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High-tech equipment aids ancient being



When Arizona, a 24-year-old, 300-pound Galapagos tortoise stopped using his back right leg, his owners and veterinarian Dr. Jeremy Sabatini of Pleasantville Animal Hospital wondered if modern technology might be able to help the ancient, endangered animal. As a regular referring veterinarian to the Cornell University Veterinary Specialists, Dr. Sabatini was well aware of the hospital's services and advanced imaging technology, but he also knew that a tortoise was not the usual patient at the companion animal specialty referral and emergency and critical care hospital. Although the tortoise's 4-foot shell was too wide to fit inside the CT, veterinarians and technicians were able to position his leg close enough for the state-of-the-art technology to hone in on the affected area.

Cornell University Veterinary Specialists partners with area veterinarians to diagnose and treat dogs and cats using the latest technology, which also includes two digital radiology suites, ultrasound, echocardiography, and fluoroscopy. As the largest university-affiliated veterinary specialty and emergency critical care center in the country, Cornell University Veterinary Specialists is a satellite of the Cornell University College of Veterinary Medicine. The operation, open since January 2011, has multiple board-certified specialists providing advanced cardiology, critical care and emergency, internal medicine, interventional and minimally-invasive procedures, orthopedic and soft tissue surgery, oncology, and specialty imaging services.