

SAVSNET

The Small Animal Veterinary Surveillance Network



*Help us build the
bigger picture for the UK's pets*

Q What does SAVSNET do?

We collect large volumes of electronic health data from 100s of veterinary practices and laboratories across the UK. Extracts are used by scientists to help improve the health of the nation's pets.

Q Why is your veterinary practice taking part in SAVSNET?

Your practice is part of a large SAVSNET family of veterinary practices, laboratories, universities, organisations and charities who all care about pet health and welfare. The data provided by your practice is used to understand why pets become unwell, such as whether they are more likely to get a particular disease because of their species, breed, age or location. With this information, we can reduce the risk of pets becoming ill, and if they do, offer improved advice and therapies.

Q How can your pet take part?

If you are happy for your pet to be involved, you don't need to do anything. We will automatically collect the following types of information each time you visit your veterinary surgeon or veterinary nurse:

- 1 Species of your pet (for example dog, cat, rabbit)
- 2 Breed, age, sex and where recorded, a microchip number
- 3 Weight, together with when your pet was vaccinated and neutered
- 4 Why your pet was brought to the vet
- 5 The notes written in the consultation
- 6 Treatments given
- 7 Your postcode

We will not routinely record your name, or the rest of your address, or any payment details. Occasionally a vet may write names or addresses in your consultation notes - where possible, these are automatically removed and regardless are never used for our research.

Q What will SAVSNET do with your information?

All the information we collect is stored securely at the University of Liverpool where it is used by SAVSNET and SAVSNET-approved researchers to better understand what makes all pets like yours unwell. As well as scientific publications, results are returned directly to your veterinary practice to improve understanding of disease locally. Sometimes anonymous data may also be used to generate income (for example with companies). Any income is used to support the sustainability of SAVSNET, ensuring that all pets in the UK can continue to benefit from this research for as long as possible.



Protecting your privacy

SAVSNET has a responsibility under the General Data Protection Regulation 2018 to protect your personal information. Your information will be protected in the same way. You and your pet will never be identifiable from any of the work outputs that use these data. SAVSNET has ethical approval from the University of Liverpool and the Royal College of Veterinary Surgeons supports our aims and how we collect information.

Further information

Ask your practice for the SAVSNET handbook which has more information on SAVSNET.

Web: www.liverpool.ac.uk/savsnet

Email: savsnet@liverpool.ac.uk

Tel: 0151 795 6080 (24 hour messaging service to request further information).

Write to us at: SAVSNET, University of Liverpool, Leahurst Campus, Neston, Wirral, CH64 7TE

You can also contact the University of Liverpool Research Governance Officer if you have any further concerns. Their contact details can be found in your practice's SAVSNET handbook at reception.



**What if I don't
want to take part?**

**You do not have to take part
in SAVSNET.**

**If you would prefer not to, all
you have to do is tell your
veterinary surgeon or veterinary
nurse before or during
your pet's consultation.**

Find us

University of Liverpool
Leahurst Campus, Neston, Wirral CH64 7TE
Tel: 0151 795 6080
Email: savsnet@liverpool.ac.uk

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