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Q: Why did you join IVAPM?

A: As an anesthesiologist, I joined IVAPM to help in the promotion and dissemination of information about pain and appropriate analgesia in veterinary patients.

Q: What is the importance of pain management in veterinary medicine?

A: Managing an animal's pain in the emergency room and ICU setting minimizes the physiological effects of pain and allows for healing and for the animal to return to a favorable quality of life.

Q: What vet medicine pain management related initiatives are you involved with and/or most proud of accomplishing?

A: In addition to research into effectiveness of analgesic drugs in dogs and horses, I am interested in the use of analgesic agents in the emergency room, where pain may be overlooked to the detriment of the patients. In addition, the provision of analgesia to patients with fragile physiology has become more challenging in the era of opioid shortages, and we hope to define alternative protocols that can be used for this purpose.

Q: What passion veterinary projects are you currently involved?

A: [Great Ape Heart Project](#)

Dr. Brainard is a graduate of Dartmouth College and earned his veterinary medical degree from the University of Pennsylvania. He is an associate editor of the Journal of Veterinary Emergency and Critical Care, and the Edward H. Gunst Professor of Small Animal Critical Care at the University of Georgia.