About BluePearl Veterinary Partners

BluePearl Veterinary Partners is a national provider of specialty and emergency veterinary care. We have hospitals located throughout the country, most of which are open 24 hours a day, every day of the year. Just as family doctors refer human patients to specialists, family veterinarians refer pets to specialists from BluePearl. Our board-certified veterinary specialists have undergone rigorous training in their areas of expertise, including cardiology, dentistry, dermatology, internal medicine, neurology, oncology, ophthalmology, surgery and several other disciplines.

BluePearl’s soaring growth, going from three hospitals to 50 in fewer than 10 years, reflects evolving trends in the pet industry. Many people view pets as members of their families, and so they seek the most advanced medical care available. We are proud to provide it.

Our clinicians use innovative procedures, high-tech equipment and the latest treatment methods. BluePearl also participates in clinical trials to study the effectiveness of new drugs and treatments, providing access to cutting-edge medicine that is not yet commercially available.

Some of our most important partners are primary care veterinarians, who refer patients to BluePearl when it’s the right thing to do. Together, we provide the best possible care for pets.

State-of-the-art care is our mission, but we firmly believe the foundation of veterinary medicine is compassion. BluePearl’s co-founder, Dr. Neil Shaw, created Frankie’s Friends charity for people who cannot afford lifesaving care for their pets. In 2009, People Magazine named him a “Hero in Hard Times.”
Our History

Brothers Neil and Darryl Shaw grew up helping their father in his veterinary practice in Tampa, Fla. Neil dreamed of becoming a veterinarian himself. Darryl was more drawn to the business side of veterinary medicine.

As college students, the brothers went in separate directions. Neil spent a decade studying at the University of Florida, earning a doctorate in veterinary medicine and board certification in internal medicine. Meanwhile Darryl studied international commerce at Brown University, and later earned an MBA from Northwestern University.

But the brothers had a single purpose in mind. In 1996, on the day after Neil completed his residency in internal medicine, they opened a veterinary hospital in Tampa called Florida Veterinary Specialists.

The practice grew steadily, adding several new specialties and two new hospitals in the Tampa Bay area. They also made the bold move of opening a new hospital in Midtown Manhattan.

After expanding to New York City, the company began a period of rapid growth. It merged with the Veterinary Specialty & Emergency Center of Kansas City and renamed itself BluePearl Veterinary Partners.

In 2015, BluePearl made the decision to join the Mars family, an iconic, family-owned organization that has demonstrated a significant commitment to helping pets. Mars Petcare is the world’s leading pet nutrition and health care provider, and joining the family gave BluePearl new, unprecedented opportunities for growth and support.

BluePearl succeeds by focusing on its strengths: emergency and specialty veterinary medicine. In each state or region, BluePearl seeks to become the leader for both types of care.

BluePearl hospitals are not the places where pets get spayed or neutered or receive their annual vaccines. That important work is done by family veterinarians, who are analogous to family physicians in human medicine. But these family veterinarians also send clients and patients to BluePearl, often for procedures outside their capabilities. After these procedures, such as chemotherapy or especially complex surgeries, the clients and pets return to their family veterinarians.

Our Experts

BluePearl veterinarians with specialized training are available to speak to journalists. Contact our media team at 813.549.7688 or news@bluepearlvet.com to arrange interviews. We have experts in a variety of fields including:

- Behavioral medicine
- Cardiology
- Critical care
- Dermatology
- Emergency medicine
- Internal medicine
- Neurology
- Oncology
- Ophthalmology
- Surgery

Our Hospitals

![Map of BluePearl Veterinary hospitals in the United States](image-url)
Our Founders

Darryl Shaw
Chief Executive Officer

Darryl Shaw is a founder and the Chief Executive Officer for BluePearl Veterinary Partners. Darryl has been at the helm of business operations since 1996 when he and his brother, Neil, opened their first veterinary hospital with three employees in Tampa.

Today, BluePearl Veterinary Partners is the fastest-growing network of specialty and emergency hospitals in North America and is known for its excellence of patient care and service to both pet owners and referring veterinarians. In 2010, Darryl and Neil were named Ernst & Young Entrepreneurs of the Year in Florida.

