**Dr. Julie Levy**

Julie Levy DVMP, PhD, DACVIM, obtained her DVM from the University of California at Davis in 1989 and her PhD at North Carolina State University in 1996. She completed a clinical internship in small animal medicine and surgery at Angell Memorial Animal Hospital in Boston in 1990, and a residency in small animal internal medicine at North Carolina State University, culminating in board certification in the American College of Veterinary Internal Medicine in 1993.

Dr. Levy joined the faculty of the University of Florida specialty service in internal medicine in 1997, and began devoting herself to the emerging field of shelter medicine full-time in 2008 when she co-founded Maddie’s Shelter Medicine Program. The program focuses on training veterinary students and specialist veterinarians, shelter consultation, and research into solving the problems that challenge animal shelters. She has spent the past decade helping to develop a recognized veterinary specialty in shelter medicine, a dream that finally came to fruition in 2014.

Dr. Levy's research and clinical interests center on the health and welfare of animals in shelters, feline infectious diseases, and humane alternatives for cat population control. She has performed long-term studies of contraceptive vaccines for cats that, if successful, could greatly enhance the impact of feline population control programs by eliminating the need for surgical facilities and highly skilled medical personnel to sterilize cats.

In a recently published study, she demonstrated that a contraceptive vaccine targeting GnRH could prevent pregnancy in cats for several years after a single injection.

Her vaccination and infectious disease studies provide the evidence needed to create protocols that protect the health of shelter and free-roaming community cats, always with an eye toward practicality in the resource-scare environment of animal shelters and cat management programs. Recognizing that neonatal and orphan kittens were at high risk for illness and death, she identified the leading causes of illness and developed procedures for restoring immune function in kittens to increase their survival.

Dr. Levy is the founder of Operation Catnip, a nonprofit trap-neuter-return program that has sterilized more than 40,000 cats in Gainesville, Florida, since 1998. The program is the result of collaboration between the municipal shelter, the College of Veterinary Medicine, local veterinarians, and volunteers throughout the community.

Operation Catnip serves as a "field laboratory" for research examining community cat population dynamics, disease prevalence, cat caregiver interactions, and population management. It also serves as a service learning opportunity for hundreds of veterinary students, who not only polish their spay/neuter skills while sterilizing cats, but also come to understand the problem of cat overpopulation and homelessness and the unique role that veterinarians can play in making their communities a better place for cats and the people who care about them.

Dr. Levy has published more than 100 journal articles and textbook chapters, many focusing on community cat issues. She has been invited to serve on several expect panels for the Association of Shelter Veterinarians and the American Association of Feline Practitioners to draft standards of practice for spay/neuter clinics, vaccination in shelters, and FeLV/FIV management. She is the recipient of the Carl J. Norden-Pfizer Distinguished Teacher Award, Outstanding Woman Veterinarian of the Year, and the European Society of Feline Medicine Award.

**Selected publications**

**Levy JK**, Isaza NM, Scott KC. Effect of high-impact targeted trap-neuter-return and adoption of community cats on cat intake to a shelter. Vet J 2014;201:269-74. doi: 10.1016/j.tvjl.2014.05.001. Epub 2014 May 5.

McManus CM, **Levy JK**, Andersen LA, McMorray SP, Leutenegger CM, Gray LK, Hilligas J, Tucker SJ. Prevalence of upper respiratory pathogens in four management models for unowned cats in the Southeast United States. Vet J 2014;201:196-201. doi: 10.1016/j.tvjl.2014.05.015. Epub 2014 May 15.

Polak KC, **Levy JK**, Crawford PC, Leutenegger CM, Moriello KA. Infectious diseases in large-scale cat hoarding investigations. Vet J 2014;201:189-195. doi: 10.1016/j.tvjl.2014.05.020. Epub 2014 May 22.

Wald DM, Jacobson SK, **Levy JK**. Outdoor cats: Identifying differences between stakeholder beliefs, perceived impacts, risk and management. Conservation Biol 2013:167:414-424.

Scherk MA, Ford RB, Gaskell RM, Hartmann K, Hurley KF, Lappin MR, **Levy JK**, Little SE, Nordone SK, Sparkes AH. 2013 AAFP Feline Vaccination Advisory Panel Report. J Feline Med Surg 2013;15:785-808.

**Levy JK**, Wilford CL. Management of stray and feral community cats. In: Miller L, Zawistowshi S, eds. Shelter Medicine for Veterinarians and Staff, 2nd ed. Ames:Wiley-Blackwell, 2013, 669-688.

Digangi BA, **Levy JK**, Griffin B, McGorray SP, Dubovi EJ, Dingman PA, Tucker SJ. Prevalence of serum antibody titers against feline panleukopenia virus, feline herpesvirus 1, and feline calicivirus in cats entering a Florida animal shelter. J Am Vet Med Assoc 2012;241:1320-1325.

Sabshin SJ, **Levy JK**, Tupler T, Tucker SJ, Greiner EC, Leutenegger CM. Enteropathogens identified in cats entering a Florida animal shelter with normal feces or diarrhea. J Am Vet Med Assoc 2012;241:331-337..

Harrison KA, Robertson SA, **Levy JK**, Isaza N. Evaluation of metetomidine, ketamine, and buprenorphine for neutering feral cats. J Fel Med Surg 2011;13:896-902.

**Levy JK**, Friary JA, Miller LA, Tucker SJ, Fagerstone KA. Long-term fertility control in female cats with GonaCon, a GnRH immunocontraceptive. Theriogenol 2011;76:15-17-1525.

