



## Foundations of Clinical Research: From Study Design and Analytics to Maximizing Funding and Successful Publication

Live Virtual Course / Date: May 22, 2025

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### Course description:

This course provides a comprehensive overview of key aspects of clinical research, from study design to publication. Participants will learn to critically evaluate and implement **observational studies** and **clinical protocols in veterinary product development**, including regulatory requirements, study design, and approvals. Attendees will explore the role of **nutrition in clinical studies**, understanding its impact on study parameters and adverse event reporting. Additionally, the course includes **planning statistics and sample size estimation**, strategies for **maximizing external funding success**, and insights into **getting published**, covering manuscript preparation, peer review expectations, and effective revisions.

### Objectives:

1. **Critically evaluate and apply observational study designs** (cross-sectional, cohort, and case-control) while interpreting key measures of association and impact.
2. **Develop and implement clinical protocols for veterinary product development**, ensuring compliance with regulatory requirements and necessary approvals.
3. **Incorporate nutrition into clinical study design**, optimizing inclusion/exclusion criteria, assessing its impact, and recognizing its role in protocols and adverse event reporting.

4. **Plan statistical analyses and determine appropriate sample sizes** to ensure robust and reliable clinical study outcomes.
5. **Enhance research funding and publication success** by selecting appropriate funding agencies, preparing strong applications, and understanding journal and peer review expectations.

<b>22<sup>nd</sup> May, 2025</b>		
Time-Central European	Topic	Presenters
15:00 – 15:15	<b>Welcome and Introductions</b>	<b>ECVIM-CA Committee</b>  <i>Dr Daniel Rodes DVM, PhD</i>
15:15 – 16:15	<b>“Observational Studies for Clinical Research”</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Be able to critically evaluate and implement observational studies for clinical research</li> <li>Evaluate strengths and weaknesses within Cross sectional, Cohort and Case-Control studies</li> <li>Interpret measures of association and impact</li> </ul>	<b>Prof David Charles Brodbelt</b> <i>MA VetMB, PhD, DVA, DipECVAA, FHEA, FRCVS</i>
16:15 – 17:15	<b>“Clinical protocols in veterinary product development”</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Regulatory requirements for veterinary clinical trials</li> <li>Study design, authorizations, and necessary approvals</li> <li>Key information for successful study protocols</li> </ul>	<b>Dr Thierry Biot</b> <i>BA (Hons), MSc, PhD</i>
17:15 – 17:45	<b>“Incorporating Nutrition into Clinical Study Design”</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Improve study parameters (inclusion/exclusion criteria) based on diet’s effect</li> <li>Recognise the role of nutrition in protocols and adverse event reporting</li> <li>Determine when to standardize nutrition in clinical studies and assess its impact</li> </ul>	<b>Dr Jennifer Larsen</b> <i>DVM, MS, PhD, DACVIM (Nutrition)</i>
17:45 – 18:00	<b>Break</b>	

18:00 – 19:00	<p><b>“Planning statistics and sample size”</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• To be able to plan basic statistics for clinical studies</li> <li>• Identify primary outcomes and estimate sample size</li> </ul>	<p><b>Dr Lauren Trepanier</b>  <i>DVM, PhD, DACVIM, DACVCP</i></p>
19:00 – 20:00	<p><b>“Maximising the chances of external funding”</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Select an appropriate funding agency</li> <li>• Prepare the best application</li> <li>• Provide the evidence of capacity and completion</li> <li>• Avoid the common pitfalls</li> </ul>	<p><b>Dr Carmel T Mooney</b>  <i>MVB, MPhil, PhD, DipECVIM-CA, FRCVS</i></p>
20:00 – 21:00	<p><b>“Getting my study published: Perspectives of the journal, editors and reviewers”</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Manuscript preparation and submission</li> <li>• Editorial and peer review expectations</li> <li>• Revision and avoiding pitfalls</li> </ul>	<p><b>Dr Andrew H Sparkes</b>  <i>BVetMed PhD, DipECVIM, MANZCVS, MRCVS, Co-Editor Journal of Feline Medicine and Surgery</i></p>
21:00 – 21:05	<b>Closing</b>	<b>ECVIM-CA Committee</b>