Darryl earned an undergraduate degree in international commerce from Brown University and an MBA in finance and marketing from the Kellogg Graduate School of Management at Northwestern University.

At home, Darryl’s family includes two energetic pups: a yellow lab and a Dalmatian.

Dr. Neil Shaw, DVM, DACVIM
Chief Cultural Officer

Dr. Neil Shaw is a founder of BluePearl Veterinary Partners and currently serves on its board. Growing up with a father who was a veterinarian, Neil was always passionate about helping animals. This led to a 10-year education commitment at the University of Florida, where he completed an undergraduate degree, a doctoral degree in veterinary medicine, a veterinary internship and a residency in small animal internal medicine. The day after he completed his residency program in 1996, Neil and his brother, Darryl, opened the doors of their new pet hospital in Tampa.

Over time, the one-veterinarian practice grew into the network of sophisticated, multi-disciplinary emergency and specialty pet hospitals now named BluePearl. Neil has received a number of accolades, including People magazine’s “Hero in Hard Times;” the Community Service Award by the Veterinary Medical Association of New York City; the Distinguished Service Award by University of Florida College of Veterinary Medicine; Gold Star Service Award by Florida Veterinary Medical Association; and Community Service Award by Hillsborough County Veterinary Medical Society.

Neil spends his off-duty hours volunteering and spending time with his family, which includes four dogs, fish and leopard geckos.
Our Emergency Care
Pet emergencies never seem to happen at convenient times. That’s why our hospitals stay open around the clock at most locations. If a dog gets hit by a car at midnight, or a cat has seizures at 2 a.m., our experienced teams are waiting in emergency rooms to help.

Our Veterinary Specialties
Pet owners take their dogs and cats to their family veterinarians for regular check-ups and shots. These same veterinarians refer their patients to BluePearl because of our advanced training in numerous specialties including:

- Acupuncture
- Avian & Exotics
- Behavioral Medicine
- Cardiology
- Critical Care
- Dentistry
- Dermatology
- Diagnostic Imaging
- Emergency Medicine
- Internal Medicine
- Neurology
- Oncology
- Ophthalmology
- Radioiodine
- Rehabilitation
- Surgery
Our Ideas

Please consider these story ideas as starting points for your journalism about pets, pet owners and veterinary medicine. And remember to contact BluePearl’s media team at 813.549.7688 or news@bluepearlvet.com to arrange interviews on these topics and others:

Winter
- Toxic holidays – chocolates and other holiday foods can sicken your pets.
- Frostbite – winter cold and pet safety.
- Driving safely with pets – holiday travel tips.

Spring
- Your four-legged running partners – exercising safely with dogs.
- Backyard dangers – such as poisonous toads and plants, or snakes.
- Tips for keeping your pets calm during thunderstorms.
- Disaster planning for pets in tornado and flood seasons.

Summer
- Heatstroke – a deadly danger for your pets.
- Beware Lyme disease – your dogs can get it also.
- How to soothe your dog during July 4 fireworks.
- Aug. 26 is National Dog Day
- Disaster planning for pets in hurricane season.

Fall
- Halloween can be scary – because of all the ways pets get lost or hurt.
- Pets need nurses, too – they’re called veterinary technicians.
- Veterinary Technicians Week is the third week in October.
- Obesity in pets is a growing problem and October is Pet Obesity Awareness Month.
- Cancer is widespread in pets, but many live happy lives after chemotherapy, radiation and other treatments. November is Pet Cancer Awareness Month.

Any time
- First aid for pets: What you can do to help save your pet during a medical emergency.
- Pet insurance saves live and makes financial sense.
- Dogs get herniated discs, too. But with treatment from our neurologists and surgeons, many learn to walk (and run) normally again.
- Heartworms and other parasites – some of the most common and most preventable killers of pets.

Our Contact Information

Contact our media team at 813.549.7688 or news@bluepearlvet.com. You also can reach us individually:

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