



IDEXX Telemedicine Consultants

Cardiology

Jason Arndt, DVM, DACVIM (Cardiology)

Dr. Arndt attended the University of California, Davis, College of Veterinary Medicine, earning his DVM in 2004. He then pursued a rotating internship at the University of Illinois in 2005 and a 3-year residency in cardiology at the University of Pennsylvania, after which he obtained board certification in 2009. In his spare time, he enjoys stand-up paddle boarding and spending time with his wife and daughter. He also enjoys time with his beautiful chocolate Labrador retriever, Jimmy-Dean, and other pets.

Darlene Blischok, DVM, DACVIM (Cardiology)

Dr. Blischok graduated from Virginia-Maryland Regional College of Veterinary Medicine, and then completed a one year internship at Garden State Veterinary Specialists in New Jersey. She was a staff consultant for IDEXX during her cardiology residency in northern New Jersey and continued that work part-time for 11 years. She practiced cardiology for 11 years at a private referral hospital in Atlanta before joining the IDEXX team again full-time in 2012. She lives in Roswell, Georgia, with her husband, Skip, and their four-legged and finned pets. She enjoys creating pottery, reading, and gardening in her spare time.

Bryan Bottorff, DVM, DACVIM (Cardiology)

Dr. Bryan Bottorff received his DVM from Purdue University in 2008. He then completed a rotating small-animal internship at the Virginia-Maryland Regional College of Veterinary Medicine, and moved to the Pacific Northwest for a cardiology residency at Oregon State University in 2009. Dr. Bottorff completed his residency and obtained board certification by the American College of Veterinary Internal Medicine in cardiology in 2012. His professional interests include interventional cardiology as well as advanced imaging of cardiac and pericardial disorders. In his spare time, Dr. Bottorff enjoys spending time with his family, traveling, and outdoor adventures in the Pacific Northwest.

Christina Bove, DVM, MS, DACVIM (Cardiology)

Dr. Christina Bové received her Doctorate of Veterinary Medicine from the College of Veterinary Medicine at Cornell University. She then completed a rotating small animal internship at LeadER Animal Specialty Hospital in Fort Lauderdale, Florida. Following her internship, Dr. Bové worked as an Emergency Clinician in Houston, Texas as well as completed an Internal Medicine internship at the Mississauga Oakville Veterinary Emergency Hospital in Canada before working in preclinical heart failure research at the Texas Heart Institute in Houston, Texas. Dr. Bové then completed a combined cardiology residency and master's program at the College of Veterinary Medicine at Colorado State University. Dr. Bové is a Board-Certified Diplomate in the American College of Veterinary Internal Medicine (Cardiology).

Amara Estrada, DVM, DACVIM (Cardiology)

Dr. Estrada is a professor of cardiology and the associate chair for instruction in small animal clinical sciences at the University of Florida College of Veterinary Medicine. She is board certified in veterinary cardiology by the American College of Veterinary Internal Medicine. She graduated from the University of Florida before completing an internship at the University of Tennessee and a residency in comparative cardiology at Cornell University. She has been on the faculty at the University of Florida since 2003 and has recently joined the IDEXX team to oversee quality control for the cardiology services. Dr. Estrada is actively involved in all 4 years of veterinary student education and has won numerous teaching awards, as well as awards for her clinical research, from the University of Florida and nationally. She has authored many peer-reviewed research publications on veterinary cardiology and has contributed to numerous veterinary textbooks, including *Current Veterinary Therapy*, *Textbook of Veterinary Internal Medicine*, *Clinical Veterinary Advisor*, and she more recently coauthored the book *The ABCDs of Veterinary Cardiology*. She frequently speaks at

continuing education meetings on both a national and international level. She enjoys collaborations with her colleagues within the veterinary cardiology and pediatric cardiology disciplines. When she is not working to advance veterinary student education or cardiology in clinical practice, Dr. Estrada enjoys spending time with her husband and three incredible children.

Nonya N. Fiakpui, VMD, DACVIM (Cardiology)

Dr. Fiakpui was born and raised in Chicago, Illinois, and is board-certified in veterinary cardiology by the American College of Veterinary Internal Medicine. She earned her veterinary degree from the University of Pennsylvania, before completing a rotating internship in small animal medicine and surgery at Ohio State University. She earned her MS and completed a residency in comparative cardiovascular medicine at Purdue University. From Purdue, Dr. Fiakpui joined a private specialty practice outside of Stockholm, Sweden, and later moved back to the USA to establish the cardiology service at a specialty practice in New England. She began consulting for IDEXX Telemedicine in 2016. An aspiring “digital nomad,” she enjoys travelling the USA and the world.

