

AMC

Animal Medical Center

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For Immediate Release

NYC's Animal Medical Center Appoints Melissa D. Smith, DVM, PhD, DACVAA

Head of Anesthesia & Pain Management

(New York, NY – September 27, 2018) The Animal Medical Center (AMC) today announced the appointment of Melissa Smith, DVM, PhD, DACVAA to head its Anesthesia & Pain Management Service. Dr. Smith is board certified in veterinary anesthesia and analgesia with advanced training in pain management. This position is critical to AMC's Level 1 status as an approved Veterinary Trauma Center, verified by the American College of Veterinary Emergency and Critical Care (ACVECC) and the Veterinary Committee on Trauma (VetCOT).

Dr. Smith completed her residency in veterinary anesthesia and analgesia at the University of Georgia College of Veterinary Medicine in Athens, GA and completed a rotating internship in veterinary medicine and surgery at Angell Animal Medical Center in Boston, MA. She received her PhD in biomolecular pharmacology at Boston University's School of Medicine. Dr. Smith received her Diplomate status from the American College of Veterinary Anesthesia and Analgesia.

As a recognized Level 1 Veterinary Trauma Center, AMC is part of an elite group of existing verified practices across the country that provide total care for every aspect of the management of the small animal trauma patient – from emergency stabilization through definitive medical and surgical care and rehabilitation. Moreover, board-certified specialists in the field of Emergency and Critical Care, Surgery, Neurology and Radiology are on staff and available for consultation 24 hours a day, 7 days a week.

“The addition of Dr. Melissa Smith to the AMC team further supports AMC's mission to provide the most in-depth, comprehensive, and cutting-edge care for our patients,” said Kathryn Coyne, Chief Executive Officer at AMC. “Her expertise, commitment to, and passion for veterinary anesthesia and pain management are a natural complement to AMC's specialty services and will be a tremendous asset to all of our patients requiring these services.”

“We are committed to bringing the best of human medicine and care to the veterinary world and this designation assures the highest level of trauma care for our patients,” continued Ms. Coyne. “Having a board-certified anesthesiologist on staff is fundamental to AMC's Level 1 Veterinary Trauma Center status and paramount to our commitment to our patients.”

“For pet owners, getting a gravely injured pet to a Level 1 Veterinary Trauma Center can help improve survival rates for the most severe cases,” said Jennifer Prittie, DVM, DACVECC, DACVIM (SAIM). “At AMC, we practice a collaborative approach to caring for our patients. For emergent cases, our board-certified emergency and critical care veterinarians work seamlessly with our board-certified doctors across all specialties to ensure that our patients receive the best care available and have better outcomes.”

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As a member of the prestigious Veterinary Trauma Center network, AMC will collaborate on evidence-based trauma research to help define and advance standards of care, reduce morbidities, and improve outcomes in severely injured small animal trauma patients.

Dr. Smith has authored numerous published studies and conducted independent research on various topics, including ischemic angiogenesis and anesthetic predictors of patient morbidity and mortality.

“It’s a real privilege to join AMC, the largest non-profit animal hospital in the world,” said Dr. Smith. “I’m looking forward to collaborating with my colleagues across various specialties to help ensure that the safest, most efficacious anesthesia protocols are in place.”

Dr. Smith enjoys spending time with her human and non-human family of parrots and dogs and enjoying the rich cultural landscape of New York.

About Animal Medical Center

The Animal Medical Center is the world’s largest non-profit animal hospital with 100+ veterinarians providing the highest quality medical care across 17 specialties. AMC’s pioneering clinical research advances veterinary knowledge, and our education programs train the next generation of veterinary leaders and provide pet owners with quality pet health information. AMC is proud to offer our services 24 hours a day, 7 days a week. To learn more, visit www.amcny.org.

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