

All of the specialists and emergency doctors at both AERA and Animal Eye Center of NJ, along with your primary family veterinarian, work together as a medical and surgical health care team for your pet. They, along with our support staff, have chosen to devote their lives to providing the most comprehensive and compassionate care possible for your pet. Our philosophy at AERA and AEC is that our animal companions deserve access to the same high level of medical care that is available to ourselves. Our animal companions provide so much love and support for us that we feel they deserve the finest quality of life that we can give them. We are constantly reassessing protocols, procedures, medical therapies, diagnostic options and equipment needed, to be sure that we are the best that we can be. We spare no expense to obtain the finest state-of-the-art equipment that will provide the best outcome for the patient.

If you are interested in arranging an appointment with one of our specialists consult with your primary family veterinarian. They will then be able to provide us with the full medical history of your pet and will be able to work closely with our specialists for any follow-up care that is needed.

There are cases where radiographs, blood tests or other diagnostics are recommended. In these situations, you will be provided with an estimate. In most cases, any follow-up blood tests needed after the original behavior consult can be done at your regular veterinarian's office.

For more information  
and to download  
informative pdfs, visit  
[animalerc.com](http://animalerc.com)



## DIRECTIONS to AERA

1237 Bloomfield Avenue, Fairfield, NJ 07004

**From I-80 West:** Take exit 52 (Fairfield, Lincoln Park & the Caldwelles), turn right onto Two Bridges Rd., which becomes Passaic Ave. Go straight for 3 miles and turn right onto Bloomfield Ave. We are located 1 mile down the road on the right hand side across from Verner Ford.

**From I-80 East:** Take exit 47B to Route 46 East. Proceed 2 miles to the Newark/Caldwells exit in Pinebrook. This exit will put you directly onto Bloomfield Ave. We are located 1/2 mile ahead on the left hand side.

**From 46 West:** Take the Passaic Avenue exit. Turn left at the traffic light onto Passaic Ave. Go straight for 3 miles and turn right onto Bloomfield Ave. We are located 1 mile down the road on the right hand side across from Verner Ford.

**From Route 46 East:** Take the Newark/ Caldwelles exit in Pinebrook. This exit will put you directly onto Bloomfield Ave. We are located 1/2 mile ahead on the left hand side.

**Garden State Parkway North and South:**  
Exit 145 to route 280 West. Follow directions below.

**Route 280 East and West:** Get off at exit 7 for Pleasant Valley Way. Bear right onto Pleasant Valley Way and go straight to the end. Turn left onto Bloomfield Ave. We are located 4-1/2 miles down the road on the right hand side across from Verner Ford.

973.226.3282 • 973.788.0500

1-800-4-911-PET



# Behavior



Animal Emergency &  
Referral Associates

Fairfield, New Jersey

# Behavior



## What is veterinary behavior?

Veterinary behavior is the diagnosis and treatment of behavioral disease and problems in animals. The gold standard of care for pets with behavior problems is diagnosis and treatment by a Board-certified veterinary behaviorist. A Board-certified veterinary behaviorist is a specialist who, subsequent to graduating from veterinary school, has completed an additional 3 to 4 years of advanced training in this area and has passed extensive and rigorous testing programs.

## What Does a Veterinary Behaviorist Do?

Veterinary behaviorists evaluate your pet's clinical and behavioral history and physical condition. This information allows them to both diagnose your pet's condition and develop a customized treatment plan. The behaviorist will determine if the issues are due to chemical imbalances, medical problems, or if the pet just needs training. If your pet has multiple health issues, the behaviorist will work with the other specialists at AERA and AEC to be sure that your pet receives the most comprehensive and compassionate care available. The behaviorist will also communicate with your family veterinarian so everyone is aware of the situation.

## What Diseases/Problems Does a Veterinary Behaviorist Treat?

- Aggression of any kind for any species
- Anxiety of any kind for any species
- Fear of noises, thunder, people
- Behavior changes in senior pets
- Compulsive disorders for any species
- House-soiling in any species
- Pets with behavior problems who have not improved with regular training
- Chemical imbalances leading to behavioral problems

Veterinary behaviorists help family veterinarians determine if the behavioral problem has an underlying medical component.

## What Type of Services are Available to Evaluate My Pet?

- 1.5 - 2 hour appointments to take a detailed behavior history
- Heart rate monitor
- In-room video monitoring if necessary
- “Faux” dogs to determine behavioral reactions
- Props to determine behavioral reactions
- Noise recordings to determine behavioral reactions
- TV/DVD/USB to play videos from clients or play back consultation videos
- Standard veterinary equipment for physical exams and lab tests if needed

## What Treatment Options are Available?

- Behavior modification
- Training
- Medications
- Recommendations for management changes
- Recommendations for environmental changes
- Safety tools
- Ancillary treatment such as pheromones, nutritional supplements, music therapy, massage, etc. . .

## Is Follow Up Required?

Every family, pet and problem is very different and there is no cookie cutter plan. Some pets only need to be seen once whereas others will need to be seen several times. In between official re-checks, clients have access to the behavior technician and can ask questions via email or phone as needed.



## Emily Levine, MRCVS, DVM, Diplomate of the American College of Veterinary Behaviorists

Dr. Emily Levine graduated from the College of Veterinary Medicine at Mississippi State University in 2000. She completed a one year internship at a specialty medical and surgical referral hospital in Arizona.

Dr. Levine completed one year in general practice before her residency in animal behavior at The Cornell University Hospital for Animals. After completing her residency, she moved to England where she ran the behavior clinic at the University of Lincoln, participated in clinical behavior research, and was an instructor.

Dr. Levine has authored journal articles on topics including: noise fears in dogs, inter-cat aggression and feather picking in parrots. She has co-edited international proceedings on behavior research that span a variety of issues such as: aggression, fears and anxieties, human-animal bonding, psychopharmacology and pheromonotherapy. She has authored textbook chapters on noise fears in dogs, inter-cat aggression and house soiling in cats. Dr. Levine has appeared as a guest expert on local television programs and has lectured internationally, nationally and locally on a wide variety of animal behavior topics.

Dr. Levine is the Director of Behavioral Services at AERA and, at this time, is the only board-certified animal behavior specialist in New Jersey.



Visit Dr. Levine's Blog  
"Fetch the Facts"

