Steve Dale: We will get the card. I will get the card from you. Give me one second here until I get myself...

Is Joan Miller in the room? I do not think she is, but it does not much matter. Would you help me thank Joan Miller because Joan Miller, who I know is here in the building, created this event all those years ago; it was her idea.

And, you guys, are you okay sharing this microphone or would you like one of this because I could probably talk loud enough for everyone to hear.

Dr. Karen Moriello: We are okay sharing. We are used to shared equipment.

Steve Dale: Hold on one second. All right, also the videos are going to be made available. I hope all of you, I know all of you are on Facebook, right? Of course, and on Facebook, for those who are, I hope you find the Winn Feline Foundation Facebook page, and we are going to, on our website or another website, we are going to post the video of what was done. I mentioned one of the fancy videographers. The other is Otto Wolf; thank you very much for the work that you do, Otto, for the Winn Foundation.

All right, I do not understand this one. All right, I will ask if you have any other cards, if you could as I walk around and here is one.

Thank Maureen Walsh our executive director!

I want to...Oh, gosh. A veterinarian apparently wrote this because I cannot read it. ‘Is Trifectant effective?’ Is that what the question is? Have I got that right? Am I saying this right?

Dr. Karen Moriello: All right, so Trifectant is effective as an antifungal agent if the surface is properly cleaned, and my recommendation is to use twice the recommended concentration for, if you use it, just double the dose because it has got two doses on there, on the bottle or on the tablet. So it is very effective. Actually, it is a good product to use because it is effective against a lot of other things, so my recent work has shown that it is effective when used on a precleaned surface.

Steve Dale: Do not move. ‘Can putting things in a hot attic kill spores?’
Dr. Karen Moriello: Actually, another experiment gone awry because a bunch of toothbrushes got left in a car over a very hot weekend, but the inside, excuse me, the ambient temperature was over 95°. The car was in the sun; it was there for 72 hours, so if we can just do the math – and I know that that is available somewhere on the Internet – we can figure out that temperature, it might work. I guess it depends upon what the items are; if they are family heirlooms and that, I would say that you can give it a try, but you would have to culture it to be sure. Otherwise, just wash them.

(From the audience) The sturdy tents that we use at shows are difficult to wash.

Dr. Karen Moriello: I am sorry, the what?

(From the audience) The sturdy tents that we use at a show are difficult to wash. So, I was wondering if just heating is hot enough.

Dr. Karen Moriello: The sturdy products, what is it made of? I guess I am not familiar.

(From the audience) Nylon coated in polyester, I am an East Coast vendor for Sturdy Products. Usually what I tell people is to wash them. You can put them in your shower or bathtub and soak them --- and take them out on your deck and hose them down and if you wash them in detergent and then rinse, rinse, rinse, and leave them out in the sun to dry...

Dr. Karen Moriello: If they are made of nylon?

(From the audience) Oh, no. It is a 600 denier vinyl-coated polyester.

Dr. Karen Moriello: So I would vacuum them up. I would scrub them up with a scrub brush and soap and water. I would rinse them. No?

(From the audience) No, a couple of things: You cannot use bleach on them because it degrades the vinyl coating and also a scrub brush degrades the vinyl coating. I usually tell people to use a soft sponge, you cannot use a scrubby sponge, either, but a sponge or like a washcloth.

Dr. Karen Moriello: So just repeatedly wash them with hot soapy water, rinse them off, and as far as disinfectants go, you would have to color test the side to see if it is going to damage it or not. Accelerated hydrogen peroxide is the hot new thing, but I am going to tell you, it does bleach everything just as bleach does. So, I would have to test materials to see which of those products would work, to see if it damages it, but scrubbing...the two most important things: Mechanical removal of debris, even if you have to, you know, dust them off and hose them off, and then soap and water are the big things. Hot, soapy water.

Steve Dale: Wood’s lamp question?
Dr. Karen Moriello: Yes?

Steve Dale: ‘Are there inexpensive battery-operated Wood’s lamps?’

