Centre for Evidence-based Veterinary Medicine
at the University of Nottingham

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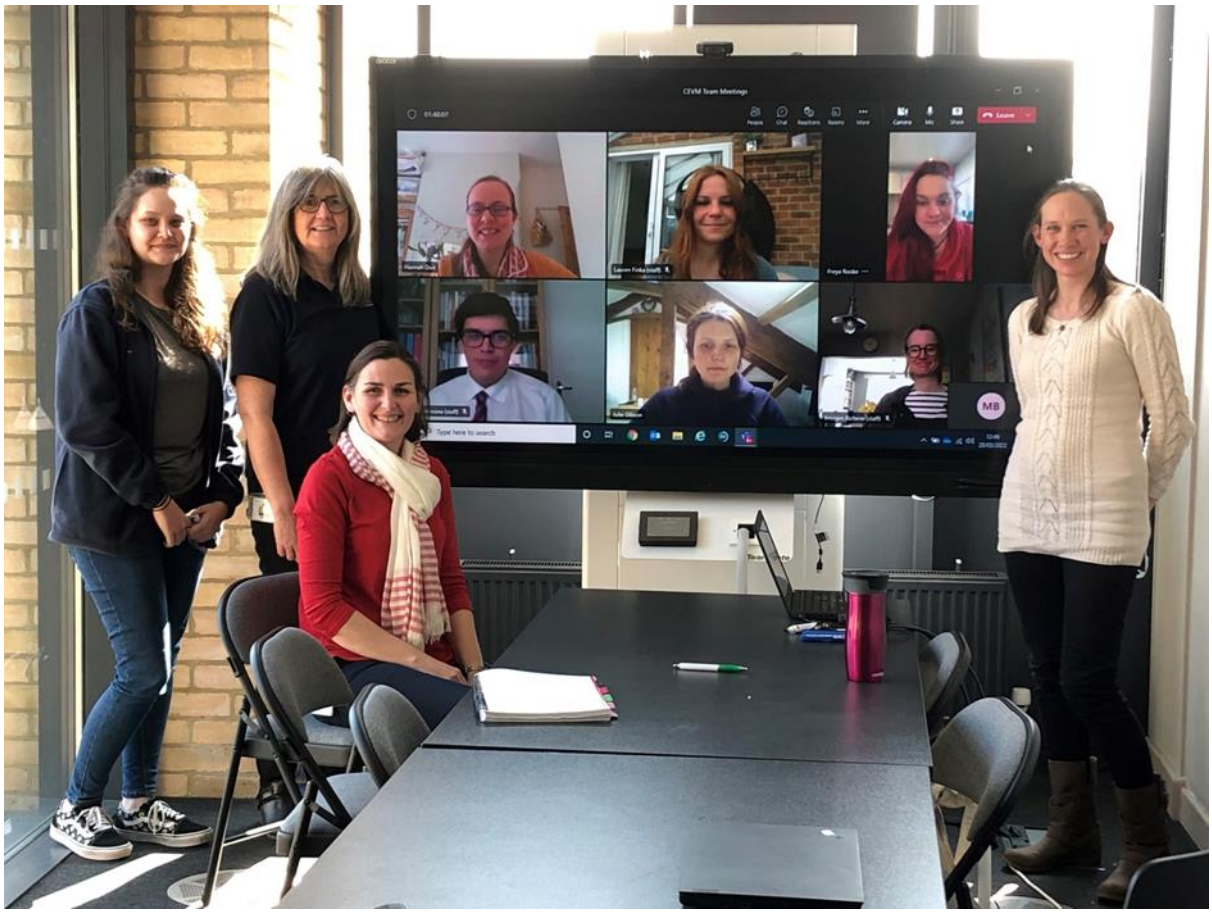
CEVM Newsletter, Issue 33, 04 April 2022

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

www.nottingham.ac.uk/cevm



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 and systematic reviews from VetSRev

News and updates:

EBVM Manifesto online meeting: Wednesday 16th March

The EBVM Manifesto was published in the Veterinary Record in 2020 (see the Manifesto here: https://doi.org/10.1136/vr.m3409). The purpose of the Manifesto was to start conversations about how we collectively drive the change that is needed to continue to make the veterinary profession as evidence-based as it can be, positively impacting on our ability to provide good quality care for our clients and our patients.

Recently there was an online meeting held to further discuss the points in the Manifesto and to identify how the professions can keep working towards these goals (https://www.vettimes.co.uk/news/live-discussion-on-evidence-based-medicine/), with lots of great discussion had across a number of different topics covering the majority of the 10 points of the Manifesto.

The meeting was recorded and will be available to listen back to, with a follow up meeting planned the evening of the 29th June. You can sign up to receive notifications about the next meeting here: https://www.surveymonkey.co.uk/r/EBVMmanifesto2022

The Zoom link for the June meeting is here: https://us02web.zoom.us/j/88158514426

Looking forward to seeing you there!

