What makes a specialist?

Providing excellence in patient care...
What makes a specialist?

Explaining our Veterinary Team

All practicing veterinarians have successfully undergone at least five years university training to qualify to work as a **general practice veterinarian**. Every veterinarian is registered with our industry’s government body, the Veterinary Surgeons Board, for the state within which they practice.

Your local veterinarian will have a broad range of skills and knowledge to deal with the common concerns and diseases seen in small animals.

At times, the condition that your pet may suffer from might need people with additional skills to help with diagnostic work-up tests, procedures, surgery, or may need intensive monitoring that is not possible within your local veterinary clinic. Commonly, referral practices have equipment such as ultrasounds, fluoroscopy, endoscopy, MRI and CT scans that general practice will not have access to. This might result in your veterinarian requesting that your pet is referred to a specialist.

**Terminology and training processes:**

In order to completely comprehend the expertise of a veterinarian, it is best to have a clear understanding of the different terminology and processes involved in further veterinary qualifications.

Some veterinarians may develop a ‘special interest’ in a certain area, such as small animal internal medicine, or small animal surgery. A special interest is not the same as a specialist. Your local veterinarian may have additional qualifications such as ‘Memberships’.

Common terminology includes:

- **BVSc**: Bachelor of Veterinary Science
- **MANZCVS (MACVSc)**: Member of the Australian & New Zealand College of Veterinary Scientists. These veterinarians have demonstrated a high level of interest and competence in a given area of veterinary science.
- **FANZCVS (FACVSc)**: Fellow of the Australian & New Zealand College of Veterinary Scientists. These veterinarians are registered specialists by the Veterinary Surgeons Board.
- **DipACVIM**: Diplomate of the American College of Veterinary Internal Medicine (Specialist).
- **DipACVD**: Diplomate of the American College of Veterinary Dermatology (Specialist).
- **DipECVS**: Diplomate of the European College of Veterinary Surgery (Specialist).
- **DipACVO**: Diplomate of the American College of Veterinary Ophthalmology (Specialist).
- **PhD**: Dr of Philosophy - not a medical degree.

The veterinary system works similarly to the human medical field, consisting of general practice doctors, interns, residents, registrars and specialists.

**Interns** are qualified veterinarians who work under the supervision of specialists to further develop their skills and knowledge.

**Residents** are qualified veterinarians who have had at least 4 years experience, completed an internship or membership examinations and are now entering into a formal training program. Residency programs involve several years of intensive training under the direct supervision of specialists, and are performed in several different countries such as Australia, United Kingdom and the United States of America. During this period, residents will also publish several peer reviewed scientific papers on clinically relevant advancements.

**Registrars** are qualified veterinarians who have successfully completed residencies and are generally in the process of studying for specialist exams, such as Fellowship examinations to the Australian & New Zealand College of Veterinary Scientists (Australia) or Boards examinations (America, Europe).
Specialist qualifications are only granted by the Veterinary Surgeons Board once the strict training criteria has been met, all rigorous examinations have been successfully completed, all scientific papers have been published and the veterinarian has been granted endorsement by the Board. Our specialists have such a wealth of knowledge that they are in demand to speak internationally and have also been involved in writing of text books and other informative literature.

Specialist and Referral Hospitals will also have access to equipment such as Ultrasound, MRI, CT, and endoscopes that general practice may not have available within their practices.

Specialist Veterinarians are like specialist doctors, they have performed many years of intense training, scientific papers and examinations to develop a deep knowledge, understanding and skill base in a narrow field such as Internal Medicine, Surgery, Cardiology and Dermatology.

WHO MAKES UP OUR VETERINARY SPECIALIST SERVICES REFERRAL TEAM?

UNDERWOOD HOSPITAL

Surgery Team:
- Dr David Cook BVSc FANZCVS (Specialist)
- Dr Peter Delisser BVSc CertSAS DipECVS (European Specialist)
- Dr Wendy Archipow BVSc MS Diplomate ACVS (Specialist)
- Dr Nick Cleland BVSc MANZCVS (Resident)

Medicine Team:
- Dr Peter Barron BVSc FANZCVS (Specialist)
- Dr Ann Thompson BVSc MANZCVS Msc GCHEd DACVIM(Specialist)
- Dr Rachel Korman BVSc FANZCVS (Feline Specialist)
- Dr Josh King BVSc MANZCVS (Registrar)
- Dr Chris Halman BVSc MANZCVS (Resident)
- Dr Else Jacobson BVSc MANZCVS (Resident)
- Dr Briannan-Kym Kane BVSc (Resident)

CARRARA HOSPITAL

Surgery Team:
- Dr Gordon Corfield BVSc FANZCVS (Specialist)
- Dr Tania Banks BVSc FANZCVS GCHEd PhD (Specialist)
- Dr James King BVSc MANZCVS (Resident)
- Dr Jon Sirasch BVSc MANZCVS (Resident)
- Dr Grace Wicks BVSc (Resident)

Medicine Team:
- Dr Ninette Keller BVSc Mmedvet (Med)
- Dr Lisa Singer VMD DACVIM(Specialist)
- Dr Katie Lott BVSc MANZCVS (Registrar)
- Dr Ingrid Goodman BVSc MANZCVS (Registrar)
- Dr Luke Johnston BVSc (Resident)

Ophthalmology Team:
- Dr Susan Jacobi Dr.med.vet DVM MS DACVO (Specialist)

JINDALEE HOSPITAL

Surgery Team:
- Adj. Prof. Philip Moses BVSc CertSAS FANZCVS CMAVA (Specialist)
- Dr Abbie Tipler BVSc MANZCVS (Resident)

Medicine Team:
- Dr Bruce Mackay BVSc FANZCVS (Specialist)
- Dr Terry King BVSc MANZCVS

OUR VISITING CONSULTING TEAMS

Veterinary Specialist Services is extremely fortunate to have a number of visiting consultants who consult from our three hospitals during the week. For appointments please call 1800 442 648 for availability times and locations.

Cardiology Team:
- Dr Brad Gavaghan BVSc FANZCVS (Specialist)
- Dr Fiona Meyers BVSc PhD MANZCVS DACVIM (Specialist)

Dermatology Team: (Dermatology for Animals)
- Dr Michael Shipstone BVSc MACVSc FACVSc DipACVD (Specialist)
- Dr John Hutt BVSc CertVD MANZCVS DipACVD (Specialist)
- Dr Evie Knight BVSc MANZCVS (SAMed) FANZCVS DipACVD (Specialist)
- Dr Jeylan Aslan BVSc MANZCVS - Resident

Dentistry Team: (Advanced Animal Dentistry)
- Dr Aaron Forsayeth BVSc MANZCVS
- Dr Rebecca Tucker BVSc MANZCVS

Ophthalmology Team: (Animal Eye Services)
- Dr Mike Bernays BVSc FANZCVS (Specialist)
- Dr James White BVSc MANZCVS

Physiotherapy Team: (Animal Physiotherapy Solutions)
- Mrs Lindsey Connell MCSP Manimst (Animal Physiotherapy)
- Mrs Sandy Sharpe B.Phty, B.Ex Sci, MSc. Vet Phty, MAPA (Animal Physiotherapy)

Phone 1800 442 648