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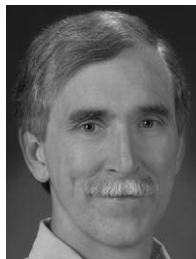
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## Preface

# Gastroenterology



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*Guest Editor*

Gastroenterology is an exciting, ever-changing discipline. Today's facts can easily become tomorrow's mistakes, and then they may later again become facts. This issue of the *Veterinary Clinics of North America: Small Animal Practice* attempts to address some of the currently interesting areas.

The diagnosis of pancreatitis is a controversial issue in which new tests are being made available. Feline gastrointestinal (GI) lymphoma is not always as easy a diagnosis as was once thought. GI biopsy is an area in which it is easy to do the right thing in the wrong way. Subclinical, partial exocrine pancreatic insufficiency is an entity that most clinicians are unaware of. Esophagitis and esophageal strictures are not as rare as once thought, and it is easy to miss them. Various infectious agents have been implicated in GI disease, but how common are they and how are they diagnosed? Protein-losing enteropathies may not be quite as simple as we once thought. New prokinetic agents are on the horizon and may offer some advantages. Laparoscopy is a major diagnostic (and therapeutic) tool that is becoming more well known. Gastritis is a widely misunderstood condition. Even "standard" issues such as gastric dilatation volvulus and abdominal surgery have some new nuances. Hopefully, this issue will aid readers in better understanding some of these areas.

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