

**Kurt Rafael Verkest**

**Curriculum Vitae**

## Degrees and Awards

**Bachelor of Veterinary Science** (Honours), The University of Queensland, 1995.

**Bachelor of Veterinary Biology**, The University of Queensland, 1995.

**Doctor of Philosophy**, The University of Queensland, 2011.

**Member** (by examination), Small Animal Medicine Chapter, Australian and New Zealand College of Veterinary Scientists, 2000- .

**Chapter Award** for best candidate, Small Animal Medicine Chapter, Australian College of Veterinary Scientists, 2000.

**Fred Z Eager Research Prize** in Veterinary Science, School of Veterinary Science, The University of Queensland, 2010.

**Dean's Award for Research Higher Degree Excellence**, The University of Queensland, 2011. <http://www.uq.edu.au/grad-school/deans-award>

Society for Comparative Endocrinology **Oxford Laboratories Award for Excellence** in the advancement of knowledge concerning small animal endocrinology (Basic Science), 2012. <http://www.veterinaryendocrinology.org/2012-oxford-laboratories-award-winners/>

Australian and New Zealand College of Veterinary Scientists Award for **Most Commendable Paper in an International Journal**, 2013.

## **Current positions**

- ◆ Director, Senior Veterinarian and Consultant in Oncology, Pets Central, Hong Kong, 2007-present.
- ◆ Director of Veterinary Education, Pets Central Veterinary Academy, Hong Kong, 2010-present.
- ◆ Director and Chairman, Vets Central, Delaware, USA. 2018-present.
- ◆ Associate Editor (Oncology), Veterinary Information Network. [www.vin.com](http://www.vin.com), 2005-present.
- ◆ Freelance manuscript writing and editing company, VetWrite, 2012-present.
- ◆ Adjunct Associate Fellow, The University of Queensland, Australia.

## **Past positions**

- ◆ Member of the Advisory Board, The Veterinary Journal, 2013-2018.  
<http://www.journals.elsevier.com/the-veterinary-journal/editorial-board/>
- ◆ Partner and principal veterinarian, Calamvale Veterinary Clinic, 2000-2007.
- ◆ Employed veterinarian, Chatswood Veterinary Clinic, 1997-2000.

## **Published papers**

### ***Full papers in refereed journals***

**(2010 Australian Ranking of Journals Tier<sup>†</sup>, impact factor)**

**Verkest KR.** Is the metabolic syndrome a useful clinical concept in dogs? A review of the evidence. *The Veterinary Journal*; 2013. doi 10.1016/j.tvjl.2013.09.057. (Tier A, impact factor 2.424)

**Verkest KR, Fleeman LM, Morton JM, Rand JS, et al.** Association between postprandial triglyceride concentration and serum canine pancreatic lipase immunoreactivity in

overweight and obese dogs. *Journal of Veterinary Internal Medicine*; 2012. 26(1):46-53. (Tier A, impact factor 2.277) – WINNER of the ANZCVS Most Commendable Paper award, 2013.

**Verkest KR**, Fleeman LM, Morton JM, Ishioka K, Rand JS. Compensation for obesity-induced insulin resistance in dogs – assessment of the effects of leptin, adiponectin, and glucagon-like peptide-1 using path analysis. *Domestic Animal Endocrinology*; 2011. 41(1):24-34. (Tier A, impact factor 1.896) – WINNER of the Society for Comparative Endocrinology Oxford Laboratories Award, 2012.

**Verkest KR**, Rand JS, Fleeman LM, Morton JM, Richards AA, Rose FJ, Whitehead JP. Distinct adiponectin profiles might contribute to differences in susceptibility to type 2 diabetes in dogs and humans. *Domestic Animal Endocrinology*; 2011. 41(2):67-74. (Tier A, impact factor 1.896)

Tan HY, Rand JS, Morton JM, Fleeman LM, Armstrong PJ, Coradini M, Ishioka K, **Verkest KR**, Richards AA, Rawlings JM, Rose FJ, Whitehead JP. Adiponectin profiles are affected by chronic and acute changes in carbohydrate intake in healthy cats. *General and Comparative Endocrinology*; 2011. 172:468-474. (Tier C, impact factor 3.108)

