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Biography

Professor Vanessa Barrs is the Associate Dean and Director of Veterinary Affairs at the Jockey Club College of Medicine and Life Sciences. Before moving to Hong Kong in 2019, she was based at the University of Sydney, where for over 15 years she held various roles including Professor of Feline Medicine and Infectious Diseases, Head of the Department of Small Animal Medicine and Director of the University's Veterinary Teaching Hospital in Camperdown, Sydney. Professor Barrs is an internationally renowned One-Health Infectious Diseases researcher with broad research interests in fungal, viral and bacterial pathogens. She discovered *Aspergillus felis*, an opportunistic pathogen of cats, dogs and humans.

Professor Barrs has authored over 180 peer-reviewed manuscripts and text book chapters.

Employment

Department of Veterinary Clinical Sciences

City University of Hong Kong
1 May 2020 → 1 Apr 2022

Department of Infectious Diseases and Public Health

City University of Hong Kong
18 Nov 2019 → 8 May 2020

Jockey Club College of Veterinary Medicine and Life Sciences

City University of Hong Kong
1 Dec 2019 → 19 Oct 2022

Jockey Club College of Veterinary Medicine and Life Sciences

City University of Hong Kong
1 Dec 2019 → 27 Oct 2022

Department of Veterinary Clinical Sciences

City University of Hong Kong
1 Apr 2022 → present

Jockey Club College of Veterinary Medicine and Life Sciences

City University of Hong Kong
19 Oct 2022 → 1 Jun 2023

Jockey Club College of Veterinary Medicine and Life Sciences

City University of Hong Kong
1 Jun 2023 → present

Research outputs

Molecular detection of Babesia spp. in community and privately-owned cats in Hong Kong
ALMENDROS CEBRIAN, A. F., CHOI, Y. R., Leung, T. L., TAM, W. Y. J., HERNANDEZ MUGUIRO, D., Woodhouse, F., Gray, J., & 2 others Beatty, J. & BARRS, V. R., Sept 2023.

Babesia gibsoni Infection in a Cat with Immune-Mediated Haemolytic Anaemia and Thrombocytopenia
Almendros, A., Choi, Y. R., Bęczkowski, P. M., Baiker, K., Barrs, V. R. & Beatty, J. A., Jul 2023, In: Animals. 13, 13, 8 p., 2128.

Dermatological Problems of Brachycephalic Dogs
Hobi, S., Barrs, V. R. & Bęczkowski , P. M., Jun 2023, In: Animals. 13, 12, 25 p., 2016.

Epidemiology of domestic cat hepadnavirus, feline leukaemia virus and feline immunodeficiency virus in Santiago, Chile
Choi, Y. R., Iturriaga, M. P., Nekouei, O., Beatty, J. A. & Barrs, V. R., Jun 2023, p. 173.

Epidemiology of pathogenic retroviruses and domestic cat hepadnavirus in client-owned and free-roaming cats in Hong Kong
Choi, Y. R., Hofmann-Lehmann, R., Nekouei, O., Barrs, V. R. & Beatty, J. A., Jun 2023, p. 172.

Transient Babesia gibsoni infection in a cat with Evans syndrome
Almendros, A., Choi, Y. R., Beczkowski, P., Baiker, K., Barrs, V. R. & Beatty, J. A., Jun 2023, p. 174.

Prevalence of *Babesia* and *Ehrlichia* in owned dogs with suspected tick-borne infection in Hong Kong, and risk factors associated with *Babesia gibsoni*
Hernandez Muguiro, D., Nekouei, O., Lee, K. Y., Hill, F. & Barrs, V. R., May 2023, In: Preventive Veterinary Medicine. 214 , 105908.Scopus citations: 2

