RESEARCH USING SAVSNET DATA

A RANDOMISED CONTROLLED TRIAL TO REDUCE HIGHEST PRIORITY CRITICALLY IMPORTANT ANTIMICROBIAL PRESCRIPTION IN COMPANION ANIMALS

CVS Group plc
Passionate about animal care

UNIVERSITY OF LIVERPOOL

Full paper published in the Nature Communications available here

"This is a fantastic example of how by collaborating with SAVSNET researchers, veterinary practitioners and owners can contribute to a better understanding of animal health. As well as understanding their own patients better, CVS practices have provided a template that can be rolled out much more widely. Many practices still aren't collaborating in such data-led research. We hope results like these, with clear potential to improve animal and potentially human health, will encourage more practices to participate in such data-led research"

Dr David Singleton, Lead Researcher

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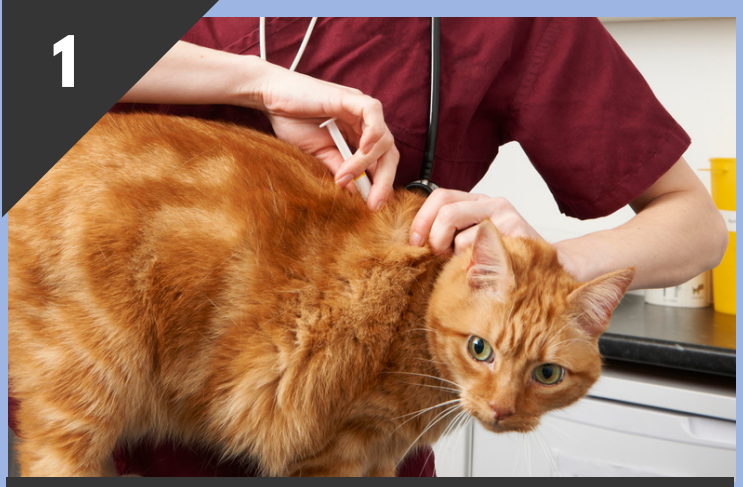

AB PRESCRIPTION

Highest priority critically important antimicrobials (HPCIAs) are frequently prescribed to companion animals, despite recommendations this group of antimicrobials should be largely reserved for human use. Little evidence exists to suggest effective ways by which veterinary surgeons can target their use of HPCIA's in companion animals more effectively

2

STUDY

Randomised controlled trial including 60 practices owned by CVS Group Limited who have been identified by SAVSNET as relatively frequent HPCIA prescribers within the group between August 2018 and January 2019. Practices evenly split into three groups: control group (**CG**), light intervention group (**LIG**), and heavy intervention group (**HIG**)

3

NOTIFICATION

In March 2019, LIG and HIG practices were identified by SAVSNET were notified of their above average status, and provided with online (**LIG**) or in-person (**HIG**) educational materials and support; the **CG** received no intervention

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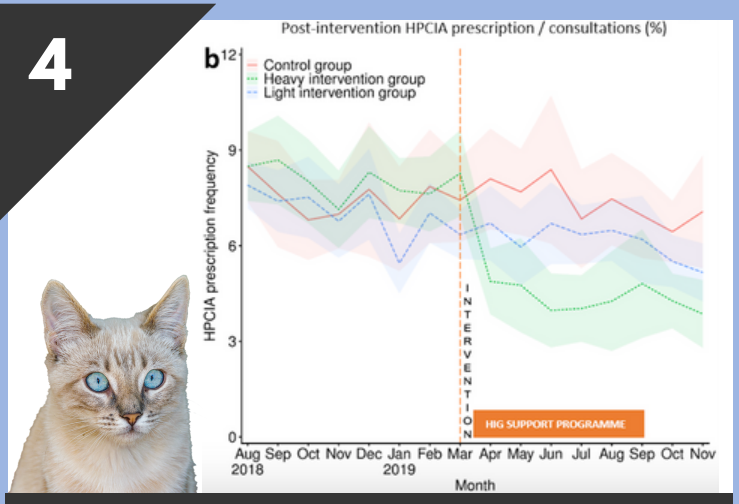

HPCIA DECREASE

Over the eight months following intervention, **HIG** practices were associated with a significant 23.5% and 39.0% reduction in canine and feline HPCIA prescription frequency, respectively, compared to the CG. **LIG** practices were associated with a 16.7% significant reduction in feline HPCIA prescription frequency (as shown)

5

RECOMMENDATIONS

This trial demonstrated the potential of benchmarking and education to reduce HPCIA prescription. Work is now ongoing to determine how such interventions might be efficiently scaled up to encompass a wider range of veterinary practices

6

QUALITY IMPROVEMENT

'CVS is proud that collaboration with SAVSNET has led to a quality improvement framework supporting responsible use of antimicrobials in small animal practice. We thank all the CVS practices that took part in the study for their contribution, that produced such excellent results'

Angie Rayner BVM&S PgDipPSHCF MRCVS
Director of Quality Improvement, CVS (UK) Ltd.