Gemma Fraga Veloso, DVM, MSc, DECVIM (Cardiology), MRCVS

Crystal Hariu-Damore, DVM, DACVIM (Cardiology)

After growing up in southern Louisiana, Dr. Hariu-Damore received her DVM from Louisiana State University in 2007. She then completed a rotating internship in small animal medicine at Coral Springs Animal Hospital and a cardiology residency at Texas A&M University. After completing her residency, Dr. Hariu-Damore became board-certified by the American College of Veterinary Internal Medicine in Cardiology in 2011. After living in Houston, Texas for several years, she and her husband now travel full-time with their four dogs (Benson, Parker, Carla, and Mavis).

Ian Harris “Jake” Jacobson, DVM, DACVIM (Cardiology)

Dr. Jacobson was born and raised in Charleston, South Carolina. He attended Clemson University for his undergraduate degree and then earned his DVM from the University of Georgia. Dr. Jacobson completed an internship in small-animal medicine and surgery at Colorado State University, followed by a cardiology internship in Tampa at Florida Veterinary Specialists. He continued his education with a 3-year cardiology residency

at the Animal Medical Center in New York City. Outside of work, he likes to take advantage of the ever-growing cultural and recreational activities the Low Country of South Carolina has to offer.

Mandi Kleman, DVM, DACVIM (Cardiology)

Dr. Kleman received her DVM from the University of Florida and completed an internship in small-animal medicine and surgery at the Matthew J. Ryan Veterinary Hospital at the University of Pennsylvania. She completed her cardiology residency at the University of Florida and became a diplomate of the American College of Veterinary Internal Medicine in cardiology in 2010. After completing her residency, Dr. Kleman established the cardiology services at the Cornell University-affiliated satellite hospital, Cornell University Veterinary Specialists, in Stamford, Connecticut, and Pacific Veterinary Specialists in Capitola, California. She joined IDEXX Telemedicine Consultants in 2015. Her professional interests include novel interventional therapies for congenital heart disease and managing heart worm infestation in the rescue setting. When she is not at work, Dr. Kleman can be found in her greenhouse, running, reading about minimalism or zombie fiction, or spending time at the beach. Dr. Kleman lives in Atlanta, Georgia, with her husband and four daughters (two human and two feline).

Danielle Smith Laughlin, DVM, DACVIM (Cardiology)

Dr. Laughlin was raised in Cleveland, Ohio. She received her veterinary degree from The Ohio State University and stayed for an internship in small animal medicine and surgery. She then moved to Philadelphia to complete a 3-year residency in cardiology at the University of Pennsylvania Matthew J Ryan Veterinary Hospital. Dr. Laughlin now lives in Atlanta, Georgia. She joined IDEXX Telemedicine consultants in 2016 and also currently works at BluePearl Veterinary Specialists. She frequently presents continuing education lectures around the country on the management of chronic cardiac disease. Outside of work she loves traveling and spending time with her husband, son, and daughter. They share their home with two terriers, Rudy and Tito, and a handsome cat named Rascal.

Damon Leeder, BVSc, DACVIM (Cardiology)

Dr. Leeder originally hails from Australia, where he received his veterinary degree with first-class honors at the University of Sydney. He completed a small-animal medicine internship at the Veterinary Specialist Centre in Sydney before moving to the United States to undertake a

rotating internship in small-animal medicine and surgery at the University of Minnesota Veterinary Medical Center. He remained at the University of Minnesota to complete a 3-year residency in veterinary cardiology. At the completion of his residency, he successfully obtained board certification in the specialty of veterinary cardiology. His special interests include degenerative valve disease, electrocardiography, congenital heart disease, and the management of congestive heart failure. In his spare time, he can be found swimming, biking, and running in training for his next triathlon.

Jordi López-Alvarez, LtVet, PhD, DECVIM-CA (Cardiology), MRCVS

Dr. López-Alvarez graduated from the Universitat Autònoma de Barcelona (UAB) in Spain after having spent the prior 2 years as a visiting student at the École Nationale Vétérinaire d'Alfort in Paris, France. He completed a rotating internship at the UAB referral hospital in 2003 and then worked in private practice for more than 3 years. In 2011, he completed his cardiology residency at the University of Liverpool and, in 2014, his PhD at the Royal Veterinary College in London, United Kingdom. He then worked as a private practice cardiology specialist. He is interested in the clinical management of cardiovascular diseases of small animals, and he enjoys research in the most common cardiovascular diseases in the dog and cat. He is the author of a number of articles published in international veterinary journals and regularly reviews manuscripts for these journals as well. In his spare time, he loves spending time with his wife and two kids, hiking in the Pyrenees and swimming and sailing in the Mediterranean.

