Equine dummy models for training of handling techniques

Contact person
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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
skillslab training
Animal handling
horse

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 horses in a correct and safe way. Although training on living animals is indispensable, a part of the training process can be performed on equine dummy models in the skillslab.

**Lab equipment**

° Home-made low-fidelity models: nose twitch model
° Commercial high-fidelity models (koeierij.nl; https://www.vetsimulators.com; foal: Melissa and Doug)

**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 optimalisation 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**

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