

# Canine dummy models and simulators for training of basic clinical examination skills

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## Organisation

**Name of the organisation** Ghent University (UGent)

**Department** Veterinary skillslab

**Country** Belgium

**Geographical Area** Flemish Region

## SCOPE OF THE METHOD

<b>The Method relates to</b>	Animal health
<b>The Method is situated in</b>	Education and training
<b>Type of method</b>	Other: Dummy models and simulators

## DESCRIPTION

### Method keywords

veterinary medicine

dummy

simulator

clinical examination

canine model

### Scientific area keywords

Veterinary education  
clinical training

### **Method description**

In the skillslab, dummy models and simulators are used for teaching various clinical skills. The veterinarians in training need to learn how to perform a basis clinical examination of a dog. Although training on living animals is indispensable, a part of the training process can be performed on canine dummy models and simulators in the skillslab. A home-made low fidelity canine model is used to learn the position and palpation technique of peripheral lymph nodes. Furthermore auscultation of the heart can be trained on a commercial high-fidelity simulator and a commercial model is also used to assess the body condition score.

### **Lab equipment**

- ° Home-made low fidelity models: canine dummy model to palpate the peripheral lymph nodes
- ° Commercial high-fidelity models: Goldie-K9-breath-heart-sound-simulator (<https://rescuecritters.com>) and Royal Canin BCS palpation model

### **Method status**

Still in development  
History of use  
Internally validated

## **PROS, CONS & FUTURE POTENTIAL**

### **Advantages**

The use of educational animal models in a skillslab offers a number of significant advantages:

Reduced use of laboratory animals and reduced discomfort for patients, as procedures can be practised on dummy models and simulators before performing them on a live animal.

Teaching of clinical skills in a quiet and safe environment, reducing anxiety and stress for the veterinary student.

Complex practical skills can be split into a number of small steps when practising

them in the skillslab.

## Challenges

High cost of models, clinical training on live animals needed as well.

## Modifications

Further optimisation of home-made models and purchasing available commercial models. Virtual/augmented reality can be added.

## Future & Other applications

Training for canine lab animal examination.

## REFERENCES, ASSOCIATED DOCUMENTS AND OTHER INFORMATION

### Associated documents

[Auscultatie hart hond.JPG](#)

### Links

[Veterinary skillslab](#)

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