Marco Margiocco, DVM, MS, DACVIM (Cardiology), DECVIM (Cardiology)

Dr. Margiocco is originally from Italy and grew up in a small town at the foot of the Alps. He was born and raised in a house full of all sorts of animals, due to his father being a wildlife photographer. He started his adventure in veterinary medicine in 1985, as an unpaid veterinary assistant. He graduated from the University of Pisa, preparing for many examinations in the shade of the Leaning Tower. Dr. Margiocco worked in general practice for a few years, immediately developing an interest and focus in cardiology. He completed a long internship in cardiology at the University of Turin under the mentorship of Dr. Michele Borgarelli and started working as a mobile consultant offering echocardiograms and cardiology consultations. Dr. Margiocco left Italy in 2004, heading to the University of

Illinois for a combined master's degree program and cardiology residency. He soon followed his mentor to Oregon State University, where he completed his residency and master's degree. He then headed to Kansas State University, where he taught cardiology for 3 years. Dr. Margiocco moved to Vancouver, British Columbia, where he has lived for the last several years, working initially at a local busy multispecialty practice. Dr. Margiocco joined the IDEXX team as an independent contractor in 2016 and then became a full-time IDEXX employee in April 2017. When he is not at work, Dr. Margiocco likes to study and play fingerstyle acoustic guitar, and he also enjoys exploring beautiful British Columbia on his bicycle or paddleboard. He is owned by an adorable yellow Labrador retriever named Luna. He lives in North Vancouver with his wife and two explosive teenagers.

Hayley McDonald, BVSc, MRCVS

Paul F. Mõtsküla, DVM MSc MVetMed DipECVIM-CA (Cardiology) MRCVS

Dr. Mõtsküla received his DVM in Estonian University of Life Sciences. After a few years in private practice and some research at the same vet school, he gained a Master of Science degree. Another few years later, having worked as a staff clinician and a lecturer at his home Uni, he went on to pursue a cardiology residency at the Royal Veterinary College in London which he completed in 2013 and obtained board certification in 2016. Having worked at his home Uni since 2004, it is unsurprising that he is currently a lecturer of cardiology there. He is also involved in private referral cardiology practice and working on his PhD thesis which he hopes to wrap up later this year. In his spare time he loves to do some DIY, fly the glider plane, sing in a choir and learn to play jazz guitar.

Reid Nakamura, DVM, DACVEC (Cardiology), DACVIM (Cardiology)

Dr. Nakamura was born in Honolulu, Hawaii. After obtaining a DVM at Tufts University in Boston, he went on to complete an internship at the Animal Medical Center in New York. He has completed residencies in both emergency and critical care at Tufts University and in cardiology at Advanced Veterinary Care Center in California. He obtained board certification in both specialties. His professional interests include thromboprophylaxis, pericardial effusion, and interventional cardiology. In his spare time, he enjoys running, attending sporting events, and trying to make his shih poo, Moana, from destroying his apartment.

Romain Pariaut, DVM, DACVIM (Cardiology)

Dr. Pariaut is a native of the Burgundy region in France and received his veterinary degree from the Veterinary School in Lyon, which was followed by a rotating internship in 2000 and an emergency and critical care internship in 2001. He was an instructor in emergency and critical care when he received the opportunity to pursue a three year residency in cardiology at Cornell University. He obtained board certification from the American College of Veterinary Internal Medicine (Cardiology) in 2005 and the European College of Veterinary Internal Medicine in 2006. Until 2015, he was an assistant and then associate professor of Cardiology at Louisiana State University. He then moved to Ithaca, New York, to join Cornell University as an associate professor and section chief of the cardiology service. His primary focus is arrhythmia diagnosis and treatment, and interventional cardiology. He is currently developing a cardiac electrophysiology program dedicated to the treatment of arrhythmias via radiofrequency ablation. Dr. Pariaut is the author of more than 40 peer-reviewed publications, and co-author of a textbook: *Electrocardiography of the dog and cat*, 2nd edition. He is a regular speaker at national and international conferences and teaches courses on electrocardiography. In his free time, he enjoys reading, sailing and traveling.