Low Prevalence of SARS-CoV-2 Antibodies in Canine and Feline Serum Samples Collected during the COVID-19 Pandemic in Hong Kong and Korea
Go, Y. Y., Carrai, M., Choi, Y. R., Brackman, C. J., Tam, K. W. S., Law, P. Y. T., Woodhouse, F., & 11 othersGray, J., Kim, J. H., Park, J., Jeon, C. W., Jang, H., Magouras, I., Decaro, N., Cheng, S. M. S., Peiris, M., Beatty, J. A. & Barrs, V. R., Feb 2023, In: Viruses. 15, 2, 582.Scopus citations: 2

Aspergillosis and Penicilliosis
Barrs, V. R. & Dear, J. D., 2023, *Greene's Infectious Diseases of the Dog and Cat*. Sykes, J. E. (ed.). 5th ed. ELSEVIER, p. 1069-1093

Comments on Case Report: A fatal case of Aspergillus felis infection in an immunocompetent host
Barrs, V. R., 2023, In: Access Microbiology. 5, 4, 000561.v3.

Domestic Cat Hepadnavirus: Molecular Epidemiology and Phylogeny in Cats in Hong Kong
Capozza, P., Carrai, M., Choi, Y. R., Tu, T., Nekouei, O., Lanave, G., Martella, V., & 2 othersBeatty, J. A. & BARRS, V. R. , 2023, In: Viruses. 15, 1, 150.Scopus citations: 3

Faecal virome of the Australian grey-headed flying fox from urban/suburban environments contains novel coronaviruses, retroviruses and sapoviruses
Van Brussel, K., Mahar, J. E., Ortiz-Baez, A. S., Carrai, M., Spielman, D., Boardman, W. S., Baker, M. L., & 4 others Beatty, J. A., Geoghegan, J. L., Barrs, V. R. & Holmes, E. C., Nov 2022, In: Virology. 576, p. 42-51Scopus citations: 1

Does a Hepadnavirus Contribute to Chronic Hepatitis or Hepatocellular Carcinoma in Dogs?
Choi, Y. R., Chen, M., Carrai, M., Rizzo, F., Chai, Y., Tse, M., Jackson, K., & 6 othersMartella, V., Steiner, J., Pesavento, P., Bęczkowski, P. M., Barrs, V. R. & Beatty, J. A., Sept 2022.

Effectiveness of aspirin vs. clopidogrel in dogs with immune mediated haemolytic anaemia evaluated by serial thromboelastography and platelet mapping
Griebsch, C., Hall, E. & Barrs, V. R., Sept 2022, In: Veterinary Journal. 287, 105882.

High frequency of cholecystitis in dogs with gallbladder mucocoele in Hong Kong
Hill, F. I., Speelman, J. P., Hui, K. K. L., Nekouei, O., Beczkowski, P. & Barrs, V. R., Sept 2022, In: The Veterinary Journal. 287, 105881.

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Capozza, P., Carrai, M., Lanave, G., Martella, V., Choi, Y. R. & Barrs, V. R., Sept 2022, p. 79.

The enteric virome of cats with feline panleukopenia differs in abundance and diversity from healthy cats
Van Brussel, K., Wang, X., Shi, M., Carrai, M., Feng, S., Li, J., Holmes, E. C., & 2 othersBeatty, J. A. & Barrs, V. R., Sept 2022, In: Transboundary and Emerging Diseases. 69, 5, p. e2952-e2966 15 p.Scopus citations: 2

Hepadnavirus DNA Is Detected in Canine Blood Samples in Hong Kong but Not in Liver Biopsies of Chronic Hepatitis or Hepatocellular Carcinoma

Choi, Y. R., Chen, M., Carrai, M., Rizzo, F., Chai, Y., Tse, M., Jackson, K., & 5 othersMartella, V., Steiner, J., Pesavento, P. A., Beatty, J. A. & Barrs, V. R., Jul 2022, In: Viruses. 14, 7, 1543.Scopus citations: 2

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Wang, X., Carrai, M., Van Brussel, K., Feng, S., Beatty, J. A., Shi, M., Holmes, E. C., & 2 othersLi, J. & Barrs, V. R., Jul 2022, In: Viruses. 14, 7, 1412.

