

Current Veterinary Clinical Trials

HEALTHY LIZARDS

Studying Fungal Pathogens on the Skin of Pet Lizards

INVESTIGATORS

Dr. David Guzman • Dr. Michelle Hawkins
Dr. Joanne Paul-Murphy

CONTACT INFORMATION

To make an appointment, call **(530) 752-1393**
for the UC Davis Companion
Exotic Animal Medicine & Surgery service
or **(217) 333-5300** for the University of Illinois
Veterinary Teaching Hospital

www.vetmed.ucdavis.edu/clinicaltrials/



UCDAVIS
VETERINARY MEDICINE
Veterinary Center for Clinical Trials

■ Background

- *Nannizziopsis guarroi* is a non-zoonotic fungal pathogen of many lizard species and is the causative agent of “yellow fungus disease” in the bearded dragon. There is little known about the prevalence of *Nannizziopsis guarroi* in the general population, and only a few case reports of clinical infection including diagnostics and treatment have been reported. The purpose of this study is to evaluate the prevalence of *Nannizziopsis spp.*, a fungal pathogen, on the skin of companion (pet) lizards. This study is in collaboration with the University of Illinois.

■ Participation Requirements

- Any pet lizard
- **Ineligible:** Lizards that can't be held for swabs or who are too sick and cannot handle additional stress

■ Procedures

- Skin swab for fungal DNA during the physical examination

■ Owner Responsibilities

- Keep all scheduled appointments
- **NOTE:** The results of the test will not be available. If you think your lizard has “yellow fungus disease”, we will have to perform additional diagnostic tests, for which fees you will be responsible.

■ Benefits

- The study will cover all costs of the swab.
 - While there is no direct benefit to your lizard, we hope to use this data to see how prevalent this fungus is among captive lizards and determine if its presence is linked to health of the animal. This information can help understand the epidemiology of the disease, and help in future cases for diagnostic and treatment purposes.

