

**CENTRE FOR EVIDENCE-BASED
VETERINARY MEDICINE**
Putting research into practice

Dog and cat diseases in the UK

Nottingham vet school

reveal cutting edge research with vets in practice



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Introduction

The Centre for Evidence-based Veterinary Medicine (CEVM), based at The School of Veterinary Medicine and Science, is working together with vets in practice on an innovative research project (Fig 1). The CEVM will be accessing electronic patient records to learn more about the diseases that affect pets and identify the treatment needs of the UK pet population, including gaps in current knowledge.

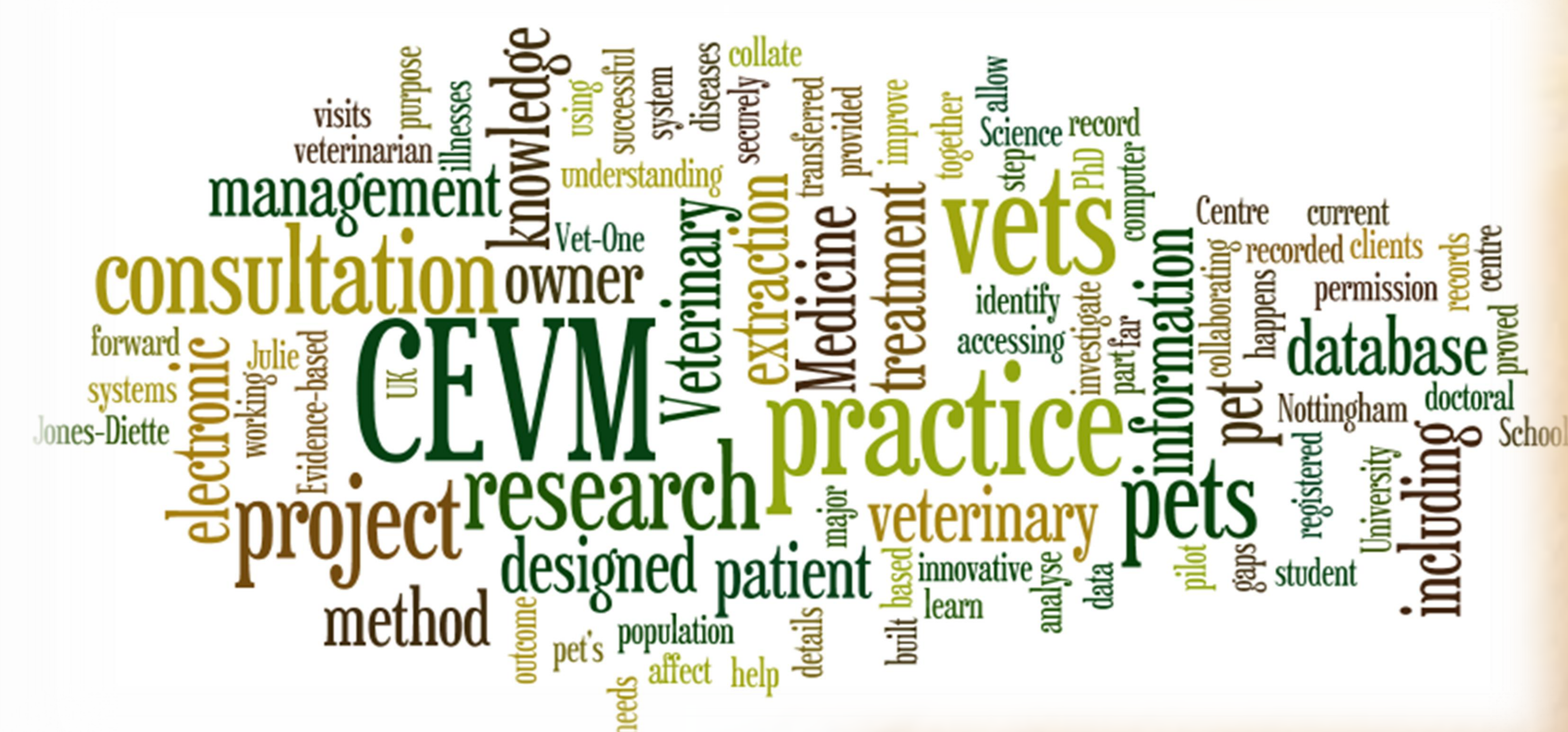


Fig 1. Word cloud highlighting the projects research priorities.

Methods

When an owner visits the veterinarian with their pet, the details of the consultation are recorded as an electronic patient record using a practice management computer system. The CEVM team and Vet-One practice management system have designed an extraction method to allow this consultation information to be transferred securely to a purpose built database at the CEVM centre.

