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# POCKET HANDBOOK OF SMALL ANIMAL MEDICINE

SECOND EDITION

**Kit Sturgess**





# Pocket Handbook of Small Animal Medicine

Concise, problem-oriented, and accessibly designed, the second edition of the *Pocket Handbook of Small Animal Medicine* focuses on the essentials of medicine and surgery of the dog and cat. Packed with bullet points, flowcharts, and tables for quick reference, the book helps start the process of case management and resolution. It includes tips and hints on interpretation of physical signs, diagnostic tests, and management of common presenting conditions. Full colour algorithms assist decision-making, specifically in clinical presentations and critical care.

- Part 1 covers an overview of basic approaches.
- Parts 2 and 5, 'Clinical Presentations' and 'Critical Care', present a series of algorithms intended to guide the reader from presentation to diagnosis, or to outline emergency management.
- Part 3 forms the core of the book, covering – in brief – the examination, diagnosis, and treatment of the diseases (including a new section on exotic infections) and disorders of each body system, as well as multisystemic disorders.
- Part 4 covers anaesthetics, analgesia, and surgery.

This new edition is completely updated and contains important new sections on client communication and professional conduct, mental health and wellbeing, therapeutics, and common procedures.



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Second Edition

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## DEDICATION

This second edition is dedicated to my wife, Avery, and my children, William and Matthew, for the family time they gave up allowing me to write this text; my parents' memory for their endless encouragement and support; and the veterinary teams whose support, wisdom, and insight are a constant inspiration and without whom I would not have gained my knowledge and experience.



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# PREFACE

Updating should be easy – it has been uplifting to write this second edition as it has served to remind me how much the profession has grown in the ten years since the first edition, how much I have learnt and the greater emphasis on evidence-based medicine. I hope that I have retained the right balance for this edition with extra sections in Part 1 on techniques, therapeutics, non-clinical skills, and wellbeing that are essential to successfully managing our patients.

*The Pocket Handbook of Small Animal Medicine* remains a ‘pick-up-and-get-started’ text for quick and easy reference. It aims to offer concise subject reviews and rapid interpretation and problem-solving of key clinical signs. Part 1 still covers an overview of basic approaches, general health concerns, while Parts 2 and 5, ‘Clinical Presentations’ and ‘Critical Care’, present a series of algorithms intended to guide the reader from presentation to diagnosis, or to outline emergency management. Part 3 forms the core of the book, covering – in brief – the examination, diagnosis, and treatment of the diseases (including a new section on exotic infections) and disorders of each body system, as well as multisystemic disorders, while Part 4 covers anaesthetics, analgesia, and surgery. For more in-depth discussion and treatments, a short Further Reading list is included.