



**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**  
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**EMERGENCY VETS RETURNS TO ANIMAL PLANET**  
**WITH A NEW HERD OF INTERNS**

*– Veterinary School Graduates Go to Alameda East to Learn From Some of the Best –*

*-- Things That Pets Swallow Premieres on January 15, at 9 PM (ET/PT) --*

(Silver Spring, MD) – Loyal **EMERGENCY VETS** viewers have followed the triumphs and tribulations of the talented staff at the Alameda East Veterinary Hospital in Denver on Animal Planet for years. The distinguished physicians of Alameda East – Drs. Robert Taylor, Holly Knor and Kevin Fitzgerald – have seen it all and regularly face life-and-death decisions about their animal patients. Now they challenge and guide a new generation of veterinary interns selected for the veterinary hospital's internship program in **E-VET INTERNS**. This new series debuts on **Monday, January 22, at 9 PM (ET/PT)** and is followed by a second episode at **9:30 PM (ET/PT)**. Leading up to the premiere of the new series, the **EMERGENCY VETS** special **THINGS THAT PETS SWALLOW** premieres on **Monday, January 15, at 9 PM (ET/PT)**.

The half-hour series follows six interns fresh out of veterinary school and a seventh intern participating in a surgical internship:

- **Dr. Erik Anderson** – A New Hampshire native and a graduate of the University of Tennessee, Erik plans to specialize in internal medicine.
- **Dr. Kevin Drygas** – A graduate from the University of Florida, Kevin focuses on surgery.
- **Dr. David Gall** – A former therapist, David returned to the University of Colorado to earn his veterinary degree and pursues his interest in radiology.
- **Dr. Heather Hadley** – A graduate from the University of Minnesota, Heather uses her time at Alameda East to hone her surgical skills.

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- **Dr. Shana O'Marra** – A Tufts University graduate, Shana pursues a career in emergency medicine and critical care.
- **Dr. Blair Willman** – A recent graduate of Louisiana State University, Blair is a native of the South. Her passion for veterinary medicine spans from dermatology to animal behavior and exotics.
- **Dr. Michelle Nanfelt** – A seventh intern, who is participating in a surgical internship, and is originally from New York, Michelle graduated from Colorado State University.

The interns are faced with tough decisions that can mean the difference between saving and losing a patient. They have the latest in veterinary technology on their side as well the guidance of experienced doctors.

“Most people are familiar with the rigors of being a medical intern in a human hospital after watching health documentaries, and shows like *ER* and *Grey's Anatomy*, but being a veterinary intern takes it to another level,” says Maureen Smith, executive vice-president and general manager, Animal Planet. “The **E-VET INTERNS** work long shifts making tough decisions for all sorts of different species that can't speak for themselves. Our hope is that this program gives viewers a better sense of what it takes to be a vet, and that they witness first hand the dedication and compassion these vets display towards their patients.”

Viewers also can see clips of the series, listen to the interns share their experiences, learn pet safety tips through helpful video and much more on [animalplanet.com](http://animalplanet.com). Show clips, interviews with the **E-VETS** and behind-the-scenes outtakes of the vets in action will also be available via VOD, mobile devices and pod-casts.

High Noon Entertainment is producing **E-VET INTERNS**. Graham Clark is the executive producer for High Noon Entertainment. Jason Carey is the executive producer for Animal Planet.

Animal Planet, available in more than 89 million homes nationwide, is the only television network dedicated exclusively to the connection between humans and animals. The network brings people of all ages together by tapping into a fundamental fascination with animals through an array of fresh programming that includes humor, competition, drama and spectacle from the animal kingdom. Animal Planet is a property of Discovery Communications, the leading global real-world media and entertainment company. Discovery has grown from its core property, the Discovery Channel, first launched in the United States in 1985, to current global operations in 170 countries and territories with 1.4 billion cumulative subscribers. DCI's over 100 networks of distinctive programming represent 29 network entertainment brands. DCI's other properties consist of Discovery Education and COSMEO, a

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revolutionary online homework help service, as well as Discovery Commerce, which operates more than 100 Discovery Channel Stores in the U.S. DCI also distributes BBC America in the United States. DCI's ownership consists of four shareholders: Discovery Holding Company (NASDAQ: DISCA, DISCB), Cox Communications, Inc., Advance/Newhouse Communications and John S. Hendricks, the Company's Founder and Chairman.

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