Successful management of feline pemphigus foliaceus with pentoxifylline and topical hydrocortisone aceponate

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In-depth characterisation of the urine metabolome in cats with and without urinary tract diseases

Kim, Y., Xu, W., Barrs, V., Beatty, J. & Kenéz, Á., Apr 2022, In: Metabolomics. 18, 4, 19.Scopus citations: 1

Oropharyngeal Shedding of Gammaherpesvirus DNA by Cats, and Natural Infection of Salivary Epithelium

Rose, E. C., Tse, T. Y., Oates, A. W., Jackson, K., Pfeiffer, S., Donahoe, S. L., Setyo, L., & 3 othersBarrs, V. R., Beatty, J. A. & Pesavento, P. A., Mar 2022, In: Viruses. 14, 3, 566.Scopus citations: 1

A novel hepadnavirus in domestic dogs

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Bordicchia, M., Fumian, T. M., Van Brussel, K., Russo, A. G., Carrai, M., Le, S., Pesavento, P. A., & 6 othersHolmes, E. C., Martella, V., White, P., Beatty, J. A., Shi, M. & Barrs, V. R., Oct 2021, In: Viruses. 13, 10, 2040.Scopus citations: 10

Corrigendum to 'Rhinitis due to *Aspergillus pseudoviridinutans* in an orange-winged Amazon parrot (*Amazona amazonica*)' [Med. Mycol. Case Rep. 30 (2020) 46–50]

Langlois, I., Barrs, V. R. & Dufresne, P. J., Sept 2021, In: Medical Mycology Case Reports. 33, p. 38

Disseminated invasive aspergillosis caused by *Aspergillus felis* in a cat

Cormack, C. A., Donahoe, S. L., Talbot, J. J., Beatty, J. A. & Barrs, V. R., Sept 2021, In: Journal of Veterinary Internal Medicine. 35, 5, p. 2395-2400 6 p.Scopus citations: 6

Modified haemagglutination inhibition assay for the detection of canine parvovirus type 2 antibodies in dog sera

Cavalli, A., Martella, V., Desario, C., Camero, M., Lanave, G., Barrs, V. R., Decaro, N., & 1 othersBuonavoglia, C., Aug 2021, In: Veterinary Journal. 274, 105709.Scopus citations: 3

Dysbiosis of the Urinary Bladder Microbiome in Cats with Chronic Kidney Disease

Kim, Y., Carrai, M., Leung, M. H. Y., Chin, J., Li, J., Lee, P. K. H., Beatty, J. A., & 2 othersPfeiffer, D. U. & Barrs, V. R., Jul 2021, In: mSystems. 6, 4, e00510-21.Scopus citations: 4

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Sacristán, I., Acuña, F., Aguilar, E., García, S., José López, M., Cabello, J., Hidalgo-Hermoso, E., & 8 othersSanderson, J., Terio, K. A., Barrs, V., Beatty, J., Johnson, W. E., Millán, J., Poulin, E. & Napolitano, C., Apr 2021, In: Evolutionary Applications. 14, 4, p. 1070-1082Scopus citations: 7

A longitudinal observational study in two cats naturally-infected with hepadnavirus

Capozza, P., Lanave, G., Diakoudi, G., Stasi, F., Ghergo, P., Ricci, D., Santo, G., & 13 othersArena, G., Grillo, I., Delle Donne, E., Di Lisio, F., Zini, E., Callegari, C., Valente, L., Camero, M., Di Martino, B., Beatty, J., Barrs, V. R., Buonavoglia, C. & Martella, V., Mar 2021, In: Veterinary Microbiology. 254, 108999.Scopus citations: 12

Analysis of canine parvoviruses circulating in Australia reveals predominance of variant 2b and identifies feline parvovirus-like mutations in the capsid proteins

Kwan, E., Carrai, M., Lanave, G., Hill, J., Parry, K., Kelman, M., Meers, J., & 4 othersDecaro, N., Beatty, J. A., Martella, V. & Barrs, V. R., Mar 2021, In: Transboundary and Emerging Diseases. 68, 2, p. 656-666 11 p.Scopus citations: 15

