STUDENT AWARDS KNOWLEDGE SUMMARY SUBMISSION

Thank you for your interest in writing and submitting a Knowledge Summary to *Veterinary Evidence*.

**To get started,** [**contact us**](https://veterinaryevidence.org/index.php/ve/about/contact) **with your Knowledge Summary question**

It is very important to first contact the [Editorial Office](https://veterinaryevidence.org/index.php/ve/about/contact) with the question you would like to answer as a Knowledge Summary. This is so we can:

1. Help you refine your question so that it is answerable and valuable to the veterinary community.
2. Ensure it has neither been answered previously; nor is currently being written; nor has been submitted.

Author guidance

Please visit our Author Hub before you write and submit your paper: [https:// veterinaryevidence.org/index.php/ve/author-hub](https://production.veterinaryevidence.org/index.php/ve/author-hub)

Please download a new template for each submission, as it may have been updated since you last used it.

If you have any queries throughout the writing or submission process, please contact the [Editorial Office](https://veterinaryevidence.org/index.php/ve/about/contact).

Find out more about the [*Veterinary Evidence* Student Awards](https://knowledge.rcvs.org.uk/grants/veterinary-evidence-student-award/).

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| ABOUT THE SUBMISSION |

Title of Knowledge Summary

In 15 words or fewer, provide a title that is informative and concise. Put keywords and phrases that both represent your topic and which are attractive to your intended audience at the beginning.

A well written title is an invaluable tool to ensure your paper is as discoverable as possible.

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| KNOWLEDGE SUMMARY |

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| **Question**  (In [PICO](https://knowledge.rcvs.org.uk/document-library/ebvm-toolkit-1-asking-an-answerable-clinical-question/) format)  **Clinical bottom line**  **Before completing the following section, please read our** [**Guidance for writing a Clinical Bottom Line**](https://veterinaryevidence.org/index.php/ve/writing-the-clinical-bottom-line) **within the Author Guidelines**   * **The category of research question was treatment / prognosis / risk / diagnosis / prevalence / incidence**   *Indicate the category of research question that was addressed*   * **The number and type of study designs that were critically appraised were…**   *Indicate the number and type of study designs which were critically appraised*   * **Critical appraisal of the selected papers meeting the inclusion criteria collectively provide zero/weak/moderate/strong evidence in terms of their experimental design and implementation.**   *Indicate the strength of evidence*   * **The outcomes reported are summarised as follows…**   *Indicate the summarised collective outcome(s) from the studies*   * **In view of the strength of evidence and the outcomes from the studies the following conclusion is made…**   *The conclusion should provide an answer to the Knowledge Summary question*  *Additional comments and caveats can be added if required* |

# Clinical scenario

(Optional) Please provide a description of the type of clinical scenario that would cause a veterinary professional to evaluate or query the existing evidence.

# The evidence

# Please provide a concise and focused descriptive paragraph(s) regarding the strength of evidence provided, based purely on the studies you have identified. The strength of the evidence is directly related to the quality and type of experimental design. Strong evidence may support or not support a change in clinical practice.

# Summary of the evidence

Please [contact us](https://veterinaryevidence.org/index.php/ve/about/contact) if you have any problems accessing papers.

Please copy and paste the table below as many times as necessary for each article you have appraised – there is no limit to the number of studies, as long as they are relevant to your question.

Before writing your paper, please look over [previously published Knowledge Summaries](https://veterinaryevidence.org/index.php/ve/issue/archive) for an idea of how much detail to include.

(Put each appraisal in a new table).

**What if there is insufficient or zero evidence to answer my clinical question?**

If no primary research literature is found then that is an important finding. Particularly if it is an important and common question that can have a high impact on patient care. The value of finding a lack of evidence (little or no published literature) is often underestimated and overlooked - it is a key finding to drive further research and informs the current knowledge or lack thereof.

A Knowledge Summary with no evidence or not enough evidence is still a valuable outcome that should be shared with the community. Visit our [Strength of Evidence](https://veterinaryevidence.org/index.php/ve/Strength-of-evidence) page to view all published Knowledge Summaries categorised by the strength of evidence found.

