



Audio Summaries: Carla Husband - An assessment of the impact of educational interventions on hand hygiene compliance

Carla Husband

Hello, I'm Carla Husband and welcome to our Knowledge Summary on the assessment of the impact of educational interventions on hand hygiene compliance. Abbie McMillan, Lauren Sweeney and I are all recent Bristol graduates from the Veterinary Nursing and Bio-Veterinary Science course.

We have formulated the PICO question in small animal veterinary professionals does implementation of an educational intervention when compared to no intervention, improve hand hygiene compliance. We have chosen this question due to our interest in improving the field of hand hygiene in small animal practice. We have all practiced in this field during our years of study, and we will continue to work in this area. So decided this is where we would focus our research on the current topic is especially relevant in this climate with the coronavirus pandemic handwashing is now more than ever important, and not only in veterinary industries, but in general public life. It is now really important to research into how hand hygiene compliance can be improved and how adherence to guidelines can be encouraged.

This is a heavily researched area in the human field with promising positive results after implementation of an educational resource. We decided to look at the veterinary evidence available to see whether the results were similar. We performed database searches on multiple platforms and yielded a surprisingly low number of results that were relevant to our PICO question, only three papers were found. The overall evidence found was weak with different studies, demonstrating different strengths of evidence. All the studies were perspective, observational looking at hand hygiene compliance compared to baseline and its subsequent adherence after implementation of an educational campaign. Two of the studies utilized World Health Organization guidelines to assess hand hygiene compliance, WHO guidelines are well researched and utilized in human medicine. So the two papers that use these robust guidelines provided stronger evidence. One study used posters as its form of educational intervention and observed the participants using video recordings to assess hand hygiene compliance.

The other two papers implemented a multimodal educational campaign to include the use of posters, videos, presentations, and an online educational module. Both of these studies observed the participants via direct observational monitoring. Two at the studies found no positive, significant improvement in the hand, hygiene compliance, following the implementation of an educational resource in comparison to one paper showing a positive statistically significant improvement. The evidence reviewed does not support the use of implementing educational campaigns to improve hand hygiene compliance. However, from the lack of veterinary evidence combined with the flawed methodologies and the appraise literature, we could not form a robust conclusion. Extensive evidence in the human field suggests a positive relationship between education and hand hygiene compliance. So there is a potential that the results of this Knowledge Summary and not representative until there is more evidence in the veterinary field, this Knowledge Summary should be used alongside human evidence to improve practice policies, further veterinary evidence in this

field of hand, hygiene compliance and education is needed. And once the evidence base has increased, this Knowledge Summary should be repeated. Thank you for reading our Knowledge Summary.

This work is licensed under a [Creative Commons Attribution 4.0 International License](https://creativecommons.org/licenses/by/4.0/). Feel free to adapt and share this document with acknowledgment to RCVS Knowledge. This information is provided for use for educational purposes. We do not warrant that information we provide will meet animal health or medical requirements.