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Perera, R. A. P. M., Ko, R., Tsang, O. T. Y., Hui, D. S. C., Kwan, M. Y. M., Brackman, C. J., To, E. M. W., & 12 othersYen, H., Leung, K., Cheng, S. M. S., Chan, K. H., Chan, K. C. K., Li, K., Saif, L., Barrs, V. R., Wu, J. T., Sit, T. H. C., Poon, L. L. M. & Peiris, M., Feb 2021, In: Journal of Clinical Microbiology. 59, 2, e02504-20.Scopus citations: 81

Drug-Resistant *Aspergillus flavus* Is Highly Prevalent in the Environment of Vietnam: A new challenge for the management of aspergillosis?

Duong, T. M. N., Nguyen, P. T., Van Le, T., Nguyen, H. L. P., Nguyen, B. N. T., Nguyen, B. P. T., Nguyen, T. A., & 6 othersChen, S. C., Barrs, V. R., Halliday, C. L., Sorrell, T. C., Day, J. N. & Beardsley, J., Dec 2020, In: Journal of Fungi. 6, 4, 296.Scopus citations: 11

Rhinitis due to *Aspergillus pseudoviridinutans* in an orange-winged Amazon parrot (*Amazona amazonica*)
Isabelle, L., Vanessa, B. R. & Philippe, D. J., Dec 2020, In: Medical Mycology Case Reports. 30, p. 46-50

SARS-CoV-2 in Quarantined Domestic Cats from COVID-19 Households or Close Contacts, Hong Kong, China
Barrs, V. R., Peiris, M., Tam, K. W., Law, P. Y., Brackman, C. J., To, E. M., Yu, V. Y., & 3 othersChu, D. K. W., Perera, R. A. P. M. & Sit, T. H. C., Dec 2020, In: Emerging Infectious Diseases. 26, 12, p. 3071-3074Scopus citations: 108

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ITURRIAGA, M. P., COCIO, J. A. & BARRS, V. R., Nov 2020, In: Journal of Small Animal Practice. 61, 11, p. 696-703
Scopus citations: 5

Identification of feline calicivirus in cats with enteritis
Di Martino, B., Lanave, G., Di Profio, F., Melegari, I., Marsilio, F., Camero, M., Catella, C., & 5 othersCapozza, P., Bánya, K., Barrs, V. R., Buonavoglia, C. & Martella, V., Nov 2020, In: Transboundary and Emerging Diseases. 67, 6, p. 2579-2588Scopus citations: 17

Identification of Novel Astroviruses in the Gastrointestinal Tract of Domestic Cats
Brussel, K. V., Wang, X., Shi, M., Carrai, M., Li, J., Martella, V., Beatty, J. A., & 2 othersHolmes, E. C. & Barrs, V. R., Nov 2020, In: Viruses. 12, 11, 1301.Scopus citations: 7

A history of canine parvovirus in Australia: what can we learn?
Kelman, M., Norris, J., Barrs, V. & Ward, M., Oct 2020, In: Australian Veterinary Journal. 98, 10, p. 504-510Scopus citations: 2

First case of feline cryptococcosis in Hong Kong, caused by *Cryptococcus neoformans*
Almendros, A., Muguiro, D. H., Hill, F. I. & Barrs, V. R., Sept 2020, In: Medical Mycology Case Reports. 29, p. 8-11
Scopus citations: 2

Canine parvovirus prevention—What influence do socioeconomics, remoteness, caseload and demographics have on veterinarians' perceptions and behaviors?
Kelman, M., Barrs, V. R., Norris, J. M. & Ward, M. P., Aug 2020, In: Preventive Veterinary Medicine. 181, 105065.Scopus citations: 3

Canine parvovirus vaccination and immunisation failures: Are we far from disease eradication?
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Kelman, M., Harriott, L., Carrai, M., Kwan, E., Ward, M. P. & Barrs, V. R., Jun 2020, In: Viruses. 12, 6, 13 p., 663.Scopus citations: 5