**Verkest KR**, Fleeman LM, Rand JS, Morton JM. Evaluation of beta-cell sensitivity to glucose and first-phase insulin secretion in obese dogs. *American Journal of Veterinary Research*; 2011. 72(3):357-366. (Tier A, impact factor 1.53)

**Verkest KR**, Rand JS, Fleeman LM, Morton JM. Spontaneously obese dogs exhibit higher postprandial glucose, triglyceride, and insulin concentrations than lean dogs. *Domestic Animal Endocrinology*; 2012. 42(2):103-112. (Tier A, impact factor 1.896)

**Verkest KR**, Rose FJ, Fleeman LM, Rand JS, Morton JM, Richards AA, Ishioka K, Whitehead JP. Adiposity and adiponectin in dogs: investigation of causes of discrepant results between two studies. *Domestic Animal Endocrinology*; 2011. 41(1):35-41. (Tier A, impact factor 1.896)

**Verkest KR**, Fleeman LM, Rand JS, Morton JM. Basal measures of insulin sensitivity and insulin secretion and simplified glucose tolerance tests in dogs. *Domestic Animal Endocrinology*; 2010. 39(3):194-204. (Tier A, impact factor 1.896)

***Invited Guest Editorial in refereed journal***

**Verkest KR**, Bjornvad CR. Understanding adiponectin in dogs and cats: A work in progress. *The Veterinary Journal*; 2012. 193:4-5. (Tier A, impact factor 2.796)

† The Australian Ranking of Journals is part of the Excellence in Research for Australia initiative, Australian Research Council, [http://www.arc.gov.au/era/tiers\\_ranking.htm](http://www.arc.gov.au/era/tiers_ranking.htm)

### ***Peer-reviewed Abstracts and Conference Presentations***

**Verkest KR**, Linda M Fleeman LM. Adipose Tissue: The Largest Endocrine Organ (Conference Presentation). Proceedings of the Australian College of Veterinary Scientists – Science Week; 2004. [http://samedicine.acvsc.org.au/samedicine\\_assets/documents/2004%20sam%20proceedings/verkest.pdf](http://samedicine.acvsc.org.au/samedicine_assets/documents/2004%20sam%20proceedings/verkest.pdf)

**Verkest KR**, Fleeman LM, Rand JS, Morton JM. Insulin sensitivity is halved and fasting insulin concentration increased four times in spontaneously obese dogs (Abstract and Conference Presentation). *Journal of Veterinary Internal Medicine*; 2005. 19:424-425.

**Verkest KR**, Fleeman LM, Rand JS, Morton JM, Ishioka K. Compensation for obesity induced insulin resistance in dogs: Causal web analysis of the association of leptin and GLP-1 (Abstract and Conference Presentation). *Journal of Veterinary Internal Medicine*; 2006. 20:727.

**Verkest KR**, Fleeman LM, Morton JM, Rand JS, Rose FS, Richards AA, Whitehead JP, Ishioka K. Adiponectin Concentration Does Not Correlate with Obesity-Associated Changes in Fasting Insulin Sensitivity in Dogs (Abstract and Poster Presentation). *Journal of Veterinary Internal Medicine*; 2008. 22:791.

**Verkest KR**, Rand JS, Fleeman LM, Morton JM, Rose FS, Richards AA, Whitehead JP. Lack of Correlation Between Adiponectin Multimers and Obesity-Related Changes in Insulin Sensitivity in Dogs (Abstract and Poster Presentation). *Journal of Veterinary Internal Medicine*; 2008. 22:792.

**Verkest KR**, Fleeman LM, Rand JS, Suchodolski JS, Steiner JM. Subclinical Pancreatitis is More Common in Overweight and Obese Dogs if Peak Postprandial Triglyceridemia is >445 mg/dL (Abstract and Poster Presentation). *Journal of Veterinary Internal Medicine*; 2008. 22:804.

**Verkest KR**, Fleeman LM, Rand JS, Suchodolski JS, Steiner JM. Subclinical Pancreatitis is More Common in Overweight and Obese Dogs if Peak Postprandial Triglyceridemia is >445

mg/dL (Abstract). *Proceedings of the Australian College of Veterinary Scientists – Science Week*; 2008. [http://samedicine.acvsc.org.au/samedicine\\_assets/documents/2008%20proceedings/verkest%202008.pdf](http://samedicine.acvsc.org.au/samedicine_assets/documents/2008%20proceedings/verkest%202008.pdf)

Tan HY, Rand JS, Morton JM, Fleeman LM, Coradini M, Armstrong PJ, **Verkest KR**, Ishioka K, Rose F, Richards A, Rawlings JM, Whitehead JP. Association of Adiponectin Multimers with Dietary Nutrient Composition, Body Weight Gain, Meal Feeding, and Insulin Sensitivity in Cats (Abstract). *Journal of Veterinary Internal Medicine*; 2008. 22:792.

