Pharmaceutical Compounding Needs for Veterinary Treatment of Domestic Felines

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Objective. This study investigated the nature of feline dosing challenges in private veterinarian practice and sought to clarify, from the perspective of the veterinarian, how pharmaceutical compounding solutions can aid in achieving better quality of care for their patients.

Methods. A purposeful sampling process was employed. The study was conducted at three private veterinarian practices in Lismore, Kyogle, NSW (rural) and on the Gold Coast, QLD (metropolitan). A multi-method design of qualitative techniques was used, including semi-structured interviews and observation of medication administration.

Results. Through thematic analysis of the data various themes were identified, including: dosing difficulties due to the nature of domestic felines; the ability of cat owners to be compliant with medicine administration; the inclination of veterinarians to collaborate with compounding pharmacists; veterinarian concerns about the consistency, price efficacy and stability of compounded products and a lack of appropriate commercial medicines for animals.

Discussion. The overarching theme that emerged from this research was the requirement for medicines that allow ease of administration in the independently minded domestic feline. The researchers concluded that domestic felines presented unique dosing challenges, that veterinarians would welcome further solutions to these challenges, and that veterinarians were well disposed towards working closely with compounding pharmacists for the benefit of their patients.