Dr. Karen Moriello: There are, and do not use them because they are a different type of wavelength. Unfortunately, you do need to use the commercial brands that are recommended for Wood’s lamps. I do not know if I put a link in there. Another thing about Wood’s lamps is that as long as they are not flickering, they are good to go. You do not have to let them sit and warm up for 10 minutes.

Dr. Karen Moriello: ‘Are there inexpensive battery-operated Wood’s lamps?’

Steve Dale: This question is that Sphynx cats, and I have a Devon Rex, so I will add Devon Rex to this, too, have lots of black discharge in their nail beds. It is kind of normal for those cats. Or is it?

Dr. Karen Moriello: No, it is normal. I mean, it is normal because, basically, no offense, guys, but we took the hair off, which is normal, we made a breed and we are all happy with it and that is fine, but these cats...I took out Moe and Larry Lions which are two of my favorite cats that were Sphynx cats, and they were wonderful with bathing. They were the two cats that we did a lot of just bubble bathing and bathing to remove malassezia from their skin. We knew how often we needed to bathe them because they would start getting a little bit itchy, and as soon as they were itchy, their malassezia counts went up, and then we were able to go ahead and put them into remission and we did not have to keep using itraconazole on them.

Dr. Karen Moriello: ‘Are there inexpensive battery-operated Wood’s lamps?’

Steve Dale: Speaking of which, itraconazole is changing how liver and kidneys are working. I think maybe a word is rubbed out. Okay, okay Yeah, yeah. ‘So how important is it to use itraconazole?’ ‘Are there any adverse reactions, in general?’

Dr. Karen Moriello: There is no such thing as a totally safe drug. Itraconazole, we have done a study where we have looked at measuring liver enzymes at the beginning and at the end of 21 days of itraconazole in cats in a shelter that were just deemed healthy by a physical examination. There were elevations in liver enzymes, but none of the cats were out of the normal range. In treating cats for 10 years in that shelter, which were probably approaching over 1000, we have never had to take one cat off of therapy because of adverse effects. With that said, I am sure that the internists will tell me of cats with idiosyncratic reactions to itraconazole and hepatotoxicity. Yes, it can happen, but we are talking about using lower doses, and one of the reasons I am a big advocate of weekly culturing is because you use as little as possible, and that is why I like the 21-day pulse therapy.

Steve Dale: I will read the next question, but before I do, does anyone else have any other questions that I could add to my pile here? Sure, thank you. ‘Is fluconazole effective against...’ Does the drug work? I think is what they are asking.

Dr. Karen Moriello: Fluconazole? Yes, fluconazole is effective but at 10 mg/kg, and when we looked at it compared to itraconazole, it took longer to cure than with itraconazole. It was not statistically
significant, but to me, anything that takes longer is clinically significant. Now that terbinafine is available as a generic, you do not have to worry about that. The problem with terbinafine is it can make cats vomit, so you do need to coat those tablets with a little bit of oil and make sure you give it with food, but that is probably the biggest downside of terbinafine.

Steve Dale: Dr. Qimby for you finally!

Dr. Jessica Quimby: Well, there is half another stack-up here, you know.

Steve Dale: Oh, All right. That is my fault!

Dr. Jessica Quimby: That is okay.

Steve Dale: I was wondering. I knew there were questions for you. I am so sorry! All right. ‘What other appetite stimulants might work aside from liver or tuna or salmon?’ It does not say whether tuna or salmon here; I added that.

Dr. Jessica Quimby: You mean in terms of food additives or...?

Steve Dale: Yes.

Dr. Jessica Quimby: Well, that is a good question. So, in terms of trying to enhance the appetite. Actually, one of the things we try to do is different types of food or to think about the cat’s state of nausea, actually, so if the cat is nauseous, sometimes warming the food is actually a bad thing, so food served cold may be better, or vice versa. Elderly cats do not smell well, so sometimes warming the food does work. Different consistencies of food, adding water to the food, not adding water to the food, different types of kibble, those are all things that we recommend owners try in terms of enhancing appetite. Also, some cats really like FortiFlora and it has been shown to have some immunomodulatory properties, and so that is actually something we are going to be looking at in another clinical study is that. So those types of things can help out with just making the food a little bit more appetizing. If we have a cat in a negative energy balance, actually, a/d, a small amount of a/d mixed into the other diet, is something we will often try as well.