Acknowledgement

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Thank you to the PMS system provider and their clients for their collaboration and continued support, also to The Centre for Evidence-based Veterinary Medicine, The University of Nottingham and Novartis Animal Health for sponsoring this research.

Results

A pilot project has so far revealed some interesting results regarding the illnesses vets see on a daily basis and the number of time an animal returns to the vets after the initial consultation (Fig 2). The data extraction method has been 100% successful (8wk pilot extraction, n=775 animal histories & 2519 visit records).

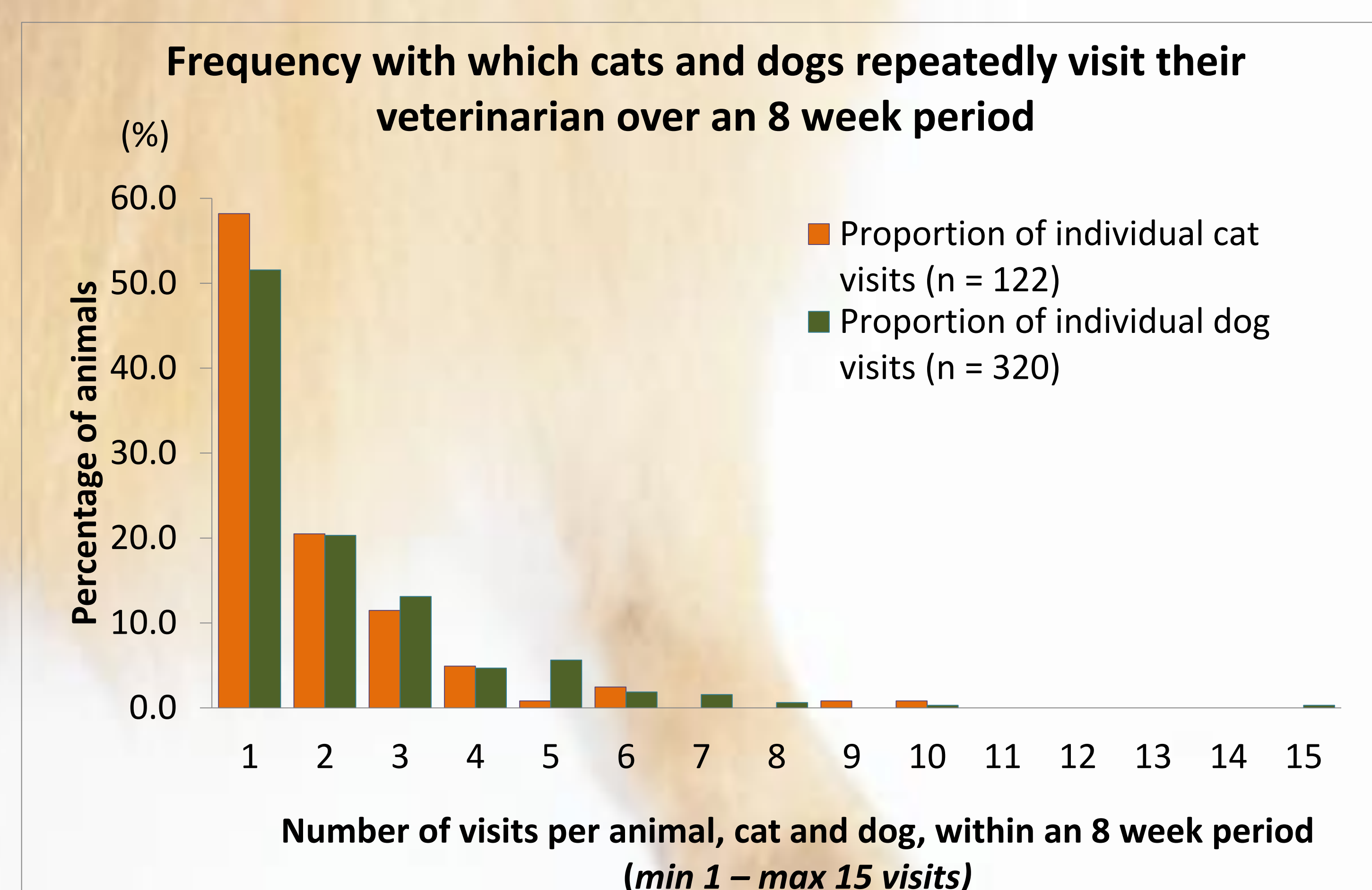


Fig 2. Data successfully extracted from a veterinary practice electronic medical record.

Conclusion

This project will be a major step forward in understanding what research is needed to help both pets and vets in practice.