



Supporting people, patients and the profession

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Summary of General Discussion, Workshop on Clinical Audit for Veterinary Specialists,

28 March 2019

In order to support Clinical Audit in Veterinary Specialist practice, BCVSp could:

- provide advice and facilitate development of audit templates and tools
 - CASC are prepared to help us with this
- collect data to allow benchmarking
- run audits open to BCVSp members to allow Specialists to benchmark their performance against national averages
- archive audit reports, previous protocols, and infographics on lessons learnt from audit
- encourage adoption of audit by awarding prizes around audit reports that are shared with all members

BCVSp-organised audits:

- could evaluate clinical outcomes or assess procedure/policy compliance
- should be time-limited
- should be simple (but individual participants might like to run their own more research studies in parallel to look at factors associated with the disease or policy under investigation)
- could be used to self-identify hospitals with good or poor ratings compared to a national average (and individual participants might then decide to run their own more detailed research studies to identify risk factors associated with their performance)
- are likely to involve manual retrieval of information from paper or computer records, current veterinary software is unlikely to be suitable for automated electronic capture.
- will not require client consent although research studies arising from hypotheses generated from audit might.
- will not create barriers to future publication of future research on cases included in the audit
- should involve a piloting phase before rolling out to all members

Most promising ideas for our first audits

- Anaesthetic outcomes in brachycephalic dogs
 - High public interest
- Accuracy and compliance with estimate policy in equine synovial sepsis
 - Supported by most equine clinicians and although accurate estimates are a key part of client care, concern was expressed that a focus on costs might be perceived negatively

To achieve this, BCVSp should

- Set up an Audit working group
- Survey all members to
 - gauge interest,
 - seek further ideas
 - identify barriers to participation.



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