Steve Dale: Where’s Dr. Virginia Wright? It says, ‘Seems like a really good question, but I can’t...’ I apologize. I cannot quite make it out so I will let you ask.

Dr. Virginia Wright: I am a psychiatrist. Mirtazapine.

Steve Dale: And I need to see you! [laughter]

Dr. Virginia Wright: Yes. Mirtazapine, it is antidepressant. In humans, it usually takes two to three weeks just to get them started and over the side effect state and one of the side effects is excitability.
So, my question is and it is not really a major appetite stimulant in humans. There is...very unlikely to stop the medication because they are gaining weight, and we do have a number of medicines that we do stop because they are gaining weight, so what I am wondering is, if you wait long enough and not just do the three-week trial, that you keep them on longer, that excitability may subside, and have you tried that?

**Dr. Jessica Quimby:** This actually tends to be a very individual cat reaction, and so, first of all, I should say that, generally, this medication works in 20 minutes, so they literally are in the food bowl in 20 to 30 minutes. Those side effects, for some cats, can be significant enough that the owners would not want to wait any period of time, so if the dose is too high for them, then they do have those side effects, and sleeping is not actually an option when those side effects are happening for the owner, literally. I mean, your cat is driving you insane if they are in the excitability stage, so, honestly, I do not think it would be clinically possible. So, no one has ever taken it out to see if that is the case, if they would adjust. I mean, that is true of other medications where, if there is a side effect like sedation; for instance, some of our antiseizure medications, if the animal is sedated at first, that effect does wear off within two to three weeks. I guess the nature of the side effect is such that no one really wants to wait. Does that answer your question?

**Dr. Virginia Wright:** No, because people do not want to wait, either, but they have to wait if the medicine is going to work, and excitability is one of the side effects, a very common side effect of most antidepressants but it takes two to three weeks to even get over that.

**Dr. Jessica Quimby:** Usually what we do is we lower the dose, and it is still effective as an appetite stimulant, but they do not experience the excitability as much.

**Steve Dale:** ‘Is a Wood’s lamp different than a black light? Are there some Wood’s lamps that are better than others?’

**Dr. Karen Moriello:** Wood’s lamps: The black light is just a term for any kind of a light with a filter that gives you sort of that blue-green, kind of off-white color. What you want is something that has between 200 and 400 nanometers of light spectrum. So, yes, there are some Wood’s lamps. So, what you want to do is when you want to buy your Wood’s lamp, you want to buy a Wood’s lamp that is used in clinical dermatology. Some Wood’s lamps are just, for instance, Wood’s lamps on CSI looking for different body fluids are of a different frequency than for looking for other hair and skin. So, the veterinary ones that are out there are usually the hand-held ones, and I can give somebody, whoever is asking for that, the link to it. I would have to go back to the slide to actually find that particular one, but, yeah.

**Steve Dale:** And the last question, the final question! ‘Were the stem cell study cats also screened for other renal treatments? Were cats getting treatments for anemia screened out of the program?’

**Dr. Jessica Quimby:** So, for the stem cell studies, the cats actually can be on any chronic kidney disease treatment. They just cannot have any changes during the treatment period, because, obviously, that would affect the results of the study. So, we take anyone into the trial regardless of their current regimen of
medications. Starting two weeks before the start of the study, they cannot have any changes to that regimen, so it is very important that everything stays stable during that period, and that is also part of the challenge of finding stable kitties for that period of time. We only had one cat of all the kitties we have done where we were not able to use their data because the owners stopped giving subQ fluids when they went on vacation, and the animal’s creatinine then spiked because of that and it confounded the study results. So, in general, people are very, very good about following those rules, but it does make a difference; we are very careful about that.

**Steve Dale:** I do have actually one more question. Can all of you help me to thank our wonderful speakers Dr. Quimby and Dr. Moriello?

I thank you all very much for coming. Thank you.

{END OF SESSION}