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

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>The Method relates to</th>
<th>Animal health</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>The Method is situated in</td>
<td>Education and training</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Type of method</td>
<td>Other: Dummy models and simulators</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

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 basic 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-hearth-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
Skillslab donation page