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| **Author surname (year)** | |
| **Population:** | [Nature of study participants] |
| **Sample size:** | [Number of study participants] |
| **Intervention details:** | [Use bullet points and include doses, duration, frequency and techniques used - if relevant.]  [Please be clear if the sample size was split into groups.]  [If participants received a combination of treatments, please provide a clear breakdown.] |
| **Study design:** | [Do not rely on the author’s own classification.] |
| **Outcome studied:** | [Objective or subjective assessment?]  [Which variables were measured?] |
| **Main findings**  **(relevant to PICO question):** | [Bullet point synopsis of findings that correspond clearly with the intervention details.]  [Only include findings from the study.] |
| **Limitations:** | [Criticism of the design, reporting or findings. Please provide as much detail as possible and use bullet points.] |

# Appraisal, application and reflection

Include references.

**Methodology section**

Competition entrants will not be able to receive our Library services that are normally offered to Knowledge Summary authors, as the Library team grade the search strategy.

1. If performing your own literature search, use **CAB Abstracts** and then at least one other database of your choosing.
2. Ensure the search strategy date is no older than **2 months** at the point of submission. Please contact us if your search strategy will be older than 2 months, and our library team will be happy to rerun the search for you.

If you cannot locate or access a paper please contact us, as we may be able to source it for you.

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| **Search** | |
| **Databases searched and dates covered:** | [List each of the databases and platforms used and include the dates:  e.g.  CAB Abstracts on OVID Platform 1973- Week 1 2017] |
| **Search strategy:** | [Give the search strategy including Boolean operators exactly as used for each database:  e.g.  **CAB Abstracts:**   1. (preoperative or pre-operative or presurgery or presurgical or pre-surgery or pre-surgical) 2. ((site or skin) and (technique or techniques or method or methods or preparation)) 3. ((scrub or scrubs or scrubbing) and (technique or techniques or method or methods or preparation)) 4. 1 and (2 or 3)     **PubMed:**  (((preoperative or pre-operative or presurgery or presurgical or pre-surgery or pre-surgical)) AND ((site or skin) AND (technique or techniques or method or methods or preparation))) AND ((scrub or scrubs or scrubbing) AND (technique or techniques or method or methods or preparation)) |
| **Dates searches were performed:** | The search strategy date should be no older than **2 months** at the point of submission.  Please contact us if your search strategy will be older than 2 months.  [Date search performed format: 31 Mar 2021] |

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| **Exclusion / inclusion criteria** | |
| [Comments about your exclusion / inclusion criteria] | |
| Exclusion: |  |
| Inclusion: |  |

Please add or delete rows and columns as necessary.

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| **Search Outcome** | | | | | | |
| **Database** | **Number of results** | **Excluded – [please state criteria]** | **Excluded – [please state criteria]** | **Excluded – [please state criteria]** | **Excluded – [please state criteria]** | **Total relevant papers** |
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| Total relevant papers after duplicates removed | | | | | |  |

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| REFERENCES |

Always use the author-date system, otherwise known as Harvard system of referencing. This relies on brief parenthetical citations in the text that take the reader to the appropriate entry in the reference list. The reference list only contains those sources cited in the text. All references included in the reference list should exclusively be cited within the article.

The text citation should consist of just the author’s last name and year of publication. If the paper contains citations to works by different authors sharing the same last name, then their initials should be used to distinguish between them.

(Smith, 2021)

(Smith & Jones, 2021)

(Smith et al., 2021) – do not italicise et al. where there are three authors or more.

If the author’s last name appears in open text, it need not be repeated in parentheses, the date alone will suffice – According to Smith et al. (2021) dogs in…

Several references may be included within the same parentheses separated by a semi colon – (Smith et al., 2021; Jones & Morris, 1988; and Baker, 1984)

If there is more than one work by an author in a single year they are distinguished by lower-case letters appended to the year – (Smith, 2021a), (Smith, 2021b).

Citation of a work produced by a corporate body may use the name of the body, followed by the publication date. After the first citation instance, where the corporate body’s name should appear in full, subsequent citations to the same body may be abbreviated.

Citations to an anonymous work may use anon. followed by the publication date.