**Levy JK**. Contraceptive vaccines for the humane control of community cat populations. J Am Repro Immunol 2011;66:63-70.

**Levy JK**. Considerations and management of infectious diseases of feral cats. In: Greene CE, ed. Infectious Diseases of Dogs and Cats, 4th ed. Philadephia:Elsevier, 2011:136-1,140.

Lord LK, Griffin B, Slater MR, **Levy JK**. Evaluation of collars and microchips for visual and permanent identification of pet cats. J Am Vet Med Assoc 2010;237:387-394.

White SC, Jefferson E, **Levy JK**. Impact of publicly sponsored neutering programs on animal population dynamics at animal shelters: the New Hampshire and Austin experiences. J Appl Anim Welfare Sci 2010;13:191-212.

**Levy JK**, Crawford PC, Hartmann K, Hofmann-Lehmann R, Little S, Sundahl E, Thayer V. 2008 American Association of Feline Practitioners feline retrovirus management guidelines. J Fel Med Surg 2008;10:300-316.

Reese MJ, Patterson EV, Tucker SJ, Dubovi EJ, Davis RD, Crawford PC, **Levy, JK**. Effects of anesthesia and surgery on serologic responses to vaccination in kittens. J Am Vet Med Assoc 2008;233:116-121.

Looney AL, Bohling MW, Bushby PA, Howe LM, Griffin B, **Levy JK**, Eddlestone SM, Weedon JR, Appel LD, Rigdon-Brestle YK, Ferguson NJ, Sweeney DJ, Tyson KA, Voors AH, White SC, Wilford CL, Farrell KA, Jefferson EP, Moyer MR, Newberry SP, Saxton MA. The Association of Shelter Veterinarians veterinary medical care guidelines for spay-neuter programs. J Am Vet Med Assoc 2008;233:74-86.

Patterson EV, Reese MJ, Tucker SJ, Dubovi EJ, Crawford PC, **Levy JK**. Effect of vaccination on parvovirus testing in kittens. J Am Vet Med Assoc 2007;230:359-363.

Fischer SM, Quest CM, Dubovi EJ, Davis RD, Tucker SJ, Friary JA, Crawford PC, Ricke TA, **Levy JK**. Response of feral cats to vaccination at the time of neutering. J Am Vet Med Assoc 2007;230:52-58.

Wallace JL, **Levy JK**. Population characteristics of feral cats admitted to seven trap-neuter-return programs in the United States. J Fel Med Surg 2006;8:279-284.

**Levy JK**, Scott HM, Lachtara JL, Crawford PC. Seroprevalence of feline leukemia virus and feline immunodeficiency virus infection among cats in North America and risk factors for seropositivity. J Am Vet Med Assoc 2006;228:371-376.

Foley P, Foley JE, **Levy JK**, Paik T. Analysis of the impact of trap-neuter-return programs on populations of feral cats. J Am Vet Med Assoc 2005;227:1775-1781.

**Levy JK**, Crawford PC. Humane strategies for controlling feral cat populations. J Am Vet Med Assoc 2004;225:1354-1360.

Luria BJ, **Levy JK**, Lappin MR, Breitschwerdt EB, Legendre AM, Hernandez JA, Gorman SP, Lee IT. Prevalence of infectious diseases in feral cats in northern Florida. J Fel Med Surg 2004;6:287-296.

Cistola AM, Golder FJ, Centonze LA, Williams LS,**Levy JK**. Anesthetic and physiologic effects of tiletamine, zolazepam, ketamine, and xylazine combination (TKX) in feral cats undergoing surgical sterilization. J Fel Med Surg 2004;6:297-303.

**Levy JK**, Miller LA, Crawford PC, Ritchey JW, Ross MK, Fagerstone KA. GnRH immunocontraception of male cats. Theriogenol 2004;62:1116-1130.

Gorman S, **Levy J.** A public policy toward the management of feral cats. Pierce Law Rev 2004;2:157-181.

**Levy JK.** Feral cat management. In: Miller L, Zawistowshi S, eds. Shelter Medicine for Veterinarians and Staff, Blackwell Publishing, 2004, 377-388

**Levy JK**, Woods JE,Turick SL, Etheridge DL. Number of unowned free-roaming cats in a college community in the southern United States and characteristics of community residents who feed them. J Am Vet Med Assoc 2003;223:202-205.

**Levy JK**, Gale DW, Gale LA. Evaluation of the effect of a long-term trap-neuter-return and adoption program on a free-roaming cat population. J Am Vet Med Assoc 2003;222:42-46.

Scott KC, **Levy JK**, Crawford PC. Characteristics of free-roaming cats presented for sterilization. J Am Vet Med Assoc 2002;221:1136-1138.

Scott KC, **Levy JK**, Gorman SP, Newell SM. Body condition of feral cats, and the effect of neutering. J Appl Anim Welfare Sci 2002;5:209-219.

Centonze LA, **Levy JK**. Characteristics of feral cat colonies and their caretakers. J Am Vet Med Assoc 2002;220:1627-1633.

Williams LS, **Levy JK**, Robertson SA, Cistola AM, Centonze LA. Use of the anesthetic combination of tiletamine, zolazepam, ketamine, and xylazine for neutering feral cats. J Am Vet Med Assoc 2002;220:1491-1495.

Lee IT, **Levy JK**, Gorman SP, Crawford PC, Slater MR. Prevalence of feline leukemia virus infection and serum antibodies against feline immunodeficiency virus in unowned free-roaming cats. J Am Vet Med Assoc 2002;220:620-622.