We are excited to present another fine issue of the Veterinary Clinics of North America: Exotic Animal Practice series. This issue focuses on clinical pathology: diagnostic testing and test interpretation. As you will see, the topics cover a wide range of subject matter and a variety of different species that include, but are not limited to, small mammals; psittacines and other avian species; tortoises, box turtles, and aquatic turtles; bearded lizards and snakes; and other exotic animal species. Some of the articles, such as bile acids, inflammatory markers, lactate, endocrine testing, and hemostatic testing, present information about diagnostic testing and test interpretation that have been available and in use for quite some time. These articles offer a comprehensive review and present current and new information about each respective topic. Other articles discuss newer diagnostic modalities that are becoming more available; these include viscoelastic coagulation testing, blood lipid diagnostics, and digital cytology. Finally, this issue includes several articles that discuss general clinical pathology of species that are becoming more and more popular as pets, such as bearded dragons, box turtles, and tortoises.

In this issue, we have enlisted experts from around the world to share their knowledge in clinical pathologic diagnostic testing and test interpretation in a variety of exotic species. The authors of these articles represent veterinarians and researchers with expertise in internal medicine, zoo medicine, and clinical pathology. In many of the articles, clinicians are partnered with clinical pathologists to bring to you practical and up-to-date information about the use and interpretation of laboratory testing. We sincerely thank all of the authors for their time and willingness to contribute to this issue. They have made this issue what it is.

Although each article contains a wealth of information, you will see an overlying and recurrent theme. There remains a substantial lack of peer-reviewed information for diagnostic testing and interpretation in many of these species; hence more studies
are desperately needed. Nevertheless, the authors are all to be commended for not only the useful but also the most up-to-date information provided. We hope that you will not only enjoy but also learn from their expertise. We also hope that this may entice some of our readers to consider advancing the knowledge in the subject matter through future studies and research.

In conclusion, we would also like to thank the folks at Elsevier for their support and guidance throughout this process. It has been a great pleasure to have this opportunity.

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