Canine and feline dummy models for training of handling techniques

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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

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

DESCRIPTION

Method keywords

veterinary medicine
dummy
skillslab training
Animal handling
Dog
cat

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 handle dogs and cats in a correct and low-stress way. Although training on living animals is indispensable, a part of the training proces can be performed on canine and feline dummy models in the skillslab.

Lab equipment

Commercial canine and feline stuffed toy dogs

Method status

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.

Future & Other applications

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

REFERENCES, ASSOCIATED DOCUMENTS AND OTHER INFORMATION

Links

Veterinary skillslab
Skillslab donation page