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Grueber, C. E., Chong, R., Gooley, R. M., McLennan, E. A., Barrs, V. R., Belov, K. & Hogg, C. J., May 2020, In: Australian Zoologist. 40, 3, p. 492-504

Seroprevalence and Risk Factors for *Toxoplasma gondii* Infection in Owned Domestic Cats in Australia
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Feline disseminated cutaneous phaeohyphomycosis due to *Exophiala spinifera*
Daly, J., Hubka, V., Kubátová, A., Gimeno, M. & Barrs, V. R., Mar 2020, In: Medical Mycology Case Reports. 27, p. 32-35
Scopus citations: 5

Feline Parvovirus Seroprevalence Is High in Domestic Cats from Disease Outbreak and Non-Outbreak Regions in Australia

Jenkins, E., Davis, C., Carrai, M., Ward, M. P., O'Keeffe, S., van Boeijen, M., Beveridge, L., & 5 othersDesario, C., Buonavoglia, C., Beatty, J. A., Decaro, N. & Barrs, V. R., Mar 2020, In: *Viruses*. 12, 3, 320.Scopus citations: 7

Fungal Rhinosinusitis and Disseminated Invasive Aspergillosis in Cats

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Canine parvovirus prevention and prevalence: Veterinarian perceptions and behaviors

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Identification of a Novel Papillomavirus Associated with Squamous Cell Carcinoma in a Domestic Cat

Carrai, M., Van Brussel, K., Shi, M., Li, C., Chang, W., Munday, J. S., Voss, K., & 6 othersMcLuckie, A., Taylor, D., Laws, A., Holmes, E. C., Barrs, V. R. & Beatty, J. A., Jan 2020, In: *Viruses*. 12, 1, 124.Scopus citations: 19

Socioeconomic, geographic and climatic risk factors for canine parvovirus infection and euthanasia in Australia

Kelman, M., Barrs, V. R., Norris, J. M. & Ward, M. P., Jan 2020, In: *Preventive Veterinary Medicine*. 174, 104816.Scopus citations: 11

Evidence of exposure to SARS-CoV-2 in cats and dogs from households in Italy

Patterson, E. I., Elia, G., Grassi, A., Giordano, A., Desario, C., Medardo, M., Smith, S. L., & 17 othersAnderson, E. R., Prince, T., Patterson, G. T., Lorusso, E., Lucente, M. S., Lanave, G., Lauzi, S., Bonfanti, U., Stranieri, A., Martella, V., Basano, F. S., Barrs, V. R., Radford, A. D., Agrimi, U., Hughes, G. L., Paltrinieri, S. & Decaro, N., 2020, In: *Nature Communications*. 11, 1, 6231.Scopus citations: 202

Distinct Lineages of Feline Parvovirus Associated with Epizootic Outbreaks in Australia, New Zealand and the United Arab Emirates

Van Brussel, K., Carrai, M., Lin, C., Kelman, M., Setyo, L., Aberdein, D., Brailey, J., & 12 othersLawler, M., Maher, S., Plaganyi, I., Lewis, E., Hawkswell, A., Allison, A. B., Meers, J., Martella, V., Beatty, J. A., Holmes, E. C., Decaro, N. & Barrs, V. R., Dec 2019, In: *Viruses*. 11, 12, 1155.Scopus citations: 19

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Whitney, J., Haase, B., Beatty, J. & Barrs, V. R., Nov 2019, In: *Veterinary Immunology and Immunopathology*. 217, 109921.Scopus citations: 3

cyp51A Mutations, Extrolite Profiles, and Antifungal Susceptibility in Clinical and Environmental Isolates of the *Aspergillus viridinutans* Species Complex

Talbot, J. J., Frisvad, J. C., Meis, J. F., Hagen, F., Verweij, P. E., Hibbs, D. E., Lai, F., & 5 othersGroundwater, P. W., Samson, R. A., Kidd, S. E., Barrs, V. R. & Houbraken, J., Nov 2019, In: *Antimicrobial Agents and Chemotherapy*. 63, 11, e00632-19.Scopus citations: 15

