Canine and feline dummy models for training of handling techniques

**SCOPE OF THE METHOD**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>The Method relates to</th>
<th>Animal health</th>
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<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
- 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