



## **Information statement: Management of feline hyperthyroidism by veterinarians in Australia**

You are invited to participate in a study exploring the management and monitoring of feline hyperthyroidism in Australian general practice.

### **What is this study about?**

This study aims to evaluate how Australian veterinarians approach management and monitoring of feline hyperthyroidism. There are many ways to manage this common condition. As most hyperthyroid cats are managed in general practice, there is a considerable amount of valuable information and experience veterinarians that can be used to understand current approaches and help guide how it is treated in the future. A similar study, which won the JFMS Resident Best Paper Award in 2014, has recently been performed in the United Kingdom giving rise to results