, preventing millions of puppies and kittens from becoming homeless.

Through CAMP's Regional Animal Medical Veterinary Program, over 80,000 dogs and cats receive care annually.

CAMP has also committed to medical support for pets affected by the large-scale wildfire in LA (Jan 2025).

●Home Page: www.campla.org

■ Other action plans

- New training programs
- 456survey, aiming to publish a paper
- Supervising translation of AVS Shelter Guidelines(Sterilization Surgery Edition)
- Running Cat and Dog Birth control clinic
- Large-Scale Spay Day for Member Vets
- Application for recognition as a public interest corporation to the Cabinet Office

<Now Recruiting Members ! >

We are currently accepting applications for veterinarians who wish to join our activities. After joining, you will be able to view member-only information content, participate in surgical training, and attend online study sessions. We also provide you opportunities to interact with other members. Please contact us via the application form on our website.

