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THESIS

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July 2022

KNOWLEDGE, ATTITUDE AND PRACTICES ON ANTIMICROBIAL USAGE AMONG VETERINARY JUNIOR AND SENIOR CLINICIANS IN CAVITE STATE UNIVERSITY

Undergraduate Thesis
Submitted to the Faculty of
College of Veterinary Medicine and Biomedical Sciences
Cavite State University
Indang, Cavite

In partial fulfilment of the requirements for the degree Doctor of Veterinary Medicine



Knowledge, attitude and practices on antimicrobial usage among Veterinary 579.3 Am1 2022 T-9250

VANESSA NICOLE L. MENDOZA July 2022

ABSTRACT

MENDOZA, VANESSA NICOLE L. Knowledge, Attitude and Practices on Antimicrobial Usage among Veterinary Junior and Senior Clinicians in Cavite State University. Undergraduate Thesis Manuscript. Doctor of Veterinary Medicine. Cavite State University, Indang, Cavite. July 2022. Adviser: Dr. Nelson J. Montialto.

The study was conducted to provide suitable data about the junior and senior clinicians' level of knowledge, attitude, and practices with regards to antimicrobial usage as these students have a great impact on consequences associated with antimicrobial use. Specifically, the study aimed to identify the demographic and academic characteristics of the respondents and to describe the level of knowledge, attitude, and practices of the junior and senior clinicians in Cavite State University on antimicrobial usage. Moreover, the study was done to assess if there is a significant relation between sex and year level to the level of knowledge, attitude and practices of the students towards antimicrobial usage. The data were collected from the veterinary clinicians from Cavite State University from December 2021 to May 2022.

The research was a descriptive cross-sectional study. A total of 101 fifth year to sixth year veterinary clinician students participated in answering the survey questionnaire conducted online using Google forms. A simple descriptive statistic was employed to generate and summarize percentages and proportions of the data. Spearman rank correlation was used to assess the significance of the relationship between the level of knowledge, attitude and practices on antimicrobial usage and student sex and year level.

The results of the study showed that the students were highly knowledgeable, exhibited a very positive attitude and doing acceptable practices towards antimicrobial use. Moreover, only the year level is correlated with the level of knowledge on antimicrobial usage. The author recommends that further and relevant

studies be conducted with face-to-face collection of data to encourage more valid responses. Likewise, additional aspects related to antimicrobial stewardship may be incorporated to provide in-depth analysis of the topic.

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An undergraduate thesis manuscript submitted to the faculty of College of Veterinary Medicine and Biomedical Sciences, Cavite State University, Indang, Cavite in partial fulfillment of the requirements for the degree of Doctor of Veterinary Medicine, with Contribution No. _______ Prepared under the supervision of Dr. Nelson J. Montialto. Control Number: DVM-2022-006

INTRODUCTION

The field of public health and medicine was transformed in 1940's through the introduction of antimicrobials. Antimicrobials are used for preventing or treating infections but, when the response to these medications changes, antimicrobial resistance occurs. Antimicrobials were not considered as the problem in this case, as these medicines remain as an effective weapon for diseases, but the problem lies on how they are being used (Jairoun *et al.*, 2019). According to the World Health Organization, antimicrobial resistance usually happens if the antimicrobials were bought without prescription, using them as growth promoters or as prevention for diseases, or if it is being overused by the public.

In the animal industry, the farmers and veterinarians' top priority is to keep the animals healthy. In the Philippines system, the use of antimicrobials is essential to combat diseases in animals. But because of the imprudent use of antimicrobials and the emergence of antimicrobial resistance beginning to be a public health concern, the practices of animal production make use of guidelines to ensure that the even though they are using antimicrobials, the animals can be healthy while the chances of having resistant microbes is minimized (Mende, 2018).