Advances in Collection Management:
The Use of Technology to Create a New Basic List of Veterinary Serials

ICML – ICAHIS
3 September 2009
Brisbane, Australia

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Charge of the Ad Hoc Committee* (1976)

To compile a basic list of veterinary medical journals to serve as a guideline in establishing and maintaining a veterinary medical library.

*Later became the Veterinary Serials Committee with current members:
  C. Trenton Boyd, Chair
  Ana Ugaz
  Vicki F. Croft
  Esther Carrigan
  Katherine M. Anderson
History of the Basic List

1st Edition (1977)


6 librarians

5 librarians
Committee input and the use of technology enabled journal quality measures to be collected from additional sources.

- Survey for broader librarian input
- Coverage by indexes
- Scholarly journal rankings
- Recommended journal reading lists from 15 veterinary specialty boards
Committee Activities

Nov. 2007 – Finalized the list of journals considered for the basic list
Dec. 2007 – Survey with journal list sent to AVMA accredited veterinary libraries
Jun. 2008 – Analysis of survey results and composition of decision model
Aug. 2008 – Journals scored based on weighting of criteria
Feb. 2009 – Basic List complete
May 2009 – VMLS/ MLA approved
Online survey
Criteria collected

Indexing

- Weighted for coverage by targeted indexing services

Ranking

- Weighted for journal ranking
Criteria collected and managed

Board Recommended Reading

- Weighted for journals listed as useful to preparing for 15 different veterinary specialty board exams

Spreadsheets were used to manage data elements and perform calculations.

- Earlier editions of the Basic List did not have the advantage of this standard tool
The Resulting Picture ...
The committee set the minimum score for inclusion on the Basic List at 15 out of 40 possible points.

The final list consisted of 117 titles, representing 36 subject areas.

The 117 journals included on the Basic List had an average score of 23.80 (median score: 23.32) with one journal, the Journal of the American Veterinary Medical Association, earning the full 40 points.
10 Highest Ranked Journals

1. Journal of the American Veterinary Medical Association
2. American Journal of Veterinary Research
3. Journal of Veterinary Internal Medicine
4. Veterinary Pathology
5. Veterinary Clinics of North America-Small Animal Practice
6. Equine Veterinary Journal
6. Veterinary Clinics of North America-Equine Practice
8. Veterinary Clinics of North America-Food Animal Practice
10. Veterinary Surgery
Conclusion

Technology enabled the gathering and weighing of objective journal quality measures with subjective input (committee and survey opinion) to develop a meaningful update to an important collection development tool.
Questions?