Augusta Pelosi, DVM, DACVS, DACVIM (Cardiology)

Dr. Pelosi was born and raised in Italy. She attended the College of Veterinary Medicine at Università di Pisa and the Universitat Autònoma de Barcelona (Erasmus program) and earned her DVM degree from Università di Pisa. Upon moving to the U.S., she obtained the Educational Commission for Foreign Veterinary Graduates (ECFVG) certification. Dr. Pelosi completed a small animal rotating internship at the Cummings School of Veterinary Medicine at Tufts University. She continued her education with a surgery and cardiology residency at Michigan State University, where she remained as an assistant professor in cardiology until 2016. She has since relocated to southern Florida to work in a private practice. She has worked as both a surgery and cardiology consultant for several companies. Her primary focus is cardiac and cardiovascular surgery. She is actively involved in several committees within the American College of Veterinary Internal Medicine and American College of Veterinary Surgeons. Outside of work, she is a certified yoga instructor, loves teaching and practicing yoga, and enjoys spending time with her family, traveling, cooking, and learning languages.

Nicole Piscitelli, DVM, DACVIM (Cardiology)

Dr. Piscitelli is originally from Buffalo, New York. She received her DVM from the Atlantic Veterinary College at the University of Prince Edward Island in 2006. She met her husband Christopher, in veterinary school. In 2006 they moved to Tampa where Dr. Piscitelli completed her rotating internship at Florida Veterinary Specialists. She then stayed on to complete a specialty internship in cardiology, followed by a three-year residency in cardiology. They have lived all over the Southeastern United States (Tampa, Nashville, and Atlanta), and in 2017 Chris started a residency in radiology at NC State. Currently they live in Raleigh, North Carolina, with their two sons, Scott and Benjamin.

Kacie Schmitt-Felber, DVM, DACVIM (Cardiology)**Allison Spake, DVM, DACVIM (Cardiology)**

Dr. Spake received her DVM from the University of Tennessee. She completed a rotating internship at the University of Pennsylvania and her cardiology residency at North Carolina State University. She began her career in a private specialty practice in Charleston, South Carolina. After two years, she joined the cardiology department at Colorado State University. After two years at CSU, she joined IDEXX full time, starting first as the cardiology manager and production cardiologist. She is now the associate medical director for IDEXX telemedicine services. Dr. Spake lives in Fort Collins, CO with her husband, Gaetan, her toy poodle, Junior, and her four chickens—Grits, Sausage, Lydia and Josh. In her free time, she enjoys fishing, hiking, skiing and attempting to grow vegetables.

Ilaria Spalla, DVM, PhD, MRCVS, DACVIM (Cardiology)

Dr. Spalla was born and raised in a city in Northern Italy between Lake Maggiore and the city of Milan. She studied veterinary medicine at the University of Milan and attended her last university year at the Universidad Complutense de Madrid (UCM) as an Erasmus exchange student.

She received her veterinary degree from the University of Milan in 2010. She then enrolled in a one-year internship program at the Clinica Veterinaria Gran Sasso, with Dr Claudio Bussadori as supervisor. She was then offered a PhD in Veterinary Clinical Sciences at the University of Milan, focused on advanced echocardiography. She was awarded her PhD in 2014, and in 2015 she started an ACVIM residency at the Royal Veterinary College in

London. She obtained a Master degree in Veterinary Medicine (MVetMed) by the University of London in 2018. She obtained board certification from the American College of Veterinary Internal Medicine (Cardiology) in 2018 and European College of Veterinary Internal Medicine (Cardiology) in 2019. She is currently working in a private specialty practice in Italy, whilst keeping awake her interest for clinical investigation as well as providing telemedicine support. She joined IDEXX in 2019. When she is not working, Dr Spalla enjoys spending time with her husband and toddler girl, her two black cats Kina and Edvige and her extended family and friends. She loves travelling and immerse herself in different cultures, hiking, swimming and yoga practicing.

Jessica M. Solomon, DVM, MS, DACVIM (Cardiology)

Dr. Solomon was raised in northern New Jersey and attended Kansas State University College of Veterinary Medicine. She then went on to complete a rotating small animal internship at Oregon State University College of Veterinary Medicine and a cardiology residency at the Virginia-Maryland Regional College of Veterinary Medicine. Following her residency, Dr. Solomon was in private practice in New York City for 3 years before joining IDEXX Telemedicine Consultants. Dr. Solomon currently lives in the Philadelphia area with her husband, two daughters, a bullmastiff, a golden retriever, and the best cat in the world.