



North America

Blended Course— Principles of Small Animal Fracture Management



**AO VET NA
COURSE**



MAY 13-15, 2026



CARY, NC

COURSE OVERVIEW

The AO VET NA Blended Course - Principles of Small Animal Fracture Management is designed to provide participants with a basic, fundamental knowledge of bone healing and how it can be favorably influenced through internal fixation of fractures. The scientific principles of fracture repair and their practical application to the clinical situation are presented in lectures and hands-on laboratory sessions. Techniques that are critical to a successful surgical outcome, such as soft tissue handling and bone grafting, are discussed as well as the problems of non-unions, infections and technical errors. There will be breakout sessions (Small Group Discussions / Firesides) which supplement the lecture topics which focus on fracture cases and will further examine the importance of preoperative planning and other aspects of the clinical decision-making process in small animal surgery. The total patient is considered in terms of pre-and post-operative care and anesthetic management.

Participants should leave this course with the information and experience necessary to apply these principles and techniques to commonly encountered fractures in small animals.

This principles-level course will provide a platform for future study and career development in veterinary orthopedics.

TUITION

Residents: \$1,300
Attending: \$2,500

TARGET AUDIENCE

This course is suitable for any veterinary surgeon with an interest in managing fractures in small animals, including: veterinary surgery residents, interns, veterinary graduates at the start of their career, and practicing veterinary surgeons with some surgical experience.

LEARNING OBJECTIVES

Upon completion, participants should be able to:

- Recognize and apply AO Principles to small animal fracture management
- Define indications for internal fixation and the criteria for implant selection
- Identify and select appropriate techniques to problems such as nonunions, infections, and technical errors that are critical for successful outcomes
- Discuss the importance of preoperative planning and other aspects of the clinical decision-making process to small animal surgery

COURSE CHAIRPERSONS



**Mary Sarah Bergh, DVM, MS,
DACVS, DACVSMR
Chairperson**



**Sarah Malek, DVM, PhD, DACVS
Co-Chairperson**

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