

CEVM Newsletter, Issue 46, 11 October 2025

**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
- Recent publications and outputs
- Spotlight piece
- Latest BestBETs and systematic reviews from VetSRev

News and updates:

Visit from Connie White

The CEVM were delighted to welcome Dr. Constance White on her recent visit to the UK. Connie is a US veterinary colleague that has done various projects with the CEVM over the years. When she first became involved with the CEVM, she was working at Fremont Veterinary Clinic in Portland, and she is now working at Oregon State University teaching vet students.

Goodbye to Sebastian Moya Duran

Sebastian is leaving CEVM (for now!) and starting a position in Spain. The work focuses on identifying gaps and priorities within biosecurity recommendations across different species. It also involves developing a network of experts on biosecurity and related issues, such as animal welfare, all within the EUPAHW Partnership under SOA15 and SOA6. He will be back with us for a while next year when he starts his Fellowship. We wish him the best of luck!

CEVM and RCVS Knowledge - Veterinary Quality Improvement Development (applications now closed)

The CEVM and University of Nottingham, in partnership with RCVS Knowledge, is working on a project aimed at developing, testing and delivering an evidence-based Quality Improvement (QI) model for the veterinary sector. This aims to create a QI framework, initially in farm practice before scaling across the profession, helping to improve outcomes for patients, practices and the wider veterinary community.

Recruiting now! – two exciting roles with the CEVM:

Research Associate/Research Fellow in Farm Animal Biosecurity

The position is for a Research Fellow working on the European Partnership for Animal Health and Welfare (EUPAHW) project, focusing on improving biosecurity in non-intensive farming systems. The role involves collaborating with UK stakeholders like Innovation for Agriculture, as well as researchers across Europe. Key responsibilities include conducting interviews, focus groups, and on-farm data collection to co-develop a practical biosecurity framework. This framework will be tested on farms and refined through international collaboration and feedback. Further information can be found here: <https://jobs.nottingham.ac.uk/vacancy.aspx?ref=MED242325>

Research Fellow in Feline Welfare (Fixed Term)

This role invites applications for a dedicated individual to help develop practical frameworks for assessing and managing the welfare of unowned domestic cats. Funded by Cats Protection, the position involves working closely with stakeholders across the UK shelter sector using mixed research methods. The successful candidate will synthesize existing knowledge, co-create assessment tools, and identify gaps in resources to improve feline welfare. Further information can be found here: <https://jobs.nottingham.ac.uk/vacancy.aspx?ref=MED242425>

Julie Gibson now Chair of the British Veterinary Association (BVA) policy Committee

Having served as a member of the BVA policy committee since 2022, Julie Gibson has recently taken on the position of Chair. The BVA Policy Committee play a key role in the development of BVA policy across a wide range of animal health and welfare, public health, and veterinary professional issues.

Recent publications and outputs:

Brennan ML, Töttemeyer S, Sherwin VE, Blanchard RN, Heritage AJ, Millar CM, Aktan İ, Rosser S, Pollard P, Roshier AL. **What is Knowledge Exchange for Educators and Students? A Framework Based on Findings from a Literature Search and Veterinary Education Conference Workshop.** J Vet Med Educ. 2025 Jul 2:e20240123. doi: 10.3138/jvme-2024-0123. Epub ahead of print.

- UK universities are increasingly expected to demonstrate how they benefit society through knowledge exchange (KE), which involves sharing expertise to create societal and economic impact. This project explored KE in veterinary education, identifying key activity types and proposing ways to measure their impact for educators and students.

Deza-Cruz I, de Menezes A, Gardner B, Aktan İ, Alnajjar S, Betson M, Cabal Rosel A, Caniça M, Chambers MA, Tarrant G, Contadini F, Daramola O, de la Rivière R, Egan B, Ekiri A, Finnegan C, Gonzalez Villeta LC, Green R, Hall B, Hassan MM, Hawes M, Healy S, Holbrook L, Kaya D, Kumar P, La Ragione RM, Maupin D, Mehat JW, Messina D, Moon K, Mumford E, Nichols G, Olivença DV, Prada JM, Price C, Proudman C, Queenan R, Ramos M, Closa JR, Ritchie JM, Santorelli LA, Selemetas N, Spick M, Subbannayya Y, Surendran S, Teixeira P, Tharmakulasingam M, Valle D, van Vliet AHM, Videira M, Wallace-Williams H, Wanelik KM, Woegerbauer M, Wright S, Lo Iacono G. **Mapping the evidence of the effects of environmental factors on the prevalence of antibiotic resistance in the non-built environment.** Environ Int. 2025 Aug;202:109634. doi: 10.1016/j.envint.2025.109634. Epub 2025 Jul 27.

- Antibiotic resistance poses a growing threat to human, animal, and environmental health, yet environmental factors remain underexplored in research. This systematic review highlights major gaps in understanding resistance in non-agricultural and marine settings, emphasizing the need for a more inclusive One Health approach and increased research in low-income regions.

Collinson, Abigail, Tomlinson, Sarah, Shearman, Holly, Duran, Sebastian Moya and Brennan, Marnie L., agriRxiv.2025.00319, agriRxiv, doi:10.31220/agriRxiv.2025.00319, CABI, **“I know prevention is better than cure sort of thing, but ...”: barriers and facilitators to the implementation of on-farm preventive measures to reduce the risk of bovine tuberculosis on cattle farms in England.**, (2025)

- Bovine Tuberculosis (bTB) remains a major animal health issue in the UK, with the TBAS programme offering tailored advice to farmers to reduce infection risk. This study identified key barriers and facilitators to implementing TBAS recommendations, highlighting the importance of farmer-advisor relationships, policy influence, and practical feasibility in improving long-term programme success.

Liptovszky, M., Brennan, M.L. and White, K. (2025) **General anaesthesia in non-human great apes: a scoping review**. *Veterinary Anaesthesia and Analgesia*. <https://doi-org.10.1016/j.vaa.2025.08.039>

- This study reviewed 142 publications on great ape anaesthesia, revealing a steady increase in research since 1960, with most data focused on chimpanzees and a lack of information on other species, infants, and free-ranging settings. It highlights the need for better reporting of anaesthetic practices and adverse events, especially respiratory and cardiovascular issues, to improve safety and reproducibility in veterinary care.

Galgano M, Messina D, D'Amico F, Sposato A, Razzuoli E, Mrenoshki D, Trisolini C, Caldarola G, Beverelli M, Ridolfi D, Bulzacchelli C, Giannico A, Parisi A, Tateo A, Pratelli A, Buonavoglia D.

Seroprevalence study of paratuberculosis: Johne's disease, a neglected infection in dairy herds in Apulia (southern Italy). *Vet Rec Open*. 2025 Sep 11;12(2):e70020. doi: 10.1002/vro2.70020.

- Paratuberculosis (PTB), caused by *Mycobacterium avium* subsp. *paratuberculosis*, has fragmented prevalence data in southern Italy despite voluntary control efforts. This study provides the first comprehensive prevalence estimates in Apulian dairy herds, revealing low true prevalence but significant regional differences in infection risk.

Willgert, Katriina, Cliff, Molly, Meinke, Stefanie, Messina, Davide, Broom, Donald M., Wood, James, Conlan, Andrew J. K., **Burden of Bovine Tuberculosis on Animal Health, Welfare and Production: A Systematic Review**, *Transboundary and Emerging Diseases*, 2025, 6541298, 14 pages, 2025. <https://doi-org.nottingham.idm.oclc.org/10.1155/tbed/6541298>

- Developing evidence-based strategies to tackle infectious diseases like bovine tuberculosis (bTB) is crucial in resource-limited settings, yet its impact is still poorly understood across various production systems. A systematic review of 91 studies revealed that while bTB poses a significant burden, much of the data is sparse or contradictory, with many infected animals showing no symptoms and contributing to undetected spread.

Spotlight on our research: Imogen Richens

After a few years in mixed, then small animal practice, I started my PhD with the CEVM and AHDB Dairy in 2012 and was lucky enough to be able to continue on with them for another year as a Post-doctoral Research Fellow. My PhD was investigating the motivators and barriers to vaccinating dairy cows in Great Britain. It was great to work with vets and dairy farmers to be able to understand the decision-making behind whether dairy cows are vaccinated or not. Prior to starting my PhD I didn't realise how important qualitative research is, and how little of it there was in the veterinary world!

My career shifted to teaching and I have taught veterinary students, anatomy students and veterinary nursing students at Bristol and Nottingham Trent Universities and I am now back at Nottingham's School of Veterinary Medicine and Science teaching on the undergraduate course. The students certainly keep me on my toes with excellent questions, and now I am able to give back some of what the CEVM gave to me by teaching the EBVM component of the One Health One Welfare rotation. I'm not able to undertake as much research as I would like these days, but I completed a study investigating uncertainty in vet students as part of my



PGCHE, and am a supervisor for Rosie Reyneke's PhD looking at the use of frameworks to improve the update of evidence-based practices on production animal farms.

Latest BestBETs for Vets:

Our free online database "BestBETs for Vets" covers cats, dogs, cattle, sheep, horses, poultry and rabbits. You can find out more, subscribe to BET updates or submit a question here <https://bestbetsforvets.org/contact>:

Chlorhexidine versus saline in canine wound healing - <https://bestbetsforvets.org/bet/293>

- In [dogs with healthy granulating skin wounds] does [irrigation with saline versus irrigation with chlorhexidine solution] [increase the speed of healing]?
 - Bottom Line: The limited evidence found here suggests that at higher concentrations, chlorhexidine diacetate can slow the speed of healing compared with saline when irrigating healthy granulating skin wounds in dogs. There is no difference in speed of healing when comparing lower concentrations of chlorhexidine diacetate and saline.

Does feeding dogs raw food increase faecal shedding of zoonotic pathogens?

<https://bestbetsforvets.org/bet/594>

- In [dogs] does [raw feeding] versus [non-raw feeding] increase [shedding of faecal zoonotic pathogens]?
 - Bottom Line: In dogs fed raw diets, there are multiple studies that find a higher frequency of shedding of zoonotic pathogens in their faeces. However, these studies fail to take into account other risk factors that may influence shedding of pathogens, making it difficult to be confident about the strength of association between feeding raw food and shedding of zoonotic pathogens. More studies assessing the link between pathogens in raw diets and the faeces of dogs that are fed them need to be done in order to assess this particular aspect of the potential health risks of feeding raw diets.

VetSRev:

VetSRev is a free database of systemic reviews relevant to veterinary medicine and science with new reviews added each month. The database can be found here: <https://vetsrev.nottingham.ac.uk/>. We have over 3100 citations on our site now, and more will be added very soon.

Systematic reviews which may be of interest to you:

- Bialves TS, Bastos Junior CLQ, Cordeiro MF, & Boyle RT. (2023). **Snake venom, a potential treatment for melanoma. A systematic review.** *International Journal of Biological Macromolecules*, 123367. <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.ijbiomac.2023.123367>
- Robinson, N. J., Belshaw, Z., Brennan, M. L., & Dean, R. S. (2018). **Measuring the success of canine and feline preventative healthcare consultations: A systematic review.** *Prev Vet Med*, 158, 18–24. <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.prevetmed.2018.07.005>
- Gostelow, R., Forcada, Y., Graves, T., Church, D., & Niessen, S. (2014). **Systematic review of feline diabetic remission: Separating fact from opinion.** *Veterinary Journal (London, England : 1997)*, 202(2). <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.tvjl.2014.08.014>

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>).

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