**To Breath or Not to Breath, it's Reptile Anesthesia**

Assisting in reptile surgery and monitoring reptiles under anesthesia seems more like a challenge than it actually is. The truth is, monitoring reptiles under anesthesia will soon be something you can feel confident in adding to your skill set as a technician.

Before surgery, most reptiles will be premedicated. When the medica-
tion has taken effect the reptile will likely be intubated. Unlike dogs and cats, reptiles are intubated with uncuffed tubes to avoid tissue damage in the trachea. Due to the way reptiles are triggered to take air in, you will often need to assist in respirations, either manually or with the aid of a ventilator. Reptiles breathe due to low oxygen concentration rather than increased carbon dioxide. With 100% oxygen most reptiles will not be stimulated to breathe. Although you can use monitoring machines while reptiles are under anesthesia, such as ECG, the most important tools for you to utilize are your stethoscope for respiratory sounds and your own critical thinking.

Another point to remember is that reptiles are exothermic. So maintaining an even ambient temperature for your surgical patient will aid in the metabolism of the anesthesia, and help ensure the correct anesthetic depth, metabolism of the anesthesia, and help ensure the correct anesthetic depth, and most doctors will be happy to know you are willing to expand your knowledge base to the supporting staff of your clinics team and all around a stronger technician.

To learn about reptile anesthesia, there are many CEs and labs available, such as ECG, the most important tools for you to utilize are your stethoscope for respiratory sounds and your own critical thinking.

Question #1: What is the classic bone lesion that results in swelling in reptile patients suffering from hyperparathyroidism?

Question #2: What is the protozoal parasite that causes mid-body swelling in snakes showing signs of regurgitation and what is the swelling from?