### ***Invited conference presentations***

**Verkest KR**. New treatment options – Oncept melanoma vaccine and Tyrosine Kinase Inhibitors (Conference presentation). Proceedings of The Fourth South China Small Animal Veterinary Conference, Guangzhou, People’s Republic of China, 2013.

**Verkest KR**. Prevent (and Treat) Chemotherapy Adverse Effects (Conference presentation). Proceedings of The Fourth South China Small Animal Veterinary Conference, Guangzhou, People’s Republic of China, 2013.

**Verkest KR**. Surgical dose in cancer treatment – a case-based discussion (Conference presentation). Proceedings of The Fourth South China Small Animal Veterinary Conference, Guangzhou, People’s Republic of China, 2013.

**Verkest KR**. The metabolic syndrome – components and consequences in dogs. ACVIM Forum, Seattle, 2013.

J Brunzell and **Verkest KR**. The metabolic syndrome – components and consequences in humans. ACVIM Forum, Seattle, 2013. (proceedings manuscript co-author)

**Verkest KR**. Oncept for treating malignant melanoma – the Hong Kong experience. Hong Kong Veterinary Association, Hong Kong, 2012.

**Verkest KR**, Fleeman LM, Whitehead JP. Adiponectin – why dogs are different (Conference presentation). *Proceedings of the Nestlé Purina Companion Animal Nutrition Summit*; Nestlé Purina Petcare; Arizona, USA; 2011.

**Verkest KR**. Lymphoma – Treatment options and decision making (Conference presentation). Proceedings of The First South China Small Animal Veterinary Conference, Guangzhou, People’s Republic of China, 2010.

**Verkest KR**. Oral melanoma – Dreadful disease, great new options (Conference presentation). Proceedings of The First South China Small Animal Veterinary Conference, Guangzhou, People’s Republic of China, 2010.

**Verkest KR**. Principles of Oncology (seminar). Guangzhou Veterinary Association, Guangzhou, People’s Republic of China, 2009.

**Verkest KR**. Principles of Oncology (seminar). Hong Kong Veterinary Association, Hong Kong, 2008.

### ***Other publications***

Bergman PJ, Verkest KR, Lucroy M, Liptak J, Hauck M, de Lorimier LP, Clifford C, Waltman S. Desexing Cancer Risk FAQ. Medical FAQs, Veterinary Information Network, 2020.

<https://www.vin.com/doc/?id=9718682&pid=11200>

Bergman PJ, de Lorimier LP, Meleo KA, Rishniw M, **Verkest KR**. Approaches to Lymphoma Diagnosis and Treatment. Medical FAQs, Veterinary Information Network, 2005.

<http://www.vin.com/Link.plx?ID=662>

Bergman PJ, de Lorimier LP, Meleo KA, Rosenthal RC, **Verkest KR**. Mast Cell Tumors. Medical FAQs, Veterinary Information Network, 2005. <http://www.vin.com/Link.plx?ID=9688>

Bergman PJ, de Lorimier LP, Meleo KA, Rishniw M, **Verkest KR**. Soft Tissue Sarcomas. Medical FAQs, Veterinary Information Network, 2005. <http://www.vin.com/Link.plx?ID=39147>

**Verkest KR**. Pre-surgical Considerations with Tumors. Medical FAQs, Veterinary Information Network, 2005. <http://www.vin.com/Link.plx?ID=663>

### ***Other Conference Presentations***

**Verkest KR**. Rehabilitating Australian diurnal raptors. Proceedings of the Association of Avian Veterinarians, Australian Committee, O’Reilly’s Guesthouse, Lamington National Park, QLD, 1997.

**Verkest, KR**. Shock and Compensatory Mechanisms – Clinical implications. Proceedings of the Association of Avian Veterinarians, Australian Committee. O’Reilly’s Rainforest Resort, QLD, 1996.

