

WE ASKED ...

What tip do you have for clinicians regarding brachycephalic patients?



“Always be prepared, even if it is just a simple procedure like a skin biopsy. An endotracheal tube and oxygen are as important as the biopsy kit.”

Heng L. Tham, DVM, DACVD, Fellow MCVS

“Ensure if a client is purchasing a purebred brachycephalic animal that they ask questions about chronic skin issues and pedigree information with proof and physically check the morphology of their nose, throat, etc. I would consider getting a full physical examination completed before signing a contract to make sure the patient is as healthy as possible.” — **Donita McCants Prepti, DVM**



“Planning well ahead is the key to setting up brachycephalic patients for success prior to an anesthetic event. Smooth anesthesia for patients with BOAS can start at home with the use of oral sedatives, antiemetic medications, and prokinetic agents. Discussing the importance and advantages of these medications with owners can improve the patient and client perioperative experience.”

Sarah Shippy, DVM, MPH, MS, DACVAA

“With the breed predispositions related to heart and respiratory issues, don’t let parasites incite more damage—parasite prevention is key!”

Lindsay A. Starkey, DVM, PhD, DACVM (Parasitology)



“As a veterinary behaviorist, I strongly emphasize the need to teach our brachycephalic patients how to relax and remain calm. When they become excitable, they are at higher risk of becoming hyperthermic and having difficulty breathing. Teaching these dogs how to self-regulate or to relax on cue has immensely helped improve their physical and mental health.” — **Wailani Sung, MS, PhD, DVM, DACVB, FFCP**

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