



QI Boxset

Podcast transcript: WhatsApp Journal Clubs

Rachael Bacon RVN CertVN(ECC)

RCVS Knowledge:

Welcome to the Quality Improvement Boxset by RCVS Knowledge, a series of webinars, podcasts, and video interviews for practices and practitioners.

Rachael Bacon:

Hi, my name is Rachael Bacon. I'm a registered veterinary nurse who currently works for VetsNow. So I've been asked to just briefly talk about journal clubs which a lot of you are probably thinking what's a journal club? It's basically any platform in which you kind of share ideas about journals that you've read, or you've done CPD and you share those ideas with others. During COVID, it's been particularly difficult because all CPD and congresses have moved online which although has been brilliant in terms of accessing when you want and how you want that discussion based, you know, those conversations around those snippets of information that you get obviously has been limited because lots of us enjoy, sharing that information verbally and with one another. And how do you keep that up in a time where we are confined to our houses and workplaces. And obviously lots of people have been on furlough too, so that's been limiting.

So I just wanted to talk about the benefits of using platforms, such as WhatsApp to keep those discussions going. I myself have several different WhatsApp groups with my current nursing team nurses that I've worked with in the past friends who are vets and nurses, you know, a large group of people over the course of my career, who I've met I have noticed that we are using those platforms more to discuss things which has been really useful. So for example, if we're, if one of us is studying, I've got several vets who are, undertaking their certificates. I, myself, I'm undertaking a certificate at the moment and sharing information on papers that you've read, discussing those recent journals.

You can kind of upload that to the WhatsApp group, and then you kind of get feedback around that subject, which is really beneficial. It helps improve quality improvement and patient care, and really opens your mind to what other journals or bits of information are out there. So, for example, we were discussing as nurses blocked bladders recently, that cases for blocked bladders and the evidence supporting whether we should be removing urinary catheters straight after a procedure or not. And it was a really good discussion and lots of people were putting in evidence from where they've seen the evidence. So then you can kind of compare the different evidence-based approaches for a case like that. And in that particular example, we were looking at setting up guidelines, and a nurse came to me and she was saying, what should I, should I include this in my guideline? What do you think? And, several of

us got involved passing information back and forth surrounding that subject. So, I think if you don't have, these types of groups, definitely start them information sharing is a great way to share evidence-based medicine and improve upon what we're doing. And it's really enjoyable to keep those connections going through this time, which I think lots of people can agree has been a really difficult time. Don't get me wrong. I'm really looking forward to Congress' coming back and seeing people's faces and being able to have those sorts of discussions up close and personal. But for now I've really found that these sorts of journal type clubs have really benefited both my learning and I think patient care. So definitely recommend it.

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