




Bio

Department of Surgery





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Alaina Andersen, DVM, (Practice Limited to Surgery)

Originally from Minnesota, Dr. Andersen trained in both Theatrical Design and Production and Molecular Biology at Macalester College, earning her BA in Theatre in 2005. After working in the theatre for several years, she decided to pursue veterinary medicine as a way to utilize her design and engineering skills in orthopedics, while allowing her to be more actively involved in both local and global communities.

Dr. Andersen received her veterinary degree from the University of Minnesota in 2014, and followed this with a rotating internship at the Western College of Veterinary Medicine, then a surgical internship at the Veterinary Specialty Hospital of San Diego before being accepted into a surgical residency. She completed her 3-year small animal surgical residency at Summit Veterinary Referral Center in Tacoma, WA in 2019. During her training, her interest in other areas (particularly oncologic, reconstructive and wound management) grew, as well as improving pre-, peri- and postoperative protocols to provide the most comfortable surgical experience for pets.

Following her residency, Dr. Andersen accepted a surgical position at a large specialty referral practice in Hong Kong and gained experience working with an entirely new patient population with their own unique issues. She enjoyed gaining experience with managing fractures and complicated soft-tissue and trauma cases, such as those that happen when pets fall from one of Hong Kong's numerous sky-scrapers. Despite the amazing people and patients in Hong Kong, the Pacific Northwest continued to call to her and her family and she is happy to be back in beautiful Washington.

Dr. Andersen strives to provide the absolute best outcome for each individual patient and family with a solution that fits their situation. This may be one of several surgical options and very often requires a combination approach with different specialties and the long-term care of their family veterinarian. Her goal with every consult is to educate and provide information that empowers others to make decisions about these different options with confidence. She also focuses on providing a patient experience that is as comfortable and stress-free as possible every step of the way as a happy patient will always heal faster.

When she is not in the clinic, Dr. Andersen enjoys cooking, gardening, and continuing to create art, as well as spending time with her husband and their amazing border collie, Stoney Francis.

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