**Verkest, KR.** Shock and Compensatory Mechanisms – Diagnostic implications.  
Proceedings of the Association of Avian Veterinarians, Australian Committee. Currumbin  
Sanctuary, Currumbin, QLD, 1994.

### ***Manuscripts prepared for other authors (VetWrite)***

For **Professor Jacquie Rand**, The University of Queensland

Rand JR. Pathogenesis of feline diabetes. *Veterinary Clinics of North America: Small Animal Practice*; 2013. 43:221-231.

Rand JR. Diabetic ketoacidosis and hyperosmolar hyperglycemic state in cats. *Veterinary Clinics of North America: Small Animal Practice*; 2013. 43:367-379.

For **Dr Mark Peterson**, Animal Endocrine Clinic, New York

Clinical features and treatment outcomes of 2741 dogs with sublingual ectopic thyroid neoplasia (1995-2013). *Journal of Veterinary Internal Medicine*; manuscript finalised.

For **Associate Professor Ji-Houn Kang**, Chungbuk National University, Republic of Korea

Evaluation of serum adipokine concentrations in dogs with naturally occurring pituitary-dependent hyperadrenocorticism. *Journal of Veterinary Internal Medicine*; in press.

## **Research Funding Grants**

This list includes research funds applied for by or awarded to me. It does not include grants applied for and awarded to my research collaborators or PhD supervisors.

### ***Grants of less than US\$10,000***

- ◆ Canine Control Council (QLD) Breeders' Research Grants, 2006.
- ◆ Graduate School Research Travel Award, 2005.
- ◆ Canine Control Council (QLD) Breeders' Research Grants, 2004.

### ***Grants of more than US\$10,000 but less than \$100,000***



- ◇ Peter & Mary Ellen Stone Memorial Fund, 2006.
- ◇ Nestle Purina Residents Research Grant, 2006.

### ***Grants of more than US\$100,000***

- ◇ For a clinical trial evaluating whether low molecular weight fucoidan administration improves tumour-free survival or reduces adverse effects in dogs with high-grade lymphosarcoma treated with CHOP-based protocol, Hi-Q Marine Biotech International Ltd, New Taipei City 221, Taiwan, 2019.

## **Continuing Professional Development**

### ***Major Conferences***

- ◇ ACVIM, National Harbor, Maryland, 2017.
- ◇ Society for Comparative Endocrinology Biennial Pre-forum, Mount Vernon, Virginia, 2017.
- ◇ ACVIM, Indianapolis, Indiana, 2015.
- ◇ Society for Comparative Endocrinology Biennial Pre-forum, West Baden Springs, Indiana, 2015.
- ◇ ACVIM, Seattle, Washington, 2013.
- ◇ Society for Comparative Endocrinology Biennial Pre-forum, Woodinville WA, 2013.
- ◇ ECVIM, Maastricht, 2012.
- ◇ ACVIM, San Antonio, Texas, 2008.
- ◇ Australian College of Veterinary Scientists, Science Week, 2006.
- ◇ Australian College of Veterinary Scientists, Science Week, 2005.
- ◇ Australian College of Veterinary Scientists, Science Week, 2004.
- ◇ ACVIM, Baltimore, Maryland, 2003.
- ◇ Society for Comparative Endocrinology Biennial Pre-forum, Maryland, 2003.
- ◇ Australian College of Veterinary Scientists, Science Week, 2003.
- ◇ Australian College of Veterinary Scientists, Science Week, 2002.
- ◇ Australian College of Veterinary Scientists, Science Week, 2001.

## ***Sydney University Postgraduate Foundation in Veterinary Science***

- ◆ Diagnostic Imaging (year-long distance education course), 2005.
- ◆ Lumps, Bumps and Other Neoplastic Nasties, 2001.
- ◆ Small Animal Medicine – The Problem Solving Approach (year-long distance education course), 2000.
- ◆ Feline Refresher Time-Out, 1999.
- ◆ Respiratory Medicine, 1998.
- ◆ Dermatology, 1998.

