

CAHF *Wish* LIST

When CAHF donors help to purchase new equipment at the Western College of Veterinary Medicine, everybody benefits. WCVM clinicians and researchers gain access to vital pieces of equipment that help to improve the quality of health care for their patients. Plus, veterinary students gain experience and training on the latest technologies.

Interested? Visit cahf.usask.ca and click on "Support CAHF" to view the latest pieces of equipment on the CAHF Wish List.

Questions? Please contact **Lisa Green**, WCVM's development officer (**306-966-7450**; lisa.green@usask.ca).

COST CATEGORY: \$1,000 TO \$5,000

NAME OF ITEM: Thermal analgesiometer

ESTIMATED COST: \$5,000

SERVICE: Anesthesiology

FACULTY MEMBER: Dr. Tanya Duke, Department of Small Animal Clinical Sciences, WCVM

USE OF EQUIPMENT: Measurement of pain is difficult in animals as they can not verbalize to veterinary clinicians whether they feel pain or how much pain they might have after surgery.

A *thermal analgesiometer* is a pen-like, handheld device with a small heating plate that can help clinicians decide whether an animal requires more painkillers. The thermal plate is held on a site near the surgical incision and the time taken for the patient to object to the device is recorded. The time is measured in seconds and there are safety cut-offs built into the device to avoid tissue injury.

The device provides data that can be used to compare painkillers instead of the currently-used, subjective scoring systems that can vary widely between evaluators.

ESTIMATED ONGOING COST FOR UPKEEP: None.

[Click here](#) for further information about the thermal analgesiometer.