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

www.nottingham.ac.uk/cevm

Merry Christmas everyone!!

Please forward this e-mail on to any colleagues who you think may be interested — they can sign up for future newsletters using our mailing list: **http://lists.nottingham.ac.uk/mailman/listinfo/cevm-mailing-list**

Coming up in this issue:

- News and updates
- Conference presentations
- Recent publications and outputs
- Spotlight on our research
- Latest BestBETs

News and updates:

Launch of the EBVM manifesto

The Evidence-based Veterinary Manifesto is out! From early discussions at the Evidence Live conference in July 2019, the manifesto has been open for comment since July 2020, and was formally launched by the Veterinary Record in September; see it here. The purpose of the manifesto is to stimulate discussion, thought and hopefully action, by asking ourselves what we currently do well, and what we could be doing better at in relation to the concepts represented by the statements in the manifesto. This will be different for each person, practice and sector and not everyone will be able to do everything. Collectively, by us all doing a little bit, we have the power to significantly shape how we move forward as a profession.

We've been really pleased to be able to contribute to the formation of the manifesto, providing feedback from ourselves, our students and from our network of practitioners. The idea is that this should be a 'living' document that is amended over time to best suit the needs of the veterinary profession, and we're really excited to see how the manifesto takes shape moving forwards. We urge anyone to get in touch with the Veterinary Record if they have any comments or suggestions as to how to further improve the manifesto; comments can be added here.

We made it into the top 10 for 2020!

We were delighted to see that a podcast that Hannah Doit, Zoe Belshaw and Marnie Brennan recorded about doing research in clinical practice has made it into the top 10 most used RCVS Knowledge resources published in 2020. Well done team! If you haven't had a chance to listen to the podcast, you can access it here. For a list of the other resources that made it into the top 10, please see the link here.

EVM course dates for 2021

We are pleased to announce new dates for 2021 for our 'Using an evidence-based approach in your practice' modular course. Next year we will be running the course entirely online to be able to successfully work within the COVID-19 restrictions we are likely to continue to face moving forwards, which will hopefully permit a wider audience than usual to attend. We look forward to welcoming vets and nurses to the course. The course starts on the 22nd February and finishes on 28th June 2021. For further details about the course and how to book, please click here.

New venture for past CEVM team members - EviVet

We are super proud of our ex-CEVM team members Zoe Belshaw and Kathryn Wareham who have set up their own consultancy business called EviVet, with a focus on assisting researchers and others using an evidence-based approach. We wish them all the best of luck in their endeavours!!

Conference presentations:

Kerry Williams recently represented the Shelter Medicine programme at Nottingham at the PetSmart Charities' Shelter Medicine Veterinary Educators Symposium held online this year. You can see the agenda for the event here

Recent publications and outputs:

- Stavisky, J, Watson, B, Dean, R, Merritt, BL, van der Leij, RWJR and Serlin, R (2020) Development of international learning outcomes for shelter medicine in veterinary education: A Delphi approach. Journal of Veterinary Medical Education, advanced online publication, https://doi.org/10.3138/jvme-2020-0027
- Collinson A, Bennett M, Brennan ML, Dean RS, Stavisky J (2020) Evaluating the role of surgical sterilisation in canine rabies control: A systematic review of impact and outcomes. PLoS Negl Trop Dis 14(8): e0008497. https://doi.org/10.1371/journal.pntd.0008497
- Bowden, A., Boynova, P., Brennan, ML., England, GCW., Mair, TS., Furness, WA., Freeman, SL., Burford, JH. (2020) Retrospective case series to identify the most common conditions seen 'out-of-hours' by first-opinion equine veterinary practitioners. Veterinary Record, http://dx.doi.org/10.1136/vr.105880
- Bowden, A., England, GCW., Brennan, ML., Mair, TS., Furness, A., Freeman, SL., Burford, JH. (2020) Indicators of 'critical' outcomes in 941 horses seen 'out-of-hours' for colic. Veterinary Record. http://dx.doi.org/10.1136/vr.105881

Spotlight on Freya Rooke. In this issue, Freya gives an update on her collaborative project with RCVS Knowledge, where they are working to identify definitions for key Quality Improvement terms and activities.

Quality Improvement, clinical governance, patient safety, morbidity and mortality meetings… you might have heard terms such as these being used more and more frequently. But what exactly do they mean?

Quality care, and methods used to improve the quality of care, are key aspects of any healthcare service, whether it be for humans or animals. Quality Improvement methods have been used within worldwide healthcare services (including the National Health Service) for over two decades to address a variety of issues and goals. Whilst progress is being made in the veterinary industry, quality monitoring and improvement is still not as mainstream as it is within human healthcare, which is something we are working to change!

A leading barrier into how Quality Improvement methodology is being used in veterinary practice is confusion around the terms and language used. The aim of this collaborative study is to address this barrier by developing definitions specific to the veterinary sector. The research will be conducted through a Delphi-style approach which will involve a series of rounds of questionnaires looking to build on the knowledge and expertise of a selected panel of professionals. Panellists have been specifically selected from across the profession (vets, nurses, receptionists/client care teams, auxiliary staff, pet owners, industry etc.) and the first round of questionnaires has been sent. By using this approach we are hopefully ensuring that the definitions created will be as applicable to the veterinary sector as possible, and that longer term the outcomes of the project will have a positive impact on the veterinary profession and the provision of quality care for years to come.

Further information about the collaboration can be found here

Latest BestBETs for Vets:

You can find all BETs on our free online database **here.** You can also find out more, subscribe to BET updates or submit a question. Here are our most recently published BETs:

- Risk of IMHA in vaccinated dogs https://bestbetsforvets.org/bet/342
- Dairy calves with diarrhoea – does giving milk and rehydration fluids in combination result in a faster recovery? https://bestbetsforvets.org/bet/518
- Use of metronidazole in dogs with acute diarrhoea (new evidence added) https://bestbetsforvets.org/bet/574
- Comparison between surgical tie techniques for feline castration https://bestbetsforvets.org/bet/476

And finally:

We would love to receive your input on what content you would like to see in our newsletter, on our Facebook page or our Twitter account. Let us know by email or on one of our social media pages.

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