## **Other Relevant Experience**

Responsible for developing and implementing the following projects for Pets Central in Hong Kong

- ❖ Justifying the business case for, choosing, and installing a CT scanner at Pets Central Mong Kok
- ❖ Conceived, designed, implemented, and secured funding for two clinical trials
  - Assessment of efficacy of Fucoidan in treating dogs with lymphoma
  - Phase 3 clinical study to assess the efficacy of a novel otic preparation for treating dogs with ear infection and cats with ear mite infestation
- ❖ Taking over management of Pets Central Sai Kung which was experiencing substantial management challenges
- ❖ Implementing the transition from day clinic to 24 hour nursing care at Pets Central Sai Kung
- ❖ Designing and coordinating construction of the boarding and retail facility (Pets Central Parents Club) at Pets Central Sai Kung
- ❖ Design and overseeing construction of the Mongolian franchise of Pets Central

- ❖ Training and liaising with the manager of the Mongolian franchise of Pets Central
- ❖ Manager of Pets Central Mong Kok hospital
- ❖ Manager of Pets Central North Point hospital

Created, coordinated, and was one of the lecturers for a 16-lecture courses to the Hong Kong Federation of Youth Groups presented three times per year on the subject “Introduction to Veterinary Assistance”, 2009- .

Assisted with a successful tender for provision of neutering services on behalf of Pets Central to the Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation Department, Government of the Hong Kong SAR, 2012.

Created a set of fixed-price veterinary services marketed to clients of the Calamvale Veterinary Clinic, Brisbane, Australia and Pets Central, Hong Kong.

Undergraduate teaching on the endocrinology of obesity, School of Veterinary Science, The University of Queensland, 2005.

Examiner for supplementary oral examinations, School of Veterinary Science, The University of Queensland, 2005.

Examiner in Small Animal Medicine for the Australian College of Veterinary Scientists, 2004 and 2005.

### **A generally useful person**

Acknowledged in the theses of the following for helpful contributions:

- ❖ Cindy Tan Heok Yit (MPhil)
- ❖ Daniel Schull (PhD)
- ❖ Panayiotis Loukopoulos (PhD)
- ❖ Caroline O’Leary (PhD)

- ◆ Mancy Lau Tsui-man (MVSc)
- ◆ Megan Bredhauer (PhD)
- ◆ Karl Link (PhD)

Mentor to the following candidates for Membership of the Australian and New Zealand College of Veterinary Scientists:

- ◆ Reanne Kwok
- ◆ Keith Yiu
- ◆ Libby Farrugia
- ◆ Dorothy Cheong
- ◆ Frederick Chane Meng-hime
- ◆ Jenni Onessen Jones
- ◆ Multiple candidates at membership preparation meetings 2002-2004

Reviewer for the following journals (number of papers/revisions reviewed to Jan 2014):

- ◆ The Veterinary Journal (25/40)
- ◆ American Journal of Veterinary Research (8/19)
- ◆ Journal of Veterinary Internal Medicine (4/6)
- ◆ The Veterinary Record (3/3)
- ◆ Veterinary Research Communications (2/2)
- ◆ The Australian Veterinary Practitioner (2/2)
- ◆ PLOS ONE (1/1)
- ◆ The Journal of Veterinary Medical Science (1/1)
- ◆ BioMed Central Veterinary Research (1/1)
- ◆ Journal of Small Animal Practice (1/2)

Responses from authors and editors have included the following:

*“We thank the reviewer for many thoughtful comments and suggestions that will improve the paper. We cannot resist offering our added appreciation to all the Veterinary Record reviewers for the professional and courteous manner in which all the comments have made. Unfortunately, thoughtful and restrained critiques delivered in a professional and courteous manner are becoming less common in the veterinary publication and peer-review “world”. We are delighted to recognize and praise it when it occurs.” (Manuscript authors, The Veterinary Record)*

*"I wanted to thank you for your careful, considered and very timely review. Best regards, Mike"*  
*(Co-Editor-in-Chief, Journal of Veterinary Internal Medicine)*

*"I am just contacting you on the off chance that you might be interested in taking on this review with a pretty fast turnaround (you are always lightning fast but I'm in a bit of a bind)." (Senior Scientific Editor, The Veterinary Journal)*

*"Just wanted to say thank you for another excellent and fast job - you are a dream reviewer!"*  
*(Senior Scientific Editor, The Veterinary Journal)*

*"Thank you very much for your careful review and the fast turnaround - you win my Reviewer's prize so far!" (Senior Scientific Editor, The Veterinary Journal)*

*"Can I add that I found it a very interesting review and congratulate you on it." (Editor-in-Chief, The Veterinary Journal)*