Prevalence and risk factors for *Felis catus gammaherpesvirus 1* detection in domestic cats in Italy

Caringella, F., Desario, C., Lorusso, E., Pallante, I., Furlanello, T., Lanave, G., Elia, G., & 6 othersMartella, V., Iatta, R., Barrs, V. R., Beatty, J., Buonavoglia, C. & Decaro, N., Nov 2019, In: *Veterinary Microbiology*. 238, 108426.Scopus citations: 3

A Novel Hepadnavirus is Associated with Chronic Hepatitis and Hepatocellular Carcinoma in Cats

Pesavento, P. A., Jackson, K., Scase, T., Tse, T., Hampson, B., Munday, J. S., Barrs, V. R., & 1 othersBeatty, J. A., Oct 2019, In: *Viruses*. 11, 10, 969.Scopus citations: 27

Feline upper respiratory tract infection and disease in Australia

Nguyen, D., Barrs, V. R., Kelman, M. & Ward, M. P., Oct 2019, In: *Journal of Feline Medicine and Surgery*. 21, 10, p. 973-978Scopus citations: 14

Feline Panleukopenia: A Re-emergent Disease

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Fecal Viral Diversity of Captive and Wild Tasmanian Devils Characterized Using Virion-Enriched Metagenomics and Metatranscriptomics

Chong, R., Shi, M., Grueber, C. E., Holmes, E. C., Hogg, C. J., Belov, K. & Barrs, V. R., Jun 2019, In: Journal of Virology. 93, 11, e00205-19.Scopus citations: 40

Breed-specific variations in the coding region of toll-like receptor 4 in the domestic cat

Whitney, J., Haase, B., Beatty, J. & Barrs, V. R., Mar 2019, In: Veterinary Immunology and Immunopathology. 209, p. 61-69Scopus citations: 1

MULTISYSTEM DISEASES

Weese, J. S., Webb, J. A., Huffman, L. J., Evason, M., Conboy, G., Stull, J. W., Armstrong, J., & 7 othersAdin, D. B., Barrs, V., Carioto, L., Heseltine, J., Spann, D., Singh, A. & Datz, C., 1 Jan 2019, A *Color Handbook: Infectious Diseases of the Dog and Cat*. CRC Press, p. 193-300

Consequences and Management of Canine Brachycephaly in Veterinary Practice: Perspectives from Australian Veterinarians and Veterinary Specialists

Fawcett, A., Barrs, V., Awad, M., Child, G., Brunel, L., Mooney, E., Martinez-Taboada, F., & 2 othersMcDonald, B. & McGreevy, P., Jan 2019, In: Animals. 9, 1, 3.Scopus citations: 33

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Jenkins, E. L., De Souza, N. J., Beatty, J. A. & Barrs, V. R., Jan 2019, In: Journal of Feline Medicine and Surgery Open Reports. 5, 1Scopus citations: 2

The geographic distribution and financial impact of canine parvovirus in Australia

Kelman, M., Ward, M. P., Barrs, V. R. & Norris, J. M., Jan 2019, In: Transboundary and Emerging Diseases. 66, 1, p. 299-311Scopus citations: 20

Acute adrenal haemorrhage in two cats with aldosterone-secreting adenocarcinomas

Kirkwood, N., Boland, L., Brunel, L., Wardman, A. & Barrs, V. R., 2019, In: Journal of Feline Medicine and Surgery Open Reports. 5, 1Scopus citations: 4

Identification of hepadnavirus in the sera of cats

Lanave, G., Capozza, P., Diakoudi, G., Catella, C., Catucci, L., Ghergo, P., Stasi, F., & 6 othersBarrs, V., Beatty, J., Decaro, N., Buonavoglia, C., Martella, V. & Camero, M., 2019, In: Scientific Reports. 9, 10668.Scopus citations: 24

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