



CEVM Newsletter, Issue 37, 26th April 2023

**Welcome to the latest newsletter from the
Centre for Evidence-based Veterinary Medicine (CEVM)**

www.nottingham.ac.uk/cevm



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Coming up in this issue:

- News and updates
- Presentations
- Recent publications and outputs
- Spotlight piece
- Latest BestBETs and systematic reviews from VetSRev

News and updates:

Double congratulations!

Congratulations to Freya Rooke who successfully defended her PhD during a viva held in March. Freya initially focused on looking at the understanding and use of quality improvement (QI) in equine practice, which morphed into looking at quality improvement more broadly across veterinary practice. She did a variety of stakeholder engagement projects, including a survey with the veterinary profession about QI, some consultations with veterinary practice teams about QI including talking to nurses and receptionists, and a survey looking at how quality veterinary care altered across the course of the COVID pandemic. She also tackled the issues of varying definitions and therefore understanding of common QI terms by carrying out a consensus study in conjunction with RCVS Knowledge.

Her final project focused on developing a framework to help professionals to start the QI process in veterinary practice, which we've received really good feedback about from the practices who helped Freya with this work. Some of her work has already been published, please see it here: <https://doi.org/10.18849/ve.v6i2.358> and <https://doi.org/10.1002/vetr.1174>.

Congratulations also to Natasha Basham who has successfully defended her intercalated Masters which focused on the development of a framework for supporting veterinary professionals and animal owners to interpret and apply scientific evidence for animal health and welfare. These frameworks cover how to identify reliable information and how to integrate scientific information alongside personal values, ultimately resulting in the optimal care of animals. These will be finalised and shared in due course. She is now back in the veterinary undergraduate course and is soon to be sitting her final exams, good luck Natasha!

We are all super proud of both of them, well done 😊

EBVMA is at the ACVIM Forum!

The Evidence-Based Veterinary Medicine Association (EBVMA) will be exhibiting at the American College of Veterinary Internal Medicine (ACVIM) Forum this year which is being held in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania between the 15th and 17th June. Please make sure you go and say hello if you are attending the conference: <https://2023acvim.eventscribe.net/>. See below for details of two relevant presentations focused on EBVM that will be given at the congress.

Presentations:

On the 12th April, Louise Corah was a key stakeholder panellist during the seventh and final session of a series put on by [ViVet](#) to explore the seven ambitions presented in the [RCVS Workforce Action Plan](#). The session was entitled 'Improving client interaction and communication'. There will be a recording of the session available in due course.

Up and coming meetings:

Honorary CEVM team member and good friend Constance White will be giving two stellar presentations focused on 'Decoding Clinical Research Design' and 'Clinical Statistics Without Anguish' at the ACVIM conference in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania on Saturday June 17th. If you haven't heard her present before, you are in for a treat! To learn more about her presentations, find her here: <https://2023acvim.eventscribe.net/biography.asp?pfp=Speakers>

Recent publications and outputs:

Scahill, K, Pelander, L, Brennan, ML, Nesterud, I, Britt-Marie B and Ekstrand, C (2023) **Diagnosis and treatment of pyelonephritis in cats and dogs: A scoping review protocol**. SYREAF, <https://syreaf.org/protocols/>

Corah, L (2023) **We need to talk about weight: raising the issue of companion animal obesity during consultations with clients**. Veterinary Record, 192, <https://doi.org/10.1002/vetr.2755>

Crew, CR, Brennan, ML and Ireland, JL (2023) **Implementation of biosecurity on equestrian premises: A narrative overview**. The Veterinary Journal, 292, <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.tvjl.2023.105950>

Spotlight on our research: Elisa Martello



I hold a degree in Veterinary Medicine and a PhD in Veterinary Sciences (University of Turin, Italy). I have more than ten years of experience in the Eco-epidemiology of vector-borne diseases. I have a particular interest and experience in performing systematic reviews, having worked for the past five years on international projects supported by Universities and other institutions, including WHO and ECDC.

I work part time for the School of Medicine at the University of Nottingham as a Research & Teaching Fellow, and I am involved in systematic review projects. I also collaborate with the University of Turin (Italy), where I support research projects on vector-borne disease and pet nutrition. I am also a scientific consultant for a Pharma company (Italy), where I contribute to projects for the development of new feed supplements for pets.

I am delighted to have recently joined the CEVM team, which I found full of knowledgeable and friendly colleagues! I work closely with Marnie Brennan on updating the VetSRev database. Part of my role is to work with others to analyse some common traits for the studies included in the database and to make recommendations for researchers on how to make their reviews more likely to be identified and therefore included in VetSRev. This would help the veterinary profession to have a higher quality of studies and a better summary of the evidence for use in clinical practice and for the whole scientific community.

I live in Nottingham with my husband and two little girls, which fill our lives with joy!

Latest BestBETs for Vets:

- **Is dog size linked with the risk of adverse reaction to vaccination?**
<https://www.bestbetsforvets.org/bet/465>
 - Bottom Line:
“There is consistent, although often weak evidence, that smaller dogs experience an increased incidence of mild adverse events following vaccination. There is no evidence of variation in the incidence of severe adverse reactions in relation to size of dog.”
- **Adverse event review: Does it reduce the stress experienced by those veterinary practitioners involved?** <https://www.bestbetsforvets.org/bet/587>
 - Bottom Line:
“At the present time, there is no comparative peer reviewed evidence that answers whether participating in adverse event review meetings reduces stress in practitioners who are involved in adverse events.
Choosing whether to participate in an adverse event review meeting will likely be influenced by the preference of the individual involved in the adverse event, the support available to them and the policy of the practice.”

VetSRev:

VetSRev is a free database of systemic reviews relevant to veterinary medicine and science with new reviews added each month. In the last year or so the database has undergone a complete renovation and new references are being assessed for inclusion on the site. The relaunched database can be found here: <https://vetsrev.nottingham.ac.uk/> so please don't forget to update your links to the new site. We have over 2700 citations on our site now, and more will be added very soon.

If you want to know more about VetSRev, have a look at our helpful guides 'About VetSRev' (<https://vetsrev.nottingham.ac.uk/About-VetSRev.pdf>) and 'Getting Started with VetSRev' (<https://vetsrev.nottingham.ac.uk/Getting-started-with-VetSRev.pdf>).

And finally:

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