Nursing the Parvo-virus Patient – a Nurses Role

Abstract
This lecture takes a detailed look at nursing the parvo-virus patient and the nurses role in providing excellent nursing care in parvo-virus cases. By discussing considerations such as TLC, comfort and hygiene, fluid therapy, medications, nutrition provision and patient monitoring, the lecture examines the requirements for nursing the parvo-virus patients and gives an interesting guide to providing high standards of nursing care.

Learning outcomes
- Understanding and detailed knowledge of nursing considerations for parvo-virus patients.
- The confidence to care for parvo-virus patients with regard to monitoring and caring for them to a high standard.

Course Notes
What can we do for Parvo-Virus Patients?
- the good news is that we are seeing improved survival rates
- 24hr intensive care is now recognised as being key
- Excellent nursing care is required
- Barrier Nursing

First Nursing steps ..... Wrap tail with co-flex these patient will have on-going diarrhoea for 3 days
- Clip hair from peri-anal region to allow you to maintain hygiene
- Apply barrier cream to the area

Patient comfort IS important
- Padded mattresses - Bedding - Disposable feeding bowls - TLC

Veterinary Treatment Plan considerations:
- Fluid Therapy
- Analgesia and other Medication
- Bloods
- Nutrition
Monitoring:
- Standard monitoring should include
  - Heart rate and pulse quality
  - Mucous Membrane colour and moistness
  - CRT
  - Blood pressure
  - Mentation
  - Temperature
  - Outputs such as urine and diarrhoea
  - Pain scoring

TLC is an absolute must for these patients

Time ......
- Be realistic with owners
- Sometimes once vomiting and diarrhoea has stopped better to send them home for overnight periods
- Day 2 – worst day
- Subtle changes

Survival Rates over last 2yrs
- In our emergency clinic we have had 95% survival
- The patient that didn’t survive had already aspirated so had aspiration pneumonia also
- If you can’t do everything - provision of fluids and nutritional support and naso-gastric siphoning often will pull them through with excellent nursing care