





UNITED KINGDOM · CHINA · MALAYSIA

Information channels and sources used by veterinary clinicians globally Huntley, S.J., Dean, R.S., Brennan, M.L.

Centre for Evidence-based Veterinary Medicine, School of Veterinary Medicine and Science, University Of Nottingham, Sutton Bonington Campus, Loughborough, LE12 5RD selene.huntley@nottingham.ac.uk

A global survey on evidence-based veterinary medicine (EVM) was conducted to gain understanding of how veterinary information is accessed by veterinarians worldwide Sources that vets use the most



How clinicians heard about the survey:

Information on how they heard about the questionnaire

Insight on how to utilise communication

Veterinarians working outside the UK were invited to complete an online questionnaire

Invitations were indirect (via veterinary organisations) or direct (from the researchers)

There were 2422 completed questionnaires from vets in 81 countries. The top five countries were USA (34.4 %), Sweden (11.7 %), Australia (8.6%), Canada (6.2%) and South Africa (5.7%)

Evidence-based veterinary medicine was a term which most clinicians (86.3%) had heard of

There were more female (60.61%) than male (39.2%) respondents. **Respondents ranged from 0 years to 51 years qualified** (Females: median =12yrs, IQR 5-22yrs; Males: median = 23yrs, IQR 12-30yrs)

> The majority of respondents (78.7%) did clinical work; more were involved in small animal work (78.4%) than production animal work (25.4%)

- National veterinary associations or regulatory bodies (32.5 %)
- Online veterinary forums and websites (25.4%)
- Other veterinary associations (21.6%) (regional, international or by specialism)
- Direct invitation from the researchers or via friends, colleagues or social media (6.3%)

Efficiency of invitation methods:

- Invitation via "other" veterinary associations (regional, international or by specialism) was the most efficient (12.3 responses per researcher invitation)



 National veterinary associations (2.7 responses per researcher invitation) • Direct invitation (2.4 responses per researcher invitation)

Most clinicians read journals (68.1%, mode=3 journals) and accessed electronic resources (60.8%, mode=1 e-resource). 117 journals and 104 electronic resources were nominated as the most useful for clinicians to obtain veterinary information.

Journals:

The journal most obtaining veterinary information was the



Electronic Resources



SI LED Monito

In conclusion, a wide array of journals and electronic resources are accessed by veterinarians worldwide and veterinary associations play an important role in global communication and outreach to veterinary practitioners. These channels could be utilised for effective dissemination of key EVM resources and for opening discussion on research topics.

Acknowledgements: We would like to thank the vets who took part in this survey. The Centre for Evidence-based Veterinary Medicine is supported by an unrestricted grant from Novartis Animal Health and the University of Nottingham. www.nottingham.ac.uk

Figure 1: The top ten journals nominated as the

most useful

