



Evidence-Based Veterinary Medicine

Needs and education at the University of Liège



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Bibliothèque des Sciences de la Vie

Users' education at the BSV

4 libraries / 4 Faculties

3. Human Medicine
4. Veterinary Medicine
5. Psychology and Education Sciences
6. Life Sciences : Zoology & Botany

To share experience in users' education

EBM teaching at the BSV

Curriculum in information sciences at the Faculty of Medicine

Year		Content
First cycle	Year 1	- Computer literacy
	Year 2	- Using the medical library - Searching PubMed (basic mode) - Analysing the structure of a research article - Evaluating the biomedical Internet
Second cycle	Year 1	- Pyramid of evidence - Cochrane Library - Clinical Evidence & EBM Reviews (Ovid) - Transforming need into question (PICO) - Advanced searching on Ovid platform - Clinical queries
	Year 2	- Evaluation grid for RCT (therapy)

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From EBM to EBVM ?

- To survey veterinary practitioners
 - *Have they heard about EBVM ?*
 - *Would they be interested in ?*
- To compare sources of information
 - *Are they adapted to EB(V)M practice ?*
- To optimize users' education
 - *Is the EBM course content suited to EBVM ?*
 - *What adaptations ?*

Our reference

Handbook of
Evidence-Based
Veterinary Medicine
Peter Cockcroft and Mark Holmes

Blackwell Publishing, 2003

Results of the e-mailed survey

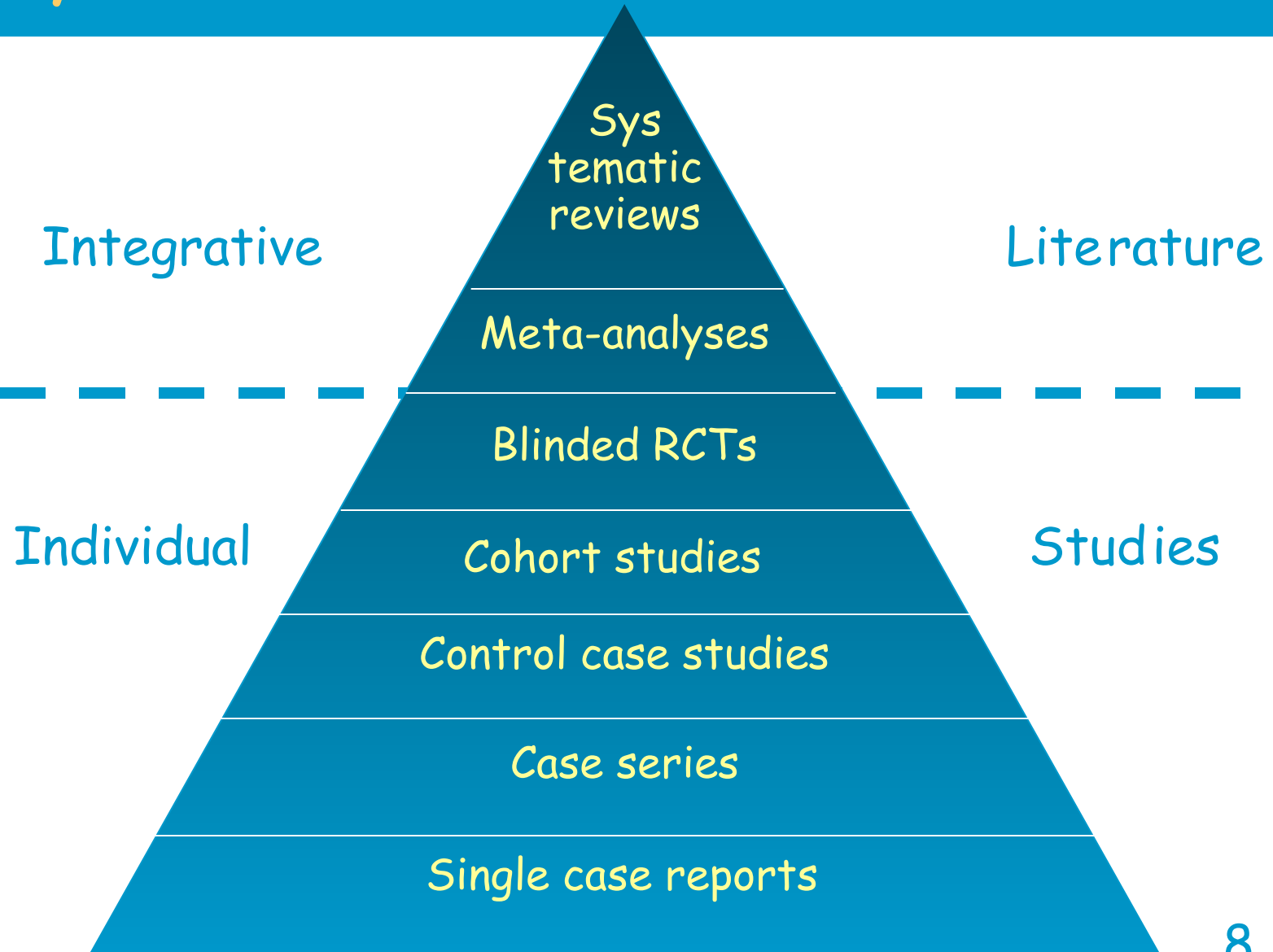
- Sample : 800 private "vet." interested in CE / LLL
- Participation : 138 feed-back (17%)
- Results : **The surveyed veterinarians ...**
 - never heard about EBVM (93%)
 - frequently need foreground information (100%) and ...
 - seek evidence in textbooks, journals, Internet, ... (54%)
 - advise with respected colleagues (28%)
 - refer the patient (28%)
 - base the clinical decision on background knowledge (6%)
 - encounter problems during their search (60%)
 - have never been trained in information sciences (IS) (40%)
 - are satisfied with their IS education/skills (25%)

Information sources

Are they adapted to EB(V)M practice ?

- To compare the available information
 - about therapeutic interventions
 - in human \Leftrightarrow small/large animals
- To search Medline (Ovid) and CAB (SPIRS)
- To compare the results

Pyramid of evidence



GNRH & ovarian cysts treatment

Publication type	Medline / OVID		CAB/SPIRS
	Human	Cattle	Cattle
All types	56	13	15
Review articles (non systematic)	11	1	2
Retrieved citations classified according to hierarchy of evidence			
EBM reviews	1	0	0
Meta-analysis	4	0	0
RCTs	7	1	0
Clinical trials	13	0	13
Clinical studies	nd	5	0

Controlled searches (using subject headings) - Limit 1996-2004

Conclusion → EBVM

- Public
- Tools
- Courses

The veterinarians...

- Seek evidence to support decision making
- Prefer scientific sources
- Are moderately satisfied with their searches
- Are rather poorly trained
- Are interested in improving their skills
- Never heard of EBVM

The tools in veterinary medicine

- Are not adapted to the EBVM practice
- The literature has ...
 - Smaller content
 - No Cochrane Library
 - No systematic reviews
 - Very few meta-analyses
 - Few RCTs
- The search engines need to be adapted with
 - integrated filters for clinical queries
 - limits according to the publication types

Teaching EBVM

- The transposition of the EBM course to Vet. Med. is not conceivable without modification
- New evaluation grids have to be developed
- Librarians have to be trained to evaluate sources of poorer evidence
- The collaboration with the clinical staff is needed