Reference list entries are listed alphabetically. Authors initials should follow their last names. The year of publication should follow the author name(s). Journal titles should be in full and italicised. Please provide a DOI number where possible.

Journals:

Last name, First initial. (Year published). Article title. *Journal*. Volume(Issue), Page(s). DOI: DOI identifier

Examples –

Poole, A. (2021). ‘Don’t pee on that!’ Comparing environmental modification and medical management in cats with FIC. *Veterinary Evidence*. 6(1), 1–20. DOI: <https://doi.org/10.18849/ve.v6i1.337>

Thomas, J., Marshall, S., Gormley, K., Conway, G. & Borgeat, K. (2021). Does medical or surgical treatment for aortic stenosis improve outcome in dogs? *Veterinary Evidence*. 6(2), 1–13. DOI: <https://doi.org/10.18849/ve.v6i2.368>

Chapters in edited books:

Last name, First initial. (Year published). Chapter title. In: First initial. Last name, ed., *Book title,* 1st ed. City: Publisher, Page(s).

Websites:

Last name, First initial. (Year published). Page title. Available at: URL [Accessed Day Mo. Year].

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| WITHDRAWING A PAPER |

Authors may request to withdraw a paper from the process. However, please consider the amount of time that editors and reviewers will have spent on the submission. Authors should discuss with us any reasons they may have for considering withdrawal, as we would like to do all we can to avoid the withdrawal of a paper and to prevent editorial / reviewer time from being wasted.

If authors decide to withdraw a paper, they should provide the editorial office with an explicit request to remove the manuscript from the system, no later than after the first round of peer review. All authors must be in agreement and it must include detailed reasons for withdrawal.

*Veterinary Evidence* may consider withdrawing a paper from the submission process if there is evidence of misconduct. The outcome will be informed by [COPE guidance](https://publicationethics.org/). For more information, please contact the [editorial office](https://veterinaryevidence.org/index.php/ve/about/contact).

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| AUDIO SUMMARY |

When your paper is accepted, we will contact you with a request for an Audio Summary.

An Audio Summary is a 3-minute overview of your Knowledge Summary. Its purpose is to help listeners to easily digest the main points of the Knowledge Summary so that they can implement the findings in practice.

See below for some points to help structure your audio clip:

1. Background - what question is the Knowledge Summary answering and why did you choose this question?
2. Please give an overview of what evidence there is and what the evidence says – what is the clinical bottom line?
3. And if appropriate - how could someone in practice implement the recommendations of the Knowledge Summary?

Please feel free to adapt it as you see fit, but ensure the clip is no longer than 3 minutes.

We will send you details on Audio Summary preparation and submission on acceptance of your Knowledge Summary.

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| COMPETING INTERESTS AND DECLARATION FORMS |

Conflict of Interest and Author Acknowledgement documents need to be completed and uploaded to Editorial Manager alongside every submission. You will not be able to progress with any submission unless these documents are uploaded. You will be asked for this as a required document at the point you upload your manuscript, these are separate to the submission as our peer review process is double-blind and they may identify you as an author.

You can download the documents here: <https://veterinaryevidence.org/index.php/ve/forms>

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| SUBMISSION |

**Submitting your paper**

Once you have read the Author Guidelines and have completed your template, please upload it to our submission system: [www.editorialmanager.com/rcvskve](http://www.editorialmanager.com/rcvskve)

The editorial office will update you on your paper’s progress. If you have any queries, please contact *Veterinary Evidence* using the below contact information.

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[**EBVM Learning**](http://www.ebvmlearning.org/)

EBVM learning is a resource that introduces the concepts of Evidence-based Veterinary Medicine (EBVM), and aims to give you a foundation from which you can start to apply EBVM to your own veterinary work.

**Publication policies**

Authors are welcome to read[*Veterinary Evidence*’s editorial policies](https://veterinaryevidence.org/index.php/ve/about/editorialPolicies).

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| CONTACT VETERINARY EVIDENCE |

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|  |  |
| Library Services: | [library@rcvsknowledge.org](mailto:library@rcvsknowledge.org) |
|  | +44 020 7202 0752 |

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[**https://www.veterinaryevidence.org/**](https://www.veterinaryevidence.org/)

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