

ADVANCED LAPAROSCOPY COURSE

FOR SMALL ANIMAL VETERINARY PRACTITIONERS

MONDAY, JUNE 8, 2026



NOTE: This course requires previous experience in laparoscopic surgery!

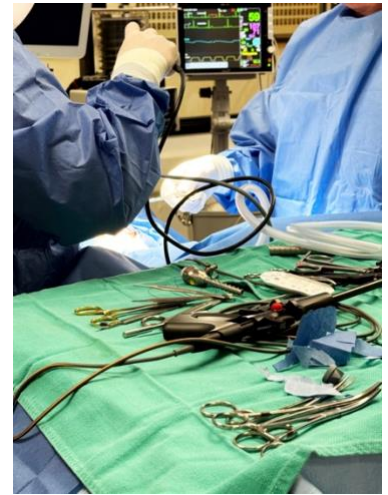
INTRODUCTION

The increasing demand for minimally invasive laparoscopic surgery in small animal practice highlights the need for specialized training. This one-day advanced course is designed for veterinarians with prior experience in laparoscopic surgery. The program focuses on advanced laparoscopic procedures, including laparoscopic-assisted gastropexy and Single-Incision Laparoscopic Surgery (SILS). Participants will receive both theoretical instruction and hands-on surgical training on live animal models. This course emphasizes mastery of advanced techniques, complication management, and practical integration of laparoscopic gastropexy and SILS into clinical practice.

The program is divided into two parts, focusing on the assisted-laparoscopic gastropexy procedure and the use of the Single Incision Laparoscopic Surgery (SILS).

Part 1: The morning session starts with an introductory lecture and video presentations on the assisted-laparoscopic gastropexy procedure, including its potential combination with laparoscopic ovariectomy. In addition, the advantages, and disadvantages of using the SILS. Participants will receive comprehensive training on simulators, covering the equipment and instrumentation involved. The session will delve into the steps of the procedure, including the use of various cautery-cutting sealing devices currently available in the market.

Part 2: This session is devoted to practical training. Participants will perform laparoscopic assisted- gastropexy surgery on live dogs. The procedures may also include ovariectomy, depending on the case. This hands-on experience is designed to provide the application of part 1 theoretical learning, enhancing participants' laparoscopic surgical skills in a controlled, supervised environment.



Veterinary Technician Training

Looking to enhance the laparoscopic skills of your veterinary technicians? Let them join the course and equip your technicians to handle the demands of Minimal Invasive Surgery (MIS) procedures. In addition to lectures and training on models (activities that are common to both DVMs and RVTs), technicians will learn about the preparation of MIS equipment and instrumentation, patient preparation for MIS procedures, and anesthesia considerations for patients undergoing MIS procedures that involve abdominal insufflation. By the end of the course, your technicians will be ready to assist efficiently in your clinic laparoscopic procedures.

CERTIFICATION

At the end of the course, each clinician will receive a certificate of small animal laparoscopy course completion.

Continuing Education Credits: 9 CE Credit Hours*

** This continuing education program was submitted to [RACE \(Registry of Approved Continuing Education\)](#) a program by the American Association of Veterinary State Boards (AAVSB) that sets uniform quality standards for veterinary continuing education. It approved 9 hours of continuing education credit. At the end of the course, each clinician will receive a certificate of small animal laparoscopy course completion. Participants should be aware that some veterinary medical boards have limitations on the content and provider of CE credit. Please consult your state's practice act.*

INSTRUCTORS AND LECTURERS

Dr. Ohad Levi, DVM	Ms. Annette Chavarria-Marron, RVT
Dr. Maria Fahie, DVM, DACVS	Ms. Leslie Torte, RVT
Dr. Lyon Lee, DVM, PhD, DACVAA	Ms. Prisma Martinez, RVT
Dr. David Clark, DVM, DABVP	
Plus additional staff from our on-campus Pet Health Center (PHC)	

COURSE LOCATION

**Western University of Health Sciences
College of Veterinary Medicine
Pet Health Center**

611 E. Second Street, Pomona, CA 91766

<https://pethealthcenter.westernu.edu/>

COURSE SCHEDULE

Monday, June 8, 2026

7:30am - 8:00am	Breakfast (provided) and check-in
8:00am - 9:00am	Advanced Laparoscopic Procedures – Laparoscopic Assisted-Gastropexy and SILS presentation
9:00am – 9:15am	Coffee break
9:15am – 10:15am	Laparoscopic Training on Models/Simulators – Laparoscopic Assisted-Gastropexy and SILS
10:30am – 12:30pm	Laparoscopic Assisted-Gastropexy and +/- Ovariectomy on Live Dog
12:30pm – 1:30pm	Lunch (provided) and Round Table – Ovariectomy vs. Ovariohysterectomy
1:30pm – 5:00pm	Continue – Laparoscopic Assisted-Gastropexy and +/- Ovariectomy on Live Dog

REGISTRATION FEE

Fees:

Veterinarians - \$1800

Veterinary Technicians - \$250

(only credit card payments are accepted through the registration site)

Registration link:

<https://app.registrationguru.net/#!/registration?eventId=782daabc-f5ca-4568-bff9-7630805ca31a>

*Registration is limited to **four** veterinarians and **two** Registered Veterinary Technicians (RVTs). Once the course registration is full, please contact us, and additional names will be placed on a waiting list. If any spots become available, we will contact you.*

Cancellations and Refunds

Cancellations greater than 30 calendar days prior to the event's start day will result in a refund of 100% of registration costs. Cancellations less than 30 days before the event starts will result in no refund.

TRAVEL & LODGING

Travel

Local airports: Ontario International (ONT ~15 minutes) and Los Angeles International (LAX ~ 60-120 minutes, depending on traffic)

Lodging Recommendations

Pomona

- **Sheraton Fairplex Hotel**

Address: 601 W McKinley Ave, Pomona, CA 91768

Phone: (909) 622-2220

Website: <https://www.marriott.com/en-us/hotels/ontsi-sheraton-fairplex-hotel-and-conference-center/overview/?scid=f2ae0541-1279-4f24-b197-a979c79310b0>

Chino Hills

- **Ayres Hotel**

Address: 4785 Chino Hills Pkwy, Chino Hills, CA 91709

Phone: (909) 631-2922

Website: <https://www.ayreshotels.com/ayres-hotel-chino-hills>

- **Hampton Inn & Suites**

Address: 3150 Chino Ave, Chino Hills, CA 91709

Phone: (909) 591-2474

Website: https://www.hilton.com/en/hotels/ciccahx-hampton-suites-chino-hills/?SEO_id=GMB-AMER-HX-CICCAHX&y_source=1_MjA4MzY1MS03MTUtbG9jYXRpb24ud2Vic2l0ZQ%3D%3D

Claremont

- **Double Tree by Hilton**

Address: 555 W Foothill Blvd, Claremont, CA 91711

Phone: (909) 626-2411

Website: https://www.hilton.com/en/hotels/ontcldt-doubletree-claremont/?SEO_id=GMB-AMER-DT-ONTCLDT&y_source=1_MTM3MjY3NS03MTUtbG9jYXRpb24ud2Vic2l0ZQ%3D%3D

- **Hotel Casa 425 + Lounge, CA**

Address: 425 W 1st St, Claremont, CA 91711

Phone: (909) 624-2272

Website: <https://www.casa425.com/>

CONTACT INFORMATION

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