

# 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

|                                  |                                    |
|----------------------------------|------------------------------------|
| <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

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 process 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 optimisation 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](#)

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