

Quality improvement using a case study for canine dystocia in emergency-care practice

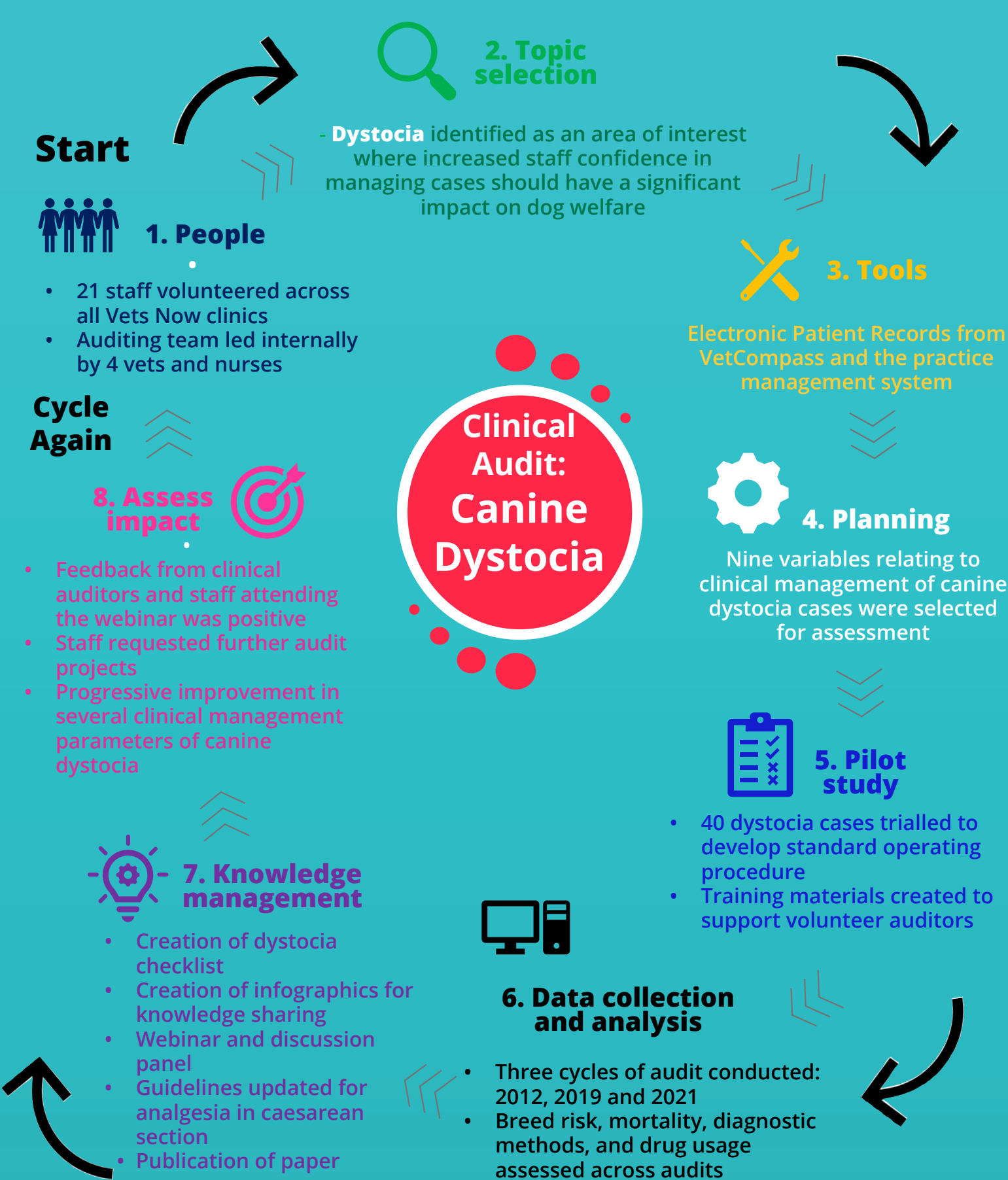
Clinical audit is a fundamental element for standards of care in both human and veterinary medicine. However, compared to the human medicine literature, there are few published veterinary clinical audits, suggesting that clinical audit is an under-utilised tool for quality improvement (QI) in the veterinary profession.

This study describes the planning, implementation, outcomes and evaluation of a clinical audit process for the management of **canine dystocia** in UK small animal emergency-care practice. Other veterinary practices can use these methods to support their clinical audits and the results as benchmarks to evaluate their management of canine dystocia.

How to conduct a clinical audit



A case study of clinical audit: canine dystocia



Conclusions

This study demonstrates the feasibility of veterinary clinical audit. The application of the clinical audit process promotes learning within the veterinary team and improved clinical outcomes.

The results can serve as a benchmarking tool to evaluate management of canine dystocia within veterinary clinical practice.

The methods and template can serve as a helpful tool for others wishing to plan, implement, analyse and review their own clinical audits.

[CLICK TO READ THE FULL STUDY](#)

Leicester et al. (2023) "Applying clinical audit for quality improvement in canine dystocia cases seen at a UK primary-care emergency practice"

RVC VetCompass <https://www.rvc.ac.uk/vetcompass> carries out welfare research based on anonymised clinical information shared from over 30% of UK veterinary practices. We are very grateful to the owners and veterinary professionals who contribute to VetCompass research.