EBVMA membership now gives access to the VetMed Resource literature database

The Evidence-Based Veterinary Medicine Association, an international professional organisation dedicated to the research, education and practice of evidence-based veterinary medicine, has added a number of exciting membership benefits to their repertoire: https://ebvma.wildapricot.org/

For a small yearly subscription of $35 (free for students), members can get access to VetMed Resource, a subset of CAB Abstracts which contains a substantial proportion of veterinary or veterinary related journals and journal articles, as well as Vet Lexicon, a point of care tool for practitioners. It is great to see resources such as these being made more attainable.

Presentations:

- Marnie Brennan did a lunchtime webinar in February for the European AniCura group entitled 'Being an evidence-based practitioner'. It was great to work with Anneli Bjöersdorff and Koenraad Florizoone and the EBVM special interest group to discuss how to make EBVM more achievable in a practice setting.

Recent publications and outputs:

- Stewart, R, Aronson, JK, Barends, E, Boruch, R, Brennan, M, Chislett, J, Cunliffe-Jones, P, Maynard, B, Oxman, M, Pullin, A, Randall, N, Sharples, J, Stott, J and Vale, L (2022) Lessons from working across fields to develop a framework for informed choices. Research for All, 6: DOI: 10.14324/RFA.06.1.05
- Fairbanks, EL, Brennan, ML, Mertens, PPC, Tildesley, MJ and Daly, JM (2021) Re-parameterisation of a mathematical model of African horse sickness virus using data from a systematic literature search. Transboundary and Emerging Diseases, Early view, https://doi.org/10.1111/tbed.14420
- Wood, LE, Guilder, J, Brennan, ML, Birland, NJ, Taleti, V, Stinton, N, Taylor, NGH and Thrush, MA (2021) Biosecurity and the ornamental fish trade: a stakeholder perspective in England. Journal of Fish Biology, 100: 352-365, https://doi.org/10.1111/jfb.14928

Spotlight on our research: Lauren Finka

I'm an applied animal behaviour and welfare scientist with specialisms in domestic cat behaviour and welfare and science communication. I obtained my PhD from the University of Lincoln in 2016 and have since undertaken several postdoc positions at Lincoln and Nottingham Trent University. My previous projects include the development of novel methods to detect pain in cats via their facial expressions, exploring links between owner personality and cat behaviour and wellbeing, and developing practical training interventions to improve real-time cat-human interactions. I sit on the expert feline wellbeing panel at International Cat Care and work closely with a range of animal welfare organisations and pet wellbeing companies including Battersea Dogs and Cats Home and CEVA sante animale, to whom I provide expert council in addition to evidence-based training workshops, course materials and popular content. I also work closely with the media, providing expert commentary on cat welfare related topics, write popular science articles for magazines such as 'Your Cat' and online media outlets such as 'The Conversation'.

I was delighted to join the CEVM team as a research fellow at the beginning of January 2022. My current research, funded by a grant from Battersea Dogs and Cats Home, focuses on the development and validation of a cat quality of life assessment tool for owners. This is a very ambitious, multi-stage project with the initial parts focusing on the face and content validity of a preliminary protype tool. In collaboration with the amazing Dr Marnie Brennan and a small

team of (academic) cat welfare enthusiasts, we are currently undertaking a scoping review with subsequent plans for a modified Delphi survey of stakeholders. Subject to funding, further stages of the project will include a series of tool validation and refinement processes and the tool eventually built into a dedicated app for use in the home. This will be accompanied with links to practical advice materials to support owner use of the tool and subsequent improvement of their cats' quality of life. I am really excited to be part of the CEVM team and am looking forward to the future outputs from this project!

Latest BestBETs for Vets:

- Does garlic extract improve growth rates in weaned piglets when compared with antimicrobials? https://bestbetsforvets.org/bet/580

VetSRev:

VetSRev is a free database of systemic reviews relevant to veterinary medicine and science with new reviews added each month. In the last year or so the database has been offline and has undergone a complete renovation, but is now back! The relaunched database can be found here: https://vetsrev.nottingham.ac.uk/ so please don't forget to update your links to the new site. We have just over 2700 citations on our site now!

Recent systematic reviews that may be of interest to you:

- Abramo, F., Albanese, F., Gattuso, S., Randone, A., Fileccia, I., Dedola, C., Ibba, F., Ottaiano, P., & Brianti, E. (2021). Skin Lesions in Feline Leishmaniosis: A Systematic Review. *Pathogens*, *10*(4). https://doi.org/10.3390/pathogens10040472
- Finka, L. R., & Foreman-Worsley, R. (2021). Are multi-cat homes more stressful? A critical review of the evidence associated with cat group size and wellbeing. *J Feline Med Surg*, 1098612x211013741. https://doi.org/10.1177/1098612x211013741
- Souza, J. G., Ribeiro, C., & Harvatine, K. J. (2021). Meta-analysis of rumination behavior and its relationship with milk and milk fat production, rumen pH, and total-tract digestibility in lactating dairy cows. *J Dairy Sci*. https://doi.org/10.3168/jds.2021-20535

  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).

And finally:

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