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|  | **KNOWLEDGE SUMMARY**  **SUBMISSION** |

Thank you for your interest in writing and submitting a Knowledge Summary to *Veterinary Evidence*.

**To get started,** [**contact us**](https://veterinaryevidence.org/index.php/ve/about/contact) **with your Knowledge Summary question**

It is very important to first contact the [Editorial Office](https://veterinaryevidence.org/index.php/ve/about/contact) with the question you would like to answer as a Knowledge Summary. This is so we can:

1. Help you refine your question so that it is answerable and valuable to the veterinary community
2. Ensure it has neither been answered previously; nor is currently being written; nor has been submitted

Please read the [Author Guidelines](https://veterinaryevidence.org/index.php/ve/guidelines-for-authors) before writing and submitting your paper.

View our [Step-by-step guide](https://veterinaryevidence.org/index.php/ve/How-to-write-a-knowledge-summary-guide) for help in writing a Knowledge Summary.

Please refer to our style guide whilst writing your Knowledge Summary.

Download a new form for each submission, as it may have been updated since you last used it.

If you have any queries throughout the writing or submission process, please contact the [Editorial Office](https://veterinaryevidence.org/index.php/ve/about/contact).

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| **ABOUT THE SUBMISSION** |

**Title of Knowledge Summary**

In 15 words or fewer, provide a title that is informative and concise. Put keywords and phrases that both represent your topic and which are attractive to your intended audience at the beginning.

A well written title is an invaluable tool to ensure your paper is as discoverable as possible.

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**Author(s) Name, Postnominals, Institution’s full address**

Please refer to our [authorship criteria policy](https://veterinaryevidence.org/index.php/ve/authorship-criteria-policy). To be classed as an author, all 4 of the criteria recommended by the International Committee of Medical Journal Editors ([ICMJE](http://www.icmje.org/recommendations/browse/roles-and-responsibilities/defining-the-role-of-authors-and-contributors.html)) need to be met.

If they are not all met, a contributor can be acknowledged for their work in the conflict of interest section.

Please provide your [ORCID iD](https://orcid.org/register). If you do not have an ORCID iD you can [register for free here.](https://orcid.org/register) ORCID iD is a unique identifier which ensures you receive credit for your work, it also helps make your paper more discoverable.

Please also provide a secondary means of contacting the corresponding author. Email address should be the primary method of contact, but in case this should change please provide a telephone number.

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**Suggested reviewer(s)**

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| **KNOWLEDGE SUMMARY** |

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| **Question**  (In [PICO](https://knowledge.rcvs.org.uk/document-library/ebvm-toolkit-1-asking-an-answerable-clinical-question/) format)  **Clinical bottom line**  **Before completing the following section, please read our** [**Guidance for writing a Clinical Bottom Line**](https://veterinaryevidence.org/index.php/ve/writing-the-clinical-bottom-line) **within the Author Guidelines**   * **The category of research question was treatment/prognosis/risk/diagnosis/prevalence/incidence**   *Indicate the category of research question that was addressed*   * **The number and type of study designs that were critically appraised were…**   *Indicate the number and type of study designs which were critically appraised*   * **Critical appraisal of the selected papers meeting the inclusion criteria collectively provide zero/weak/moderate/strong evidence in terms of their experimental design and implementation.**   *Indicate the strength of evidence*   * **The outcomes reported are summarised as follows…**   *Indicate the summarised collective outcome(s) from the studies*   * **In view of the strength of evidence and the outcomes from the studies the following conclusion is made…**   *The conclusion should provide an answer to the Knowledge Summary question*  *Additional comments and caveats can be added if required* |

# Keywords

Please provide 4 – 10 keywords and/or phrases that closely reflect your topic and that are relevant to your readership. Keywords and phrases thoughtfully and naturally written throughout your paper will improve its discoverability.

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| Separate keywords using a semicolon. |

# Clinical scenario

(Optional) Please provide a description of the type of clinical scenario that would cause a veterinary professional to evaluate or query the existing evidence.

# The evidence

# Please provide a concise and focused descriptive paragraph(s) regarding the strength of evidence provided, based purely on the studies you have identified. The strength of the evidence is directly related to the quality and type of experimental design. Strong evidence may support or not support a change in clinical practice.

# Summary of the evidence

Please [contact us](https://veterinaryevidence.org/index.php/ve/about/contact) if you have any problems accessing papers.

Please copy and paste the table below as many times as necessary for each article you have appraised – there is no limit to the number of studies, as long as they are relevant to your question.

Before writing your paper, please look over [previously published Knowledge Summaries](https://veterinaryevidence.org/index.php/ve/issue/archive) for an idea of how much detail to include.

(Put each appraisal in a new table).

**What if there is insufficient or zero evidence to answer my clinical question?**

If no primary research literature is found then that is an important finding. Particularly if it is an important and common question that can have a high impact on patient care. The value of finding a lack of evidence (little or no published literature) is often underestimated and overlooked - it is a key finding to drive further research and informs the current knowledge or lack thereof.

A Knowledge Summary with no evidence or not enough evidence is still a valuable outcome that should be shared with the community. Visit our [Strength of Evidence](https://veterinaryevidence.org/index.php/ve/Strength-of-evidence) page to view all published Knowledge Summaries categorised by the strength of evidence found.

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| 1. **Author surname** (year) | |
| **Population:** | [Nature of study participants] |
| **Sample size:** | [Number of study participants] |
| **Intervention details:** | [Use bullet points and include doses, duration, frequency and techniques used - if relevant.]  [Please be clear if the sample size was split into groups.]  [If participants received a combination of treatments, please provide a clear breakdown.] |
| **Study design:** | [Do not rely on the author’s own classification.] |
| **Outcome studied:** | [Objective or subjective assessment?]  [Which variables were measured?] |
| **Main findings**  **(relevant to PICO question):** | [Bullet point synopsis of findings that correspond clearly with the intervention details.]  [Only include findings from the study.] |
| **Limitations:** | [Criticism of the design, reporting or findings. Please provide as much detail as possible and use bullet points.] |

# Appraisal, application and reflection

Include references.

**Methodology section**

1. [Contact us](https://veterinaryevidence.org/index.php/ve/about/contact) for help with your search strategy and with searching the literature.
2. If performing your own literature search, use **CAB Abstracts** and then at least one other database of your choosing.
3. Ensure the search strategy date is no older than **2 months** at the point of submission. Please contact us if your search strategy will be older than 2 months, and our library team will be happy to rerun the search for you.

If you cannot locate or access a paper please contact us, as we may be able to source it for you.

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| **Search** | |
| Databases searched and dates covered: | [List each of the databases and platforms used and include the dates:  e.g.  CAB Abstracts on OVID Platform 1973- Week 1 2017] |
| Search strategy: | [Give the search strategy including Boolean operators exactly as used for each database:  e.g.  **CAB Abstracts:**   1. (preoperative or pre-operative or presurgery or presurgical or pre-surgery or pre-surgical) 2. ((site or skin) and (technique or techniques or method or methods or preparation)) 3. ((scrub or scrubs or scrubbing) and (technique or techniques or method or methods or preparation)) 4. 1 and (2 or 3)     **PubMed:**  (((preoperative or pre-operative or presurgery or presurgical or pre-surgery or pre-surgical)) AND ((site or skin) AND (technique or techniques or method or methods or preparation))) AND ((scrub or scrubs or scrubbing) AND (technique or techniques or method or methods or preparation)) |
| Dates searches were performed: | The search strategy date should be no older than **2 months** at the point of submission.  Please contact us if your search strategy will be older than 2 months, and our library team will be happy to rerun the search for you.  [Date search performed format: 31 Mar 2021] |

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| **Exclusion/Inclusion Criteria** | |
| [Comments about your exclusion/inclusion criteria] | |
| Exclusion: |  |
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Please add or delete rows and columns as necessary.

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| **Search Outcome** | | | | | | |
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Potential conflicts of interest must be declared. These include relevant financial, personal, political or intellectual interests that may bias the work. Please also disclose whether the work was funded, and if any assistance was given with the preparation of the work.

If there are no conflicts of interest, please state: The authors declare no conflicts of interest.

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| **REFERENCES** |

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Always use the author-date system, otherwise known as Harvard system of referencing. This relies on brief parathetical citations in the text that take the reader to the appropriate entry in the reference list. The reference list only contains those sources cited in the text. All references included in the reference list should exclusively be cited within the article.

The text citation should consist of just the author’s last name and year of publication. If the paper contains citations to works by different authors sharing the same last name, then their initials should be used to distinguish between them.

(Smith, 2021)

(Smith & Jones, 2021)

(Smith et al., 2021) – do not italicise et al. where there are three authors or more

If the author’s last name appears in open text, it need not be repeated in parentheses, the date alone will suffice – According to Smith et al. (2021) dogs in…

Several references may be included within the same parentheses separated by a semi colon – (Smith et al., 2021; Jones & Morris, 1988; and Baker, 1984)

If there is more than one work by an author in a single year they are distinguished by lower-case letters appended to the year – (Smith, 2021a), (Smith, 2021b)

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Journals:

Last name, First initial. (Year published). Article title. *Journal*. Volume(Issue), Page(s). DOI: DOI identifier

Examples –

Poole, A. (2021). ‘Don’t pee on that!’ Comparing environmental modification and medical management in cats with FIC. *Veterinary Evidence*. 6(1), 1–20. DOI: <https://doi.org/10.18849/ve.v6i1.337>

Thomas, J., Marshall, S., Gormley, K., Conway, G. & Borgeat, K. (2021). Does medical or surgical treatment for aortic stenosis improve outcome in dogs? *Veterinary Evidence*. 6(2), 1–13. DOI: <https://doi.org/10.18849/ve.v6i2.368>

Chapters in edited books:

Last name, First initial. (Year published). Chapter title. In: First initial. Last name, ed., *Book title,* 1st ed. City: Publisher, Page(s).

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Authors may request to withdraw a paper from the process. However, please consider the amount of time that editors and reviewers will have spent on the submission. Authors should discuss with us any reasons they may have for considering withdrawal, as we would like to do all we can to avoid the withdrawal of a paper and to prevent editorial/reviewer time from being wasted.

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When your paper is accepted, we will contact you with a request for an Audio Summary.

An Audio Summary is a 3-minute overview of your Knowledge Summary. Its purpose is to help listeners to easily digest the main points of the Knowledge Summary so that they can implement the findings in practice.

See below for some points to help structure your audio clip:

1. Background - what question is the Knowledge Summary answering and why did you choose this question?
2. Please give an overview of what evidence there is and what the evidence says – what is the clinical bottom line?
3. And if appropriate - how could someone in practice implement the recommendations of the Knowledge Summary?

Please feel free to adapt it as you see fit, but ensure the clip is no longer than 3 minutes.

We will send you details on Audio Summary preparation and submission on acceptance of your Knowledge Summary

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**Submitting your paper**

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