

# Bringing EBVM to Vet Med Students

Deanna L. Johnson, Carlson Health Sciences Library, University of California, Davis

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**EBVM**  
Evidence-based Veterinary Medicine  
Last Updated: Oct 15, 2014 | URL: <http://guides.lib.ucdavis.edu/EBVM> | Print Guide | Email Alerts

**Practicing EBVM** | **EBVM Background**

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**EBVM Definition**  
EBM and consequently EBVM is often defined as "... the integration of the best research evidence with our clinical expertise and our patient's unique values and circumstances."

**Asking a Question: PICO**  
**Step 2:** It is important to begin with a focused, answerable question that identifies the Patient or Population and Problem, the Intervention that is being considered, the main alternative intervention, if any, for Comparison, and the hoped for Outcome or measurable affect; the PICO question. For example: In cats with keratitis would the use of voriconazole compared with the use of cyclosporine lead to a shorter recovery time?  
The question includes multiple concepts that are then used to build blocks of similar terms to be used in the search strategy: (cat OR cats OR feline OR kitten OR kittens OR queen) AND (keratitis OR fungal eye infections OR keratomycosis OR (mycoses AND eye)) AND (voriconazole OR cyclosporine OR antifungal agents)  
Click here for a worksheet to help formulate the PICO question and build a search strategy from it. Note that in EBVM using all concepts may narrow the search too much.

**Resources for Research Evidence**  
**Step 3:** Selecting the appropriate resource(s) to answer the question is dependent on the question. These resources are designed to focus on clinically relevant, research evidence.

**Steps in EBVM**

1. The Patient	A problem or question will arise from a clinical encounter with a patient or homework.
2. The Question	Construct a focused, answerable clinical question, then translate it to a search statement.
3. The Search	Select appropriate resources and conduct a search for evidence.
4. The Critical Appraisal	Critically evaluate the evidence found for validity and applicability to the patient's case or homework.
	When appropriate, based on your own

**Become Involved in EBVM**

- Evidence-Based Veterinary Medicine Association  
The EBVMA is a non-profit professional organization with an international scope, founded to better organize the emerging research, training and practice of evidence-based medicine.
- EBVM Network  
Organized by RCVS Knowledge, a charity associated with the Royal College of Veterinary Surgeons, to assist in providing access to information that is of immediate value to practicing veterinary professionals and directly contributes to evidence based clinical decision-making.
- Centre for Evidence-based Veterinary Medicine  
The CEVM aims to increase the awareness and use of evidence-based principles in the veterinary profession. They are the creators of BestBETs for Vets and VetSRev.

**Adding to the Literature**

**CABI's Evidence-Based Filter**

**More Information**  
(Evidence review\$ OR evidence synthesis OR evidence based review OR evidence report or publication bias OR campbell collaboration OR meta-analysis\$ OR metaanalysis\$ OR systematic review\$ OR systematic overview OR systematic literature reviews\$ OR systematically reviews\$ OR systemic review OR cochrane review\$ OR Cochrane collaboration).mp OR ((Cochrane register OR cochrane library).ab OR Evidence reports.af OR ((pooled analysis OR systematic OR systematically OR inclusion criteria OR exclusion criteria OR relevant articles OR study selection OR randomised controlled OR randomized controlled OR search strategy OR evidence OR literature review OR quantitative analysis OR qualitative analysis OR cohort studies OR case control studies OR reference list OR selection criteria OR data extraction).mp AND (Chinese National Knowledge Infrastructure OR cnki OR Cinahl OR psychinfo OR psycinfo OR Chinese Biomedical Literature Database OR medline OR pubmed OR embase OR cab abstracts OR science citation index OR web of science OR web of knowledge OR scopus OR zoological record OR biological abstracts OR biosis previews).mp)

Close

Should Consultant & Vetstream be included? Others?

The link between PICO and search terms needs to be clear.

Links to EBVM groups may increase student interest.

Focused resource links assist selection of appropriate articles.

[Guides.lib.ucdavis.edu/EBVM](http://Guides.lib.ucdavis.edu/EBVM)

**Why promote EBVM?**  
People generally agree that animal healthcare should be based on science-based evidence; however literature is superabundant and quality varies. EBVM methods provide a way to focus on the problem, find relevant studies, and evaluate their validity, steps 2-4 above. However, the process is still daunting, particularly for students.

*How do we pique the student's interest?*

**How can libraries help students with EBVM?**  
The web page above is an attempt to bring together various resources and tools that assist with the EBVM process. Once a problem /question arises, Step 2 helps focus and formulate the question that can then be searched in Step 3 resources. Tools to help with Step 4, such as Amstar or ?, are further down on the web page. As better tools are discovered, it will be important to include them.

**Can libraries promote the creation of clinically relevant publications?**  
To continue the push towards evidence-based practice it is important that the evidence continues to grow and is reevaluated periodically. What incentives can be offered? Would open access help?

*What can we do to assist students with the evaluation process?*