

## **Don Low Fellowship in Medical Oncology**

The Medical Oncology Service at the VMTH focuses on the diagnosis and treatment of small animals with cancer. The patient care provided by the Medical Oncology service is through primary case management and consultation with other services. The service utilizes multi-modality cancer treatments including surgery, chemotherapy, radiation therapy, immunotherapy, targeted therapies, and palliative care. We also provide guidance on chemotherapy safety and handling methods as needed.

The service is comprised of 1-2 faculty members, 2-3 residents, and 4-5 staff members at any given time. New patient appointments occur Monday-Thursday; recheck and chemotherapy patients are scheduled Monday-Friday. The service maintains a separate Oncology Clinical Trials receiving schedule that is staffed by a resident or faculty member along with 2-3 clinical trials coordinators. The Radiation Oncology Service is a separate service with primary receiving responsibilities and is comprised of 1-2 faculty members and 1-2 resident at a time.

Don Low Fellows in Medical Oncology shadow all clinical activities of faculty and residents in the service and attend case based and topic rounds sessions. The rounds schedule is provided below for reference. Fellows may also choose to shadow the Oncology Clinical Trials Service and/or the Radiation Oncology Service as their interests dictate and as schedules allow. Fellows do not have primary case responsibility, but their input and questions on cases are welcomed. The private practice experience that fellows bring is invaluable to students, residents, and faculty alike.

Rounds:        Monday 8-9am Resident Board Review (by Zoom)  
                  Tuesday 8-9am Surgical Oncology Rounds (by Zoom)  
                  Every other Wednesday 8-9am Grand Rounds  
                  Thursday 8-9am Topic Rounds with Students  
                  Friday 8-9am Pathology Rounds (by Zoom)  
                  Friday 9-10am Journal Club (by Zoom)  
                  Friday 1-2pm Cytology Rounds with Students  
                  Monday – Thursday 4-5pm Case Based Rounds with Students

\*Applicants that are pregnant or trying to become pregnant should discuss possible chemotherapy exposure risks with the oncology faculty prior to application.

### **Learning Objectives**

1. Understand the principles of staging and treatment options for common dog and cat tumors.
2. Understand the principles of chemotherapy safety, side-effects, and management of side-effects.
3. Understand the principles of quality of life and palliative care.