

# Freya Rooke

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## Room:

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## Biography:

I completed my undergraduate and MRes degree's at University West of England based at Hartpury College. Both dissertations centred around examining the use of smart-textile technology in the field of horse-rider analysis. After graduating, I completed a one-year placement at the Royal (Dick) School of Veterinary Studies equine hospital in Edinburgh, working as a research assistant and soft tissue surgical technician. Since 2018 I have been based at the University of Nottingham, School of Veterinary Medicine and Science, completing a PhD project on "Investigating the knowledge and use of Quality Improvement (QI) methods in equine veterinary medicine".

## Degree registration:

PhD, due for completion Sept. 2022

## Research Topic:

Knowledge and use of quality improvement methods in equine veterinary medicine.

## Summary of research:

- *Literature review of the development and use of quality improvement methods in both human and veterinary medicine.* Using a structured search of published literature, examined the historical development of QI methods in different industries including manufacturing, aviation, education, and healthcare. Examined the historic and current uses of QI methods in human medical care and compared how this relates to QI reported in the veterinary literature.
- *Knowledge and understanding of quality improvement methods within UK veterinary industry: a cross-sectional survey of professionals working in the industry.* Used an online survey to investigate and gauge current knowledge and opinion of QI methods from a wide variety of UK based veterinary professionals and scrutinised the training and education resources available to professionals working in practice.
- *The perceptions of quality veterinary care and quality improvement from different professionals within a referral equine hospital.* Evaluated what quality care means to professionals working in UK equine veterinary practice and ascertained what QI means and how it is currently applied in an equine referral veterinary practice via interviews/focus groups.
- *The impact of a pandemic and ensuing restriction of the delivery of quality care by UK veterinary practices.* Used a series of cross sectional sequential online questionnaires to

assess the impact of a global pandemic on quality care in UK veterinary practices and identified novel methods utilised by veterinary practices to maintain high standards of care and service to clients.

- *Developing consensus for definitions of key veterinary-specific quality improvement terms: an eDelphi-study method.* Gathered consensus via a Delphi study on appropriate and specific definitions related to QI in UK veterinary practice.

**Research supervisors:**

Dr John Burford, Dr Marnie Brennan and Professor Sarah Freeman

**Primary funding source:**

C.V.S Equine and the University of Nottingham.

**Publications:**

- Rooke, FKM, Suthers, JM, Freeman, SL, Brennan, ML, Mair, TS and Burford, JH "Knowledge and understanding of Quality Improvement methods within UK veterinary practice." *Equine Veterinary Journal* 51.53 (2019): 5-31.
- Rooke F, Burford J, Freeman S, Mair T, Suthers J, Brennan M. Quality improvement: origins, purpose and the future for veterinary practice. *Vet Evidence*. 2021;6(2). <https://doi.org/10.18849/ve.v6i2.358>
- Rooke FKM, Freeman SL, Brennan ML, Mair TS, Suthers JM, Burford JH. The perceptions of quality veterinary care by different professional roles within a referral equine hospital. In: *Proceedings of UK Equine Student Conference 2020*; 15th July 2020; online.
- Rooke F, Burford J, Doorly A, Gush C, Brennan ML. Developing consensus for definitions of key veterinary-specific quality improvement (QI) terms using an eDelphi-study method. *Vet Rec*. 2021;e1174. <https://doi.org/10.1002/vetr.1174>