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2024 RECOVER CPR Guidelines

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Dear Dr. Chan:

It is with great enthusiasm that the Co-Chairs of the Reassessment Campaign on Veterinary Resuscitation (RECOVER) Initiative present 5 companion papers on veterinary CPR.[1-5][==5 online RECOVER papers==] The articles include evidence-based treatment recommendations on Basic Life Support, Advanced Life Support, and Monitoring during CPR in dogs and cats, as well as an algorithm-driven, comprehensive CPR Guidelines paper and a Methods paper that serves to describe the years-long processes that made the papers a reality.

The first evidence-based consensus guidelines on veterinary CPR were developed by the RECOVER Initiative and were published in 2012.[6] Since that time, the prevention, monitoring, and treatment measures recommended therein have become widely accepted as the international veterinary standard for CPR in dogs and cats. More than 80,000 individuals have completed online RECOVER CPR training[a] and over 11,000 of these have become RECOVER Certified BLS Rescuers™ and RECOVER Certified ALS Rescuers™ by completing in-person courses based on the 2012 Guidelines.

Since publication of the 2012 RECOVER CPR Guidelines, more human, canine, feline, and other studies have provided evidence to update and augment the 2012 RECOVER CPR Guidelines. Thus, the RECOVER Initiative sought to revise the RECOVER CPR Guidelines for dogs and cats through exhaustive evidence evaluation, analysis, and summary.

The effort that culminated in the 2024 RECOVER CPR Guidelines included more than 200 veterinary professionals from the international veterinary community. For the past 4 years, these veterinary professionals contributed their time and talents to develop the 5 papers presented in this issue of the Journal of Veterinary Emergency and Critical Care. The Co-Chairs express our sincere gratitude to this group of committed people, and to the team members at our "real jobs" who supported this effort in other ways. These 2024 RECOVER CPR Guidelines continue to emphasize the importance of high-quality basic life support, and most treatment recommendation changes are in the areas of advanced life support and monitoring.

We hope that the readers of JVECC will find these updated RECOVER Guidelines useful for their clinical practice. Moving forward, the RECOVER initiative will continue to undertake systematic evidence evaluations to address clinically relevant questions surrounding veterinary CPR. An updated set of treatment recommendations in the domains of Prevention and Preparedness, Post-cardiac Arrest Care, and Newborn Resuscitation is underway. From thereon, RECOVER will release updates on Guidelines and provide treatment recommendations for new topics on a rolling basis as new evidence emerges.

Respectfully,

The RECOVER Initiative Co-Chairs

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Footnote
[a] www.RECOVERinitiative.org [accessed on 19 March 2024]

References
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2. [Methods placeholder]
3. [BLS placeholder]
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6. Fletcher DJ, Boller M, Brainard BM, et al. RECOVER evidence and knowledge gap analysis on veterinary CPR. Part 7: Clinical guidelines. *J Vet Emerg Crit Care* 2012;22 Suppl 1:S102-31. doi:10.1111/j.1476-4431.2012.00757.x