



CLINICAL SKILL LAB

Clinical skills are an integral and essential part of the curriculum of a new graduate in veterinary medicine (EAEVE 2014, RCVS 2014, AVMA 2014, NAVMEC 2011) and Clinical Skills Laboratories (CSLs) play an important role in curriculum development.

In view of the ethical aspects and the increasing number of practical exercises the use of animal models, with minimal use of live animals, seems absolutely logical and desirable.

The CSL is by definition a 'student-centred space', i.e. an environment designed so that students can practise a large number of skills without being subjected to the stress and risks of live animals exercises.

Using models, students can easily make mistakes without having to worry about causing harm to an animal, increasing their 'confidence' in performing a particular procedure.

In the CSL, also thanks to the participation of the student contract workers and dedicated technical staff, students will be able to practise independently according to their individual level of preparation for clinical rotations.

As for any practice, procedure, work, sport, the possibility of being able to repeat a particular "technical gesture" several times is a fundamental condition for increasing dexterity and therefore precision, effectiveness and competence.

In order to set up the CSL, significant resources, time and effort were used by many people, including students.

Certainly we could have done more and done better, but it is still a first step of which we should be proud.

Fundamental to improving our CSL will be the degree of participation of the teaching staff, but even more so of you students.

You have to consider this space as "your" space, a "gym" where you have to and can test yourselves both as personal skills and competences but also as a team.

Criticism, suggestions, advice and opinions from each of you will form the scaffolding of what will improve the CSL in the near future, be active!

Best regards and good work!

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