

Euthanasia Best Practices: Feeding the Needs of Both Families & Veterinary Teams

Simple and practical tips that can be easily incorporated into every day practice to improve the euthanasia experience such as; quality of life assessment tools, key sentences to show your empathy, where to inject, what to give and how to prevent professional complaints. But more than anything, how to feel better around euthanasia and to get a lot of chocolate boxes and positive reviews. Basically, providing tips gathered in 20 years of experience delivered in 60 minutes!

Speaker Bio:

A graduate of the Faculty of Veterinary Medicine at the University of Montreal in 1999, and in the practice of small animals since then. Like many veterinarians, she had to euthanize thousands of animals. Having suffered from the lack of training in euthanasia, she is committed to share her knowledge and clinical experience with veterinary teams to improve the experience of euthanasia for everyone involved in the process. In the last years, she has attended international veterinary conferences and is on a mission to share the best of what she has learned in lectures on end-of-life and communication and in the clinic. She also completed the CAETA training in 2019 given by Dr Kathy Cooney, the international KOL in veterinary end-of-life.

Her focus is on how to structure the customer approach and promote the veterinary team wellbeing. Training teams on how to map the euthanasia experience, properly sedate patients, use safer alternate routes of providing medication and teach how to express empathy and deliver bad news. All potential sources of stress for families and veterinary teams.

Dr Leheurteux is also the designer of veterinary pet body bag EUTHABAG used in 25 countries and 12 veterinary schools. Over 1M of them have been sold since its launch in 2016. She has been speaking in Europe and in America since 2018 with the objective to contribute to the veterinary profession wellbeing while providing a better euthanasia experience to pets and their family.

Learning Objectives:

1. How to support the pet owners during, before and after euthanasia
2. How to use positive terminology around end-of-life
3. Benefits and protocols for the 2 injection pre-euthanasia sedation
4. How to inform families on the concerns of pet burial to prevent professional complaints
5. What you need to know on the AVMA Companion Animal Aftercare Policy
6. Euthanasia as a practice building opportunity

Agenda:

- Euthanasia

- Mapping the experience for the client
- Positive terminology around end-of-life
- Pre-euthanasia sedation
- Quality of life assessment tools
- AVMA companion animal Aftercare Policy
- Responsible pet burial