

Introducing Davies London



From left to right: Nat Whitley, Ronan Doyle, David Gould, Francisco Llabrés-Díaz, Laurent Garosi, Clive Elwood (Managing Director) and Richard Whitelock.

Launched in February this year, Davies London is a subsidiary of Davies Veterinary Specialists (DVS), Bedfordshire, and is based at the premises of the centrally located Hyde Park Veterinary Centre on Connaught St W2. The new service conveniently enables clients to consult with a leading team of RCVS Recognised Specialists in the heart of London, thus avoiding the need to make the lengthy and sometimes stressful journey out to a distant referral centre.

Minor procedures can take place at the well-equipped London clinic, but where more detailed investigation or intensive treatment is required, patients can be transported up to the main DVS hospital. A free daily ambulance service between the two sites is available should clients not wish to make the journey themselves.

Clive Elwood, Managing Director of DVS, explains: "We believe that pet owners should have easy access to the top veterinary specialists in the country. This is why we have brought a team of specialists, offering consultations in medicine, cardiology, ultrasonography, neurology, ophthalmology, orthopaedic and

soft tissue surgery, to Davies London. It makes it much easier for London vets to offer their clients a convenient referral service, with full access to state-of-the-art facilities."

Andrew Prentis, head vet at the Hyde Park Veterinary Centre, continued: "Like most clinics, we have to refer some cases for specialist care, and we have always been very aware of the additional worry and practical difficulties for our clients when this has been necessary. We firmly believe that this service will be a huge benefit for both London pet owners and their vets, simplifying the referral process at a stressful time and extending the service that can be offered."

Bill castrated after cardiac concerns calmed

Bill, a young border terrier owned by Rebecca and Gareth Williams from Finsbury Park, was referred to Nat Whitley, internal medicine specialist and cardiologist at Davies London, for further investigation of previously diagnosed congenital heart disease.

Referring vet Mat Hennessey from Canonbury Vet Practice in Islington, explains: "Bill had a retained testicle and needed cryptorchid surgery but I was concerned about the anaesthetic risk because of a congenital heart murmur that we identified when he was a puppy. Davies London offered the specialist cardiology consultation Bill needed to make absolutely sure that his heart could cope.

The Hyde Park centre was also easy for Bill's owners to get to as it was less than an hour away by public transport.



Continued overleaf:

Spotlight on Soft Tissue Surgery

The Soft Tissue Surgery Service at Davies London accepts the full spectrum of surgical cases, from conditions of the ear, nose and throat to the cardio-respiratory system and chest; the liver and gastrointestinal tract, the urogenital system and skin. The team also provides specialist management of oncology cases with the full support of DVS's medical oncology and diagnostic imaging teams.

Initial consultation, general diagnostic investigation and some procedures are performed at DVS London on Tuesdays by surgical Specialists Ronan Doyle and Aidan McAlinden. More complex diagnostics and surgical procedures are undertaken at DVS's main site in Bedfordshire. DVS are leaders in the provision of minimally invasive surgical

techniques, with a busy interventional radiology team and the capacity for a full range of laparoscopic and thoracoscopic surgeries.

Ronan and Aidan offer a friendly and rapid telephone advice service for individual cases - for further information visit www.vetspecialists.co.uk/london.



Sound future for Chance

Lame Labrador Chance was referred to Richard Whitelock, specialist small animal orthopaedic surgeon at Davies London with a suspected cruciate ligament rupture in his right stifle.

The referring vet, Anne Nelson from Anne Nelson Vet Surgery in South Croydon, felt that the six-year-old dog would need specialist surgery to achieve the best prognosis. She was pleased that the recent opening of Davies London in Hyde Park meant that leading orthopaedic surgeon Richard Whitelock was within convenient striking distance of Chance's owners, for the dog to benefit from his expertise.

Anne Nelson said: "I have always referred to DVS but the distance has put some owners off. Thanks to the opening of the Hyde Park centre we can now get first rate specialist care which is convenient for everyone."

Richard Whitelock continued: "We confirmed the initial diagnosis with thorough examination and radiographs and proceeded with surgery. A complete tear was identified as well as a large bucket handle tear of the caudal horn of the medial meniscus. The damaged meniscal tissue was resected and the tibial plateau was levelled using the Slocum technique."

The surgery went well and Chance is now on six weeks of confined rest, after which he will begin a special programme of controlled exercise. Richard is optimistic the dog should make a good recovery.

Bill castrated after cardiac concerns calmed

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Bill was given a conscious echocardiography at Davies London which revealed a small (restrictive) ventricular septal defect located very high in the interventricular septum at the base of the aortic valve.

"Most small restrictive ventricular septal defects like this have little impact on length or quality of life since most affected patients remain completely asymptomatic," reported Nat. "I would not regard him as at significantly higher risk for anaesthetic than a dog with a normal heart."

Cryptorchid surgery went ahead the following week at Canonbury Vet Practice and Bill has made a full recovery.

Gareth Williams said: "The way we were treated at Davies London was excellent from start to finish. Not only are we lucky with our first class local practice but we are also extremely fortunate to have such a high calibre referral centre so close by which made the entire process so much more convenient and less distressing for Bill too."



Meet the DVS specialists on-screen and watch their videos online

Monday

Internal Medicine & Cardiology

Tuesday

Soft Tissue Surgery

Wednesday

Ophthalmology

Thursday

Orthopaedic Surgery & Ultrasound

Friday

Neurology

All administration for Davies London is handled directly by DVS and clients will not be registered at Hyde Park Veterinary Centre.

To find out more call 0207 535 0444 or visit www.vetspecialists.co.uk/london

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To give our London-based colleagues easy access to our free CPD programme we are delighted to announce further lectures to be delivered in central London. For more information and to book your place visit: www.vetspecialists.co.uk/london/cpd

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