Meet the turtles . . .

To assist the New England Aquarium which is currently inundated with critically ill endangered Kemp’s Ridley turtles, the NMLC stood ready to receive 8 Kemp’s Ridley turtles, who have been treated for hypothermia, lactic acidosis, dehydration, and trauma. All are swimming, at nominal sea turtle temperatures and eating, but all have suffered an immuno-compromising event, so hold on, it can be a rocky ride. But first, seals . . .

Phocids, the true seals:

**Towsend**

We pulled the drain, but caseous material continues to be flushed from the opening, this is the very nature of a drain, and the whole purpose was to allow drainage of this material, which is no longer trapped in the middle ear. While the identity of the bacteria are still unknown an early sensitivity test shows enrofloxacin (the antibiotic Towsend is currently on) to be ineffective, so we are switching to an appropriate choice, in this case ceftifur.

**Hotlips**

Hotlips loves the pool, is finishing up a course of Clavamox, and eating well. The face lesions continue to contract and she has no problems diving and keeping her nostrils sealed (sorry). We need to put some weight on her, and screen for Morbilli prior to release.
‘tiny’ Topsy-20
blood gases ok
elevated ALKP, and LDH
elevated chol and glucose
elevated WBC
monitor lesions on L elbow

on Ceftaz [ceftazadime 22 mg/kg IM q3d, 3 weeks]
[sea tabs 1/4 tab in food SID]
[calcium 500 mg 1/4 tab in food SID]
[SSD, topical to scuffs, abrasions, and scratches]

Gerald -21
blood gasses ok
elevated ALKP
elevated chol and glu (was hypoglycemia)
no LDH or CK reported
monitor plastron and skin ulcers, and bruising
was anemic, resolved, one injection of iron was given
on Ceftaz [ceftazadime 22 mg/kg IM q3d, 3 weeks]
[sea tabs 1/4 tab in food SID]
[calcium 500 mg 1/4 tab in food SID]
[SSD, topical to scuffs, abrasions, and scratches]

Betsy-22
mild slow resolving acidemia
increased LDH
mild increase in chol, glu, calcium, potassium (was low) and uric acid
monitor lesion dorsal to nares

on Ceftaz [ceftazadime 22 mg/kg IM q3d, 3 weeks]
[sea tabs 1/4 tab in food SID]
[calcium 500 mg 1/4 tab in food SID]
[SSD, topical to scuffs, abrasions, and scratches]
‘wild’ Walter-23 ‘the bully’
slight increases in ALT, LDH
decreased albumin
increased chol and K (was low)
no uric acid value
missing portions of hind flippers (old injury, healed)

on Ceftaz [ceftazadime 22 mg/kg IM q3d, 3 weeks]
[sea tabs 1/4 tab in food SID]
[calcium 500 mg 1/4 tab in food SID]
[SSD, topical to scuffs, abrasions, and scratches]

Carolyn-24
CBC/CP (reptile profile, pending)
blood gasses ok resolved metabolic acidosis
monitor carpace pits (R & L 4th lateral scute)
monitor front flipper tip lesions
on Ceftaz [ceftazadime 22 mg/kg IM q3d, 3 weeks]
[sea tabs 1/4 tab in food SID]
[calcium 500 mg 1/4 tab in food SID]
[SSD, topical to scuffs, abrasions, and scratches]

Phoenix-25
mild increase in LDH, chol. and glucose (improved)
increased uric acid
eye lid injury
resolved metabolic acidosis
consider fluid therapy
eye lid lesions
on Ceftaz [ceftazadime 22 mg/kg IM q3d, 3 weeks]
[sea tabs 1/4 tab in food SID]
[calcium 500 mg 1/4 tab in food SID]
[NEO/PLOY/BAC, topical ophthalmic oint. OU, to eyelids]
[SSD, topical to scuffs, abrasions, and scratches]
radiographs due
Ernest -26
increased ALK, LDH, and CK
decreased albumin
hyperglycemia and low phosphorus	
tending towards acidosis
resolving metabolic acidosis

on Ceftaz [ceftazadime 22 mg/kg IM q3d, 3 weeks]
[sea tabs 1/4 tab in food SID]
[calcium 500 mg 1/4 tab in food SID]
[SSD, topical to scuffs, abrasions, and scratches]

Papi -27
Resolved metabolic acidosis
resolved increased ALP, AST, CK
elevated LDH, chol. glu
increased uric acid
monitor linear ulcers on head

on Ceftaz [ceftazadime 22 mg/kg IM q3d, 3 weeks]
[sea tabs 1/4 tab in food SID]
[calcium 500 mg 1/4 tab in food SID]
[SSD, topical to scuffs, abrasions, and scratches]

Terrapins, Cooters, and Turtles, oh my . . .:

8 growing cooters
All eight cooters are on track, eating well, and growing

*according to Wikipedia, four of a kind, a straight flush, and a royal flush all beat a full house

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