

The importance of preventative healthcare: What 10 years of CEVM research reveals

Natalie J. Robinson^{1,2}, Marnie L. Brennan^{3,*}, Rachel S. Dean^{1, 2}, Zoe Belshaw^{1,4}

¹Previous address: Centre for Evidence-based Veterinary Medicine, School of Veterinary Medicine and Science, University of Nottingham, Sutton Bonington Campus, College Road, Loughborough, LE12 5RD

²Current address: VetPartners Ltd, Leeman House, Station Business Park, Holgate Park Drive, York, YO26 4GB

³Centre for Evidence-based Veterinary Medicine, School of Veterinary Medicine and Science, University of Nottingham, Sutton Bonington Campus, College Road, Loughborough, LE12 5RD

⁴Current address: EviVet Research Consultancy, Nottingham, UK

*Corresponding author

Email addresses:

natalie.robinson@vetpartners.co.uk

marnie.brennan@nottingham.ac.uk

rachel.dean@vetpartners.co.uk

z.belshaw.97@cantab.net

ORCID ID:

Natalie Robinson: <https://orcid.org/0000-0003-4574-2553>

Marnie Brennan: <https://orcid.org/0000-0002-4893-6583>

Rachel Dean: <https://orcid.org/0000-0002-0796-2785>

Zoe Belshaw: <https://orcid.org/0000-0002-5652-3324>

Abstract:

Preventative healthcare, including vaccination, is a fundamental part of everyday life for both humans and animals. However, in a veterinary context, little attention has been afforded to the features of preventative healthcare discussions relating to small animals and the factors that might influence uptake of these measures. There has also been little exploration of the opinions and perceived responsibilities of all stakeholders (vets, nurses, receptionists, and owners) in an animal's preventative healthcare journey. The Centre for Evidence-based Veterinary Medicine (CEVM) has been researching this important area for the past 10 years; this article summarises their findings, culminating in the provision of practitioner-focused evidence-based guidance for use in clinical decision-making to help optimize animal care.

Acknowledgments:

Many thanks to the numerous veterinary professionals and clients that have assisted us with this research. Thanks also to MSD Animal Health and the historical funders of the Centre for Evidence-based Veterinary Medicine (Elanco Animal Health, formerly Novartis Animal Health, and the University of Nottingham) for their unrestricted financial support.

Conflict of interest:

The authors declare no potential conflicts of interest with respect to the research, authorship and/or publication of this article.

Ethical approval:

This research work was approved by the ethics committee at the School of Veterinary Medicine and Science, The University of Nottingham. All procedures were performed in compliance with relevant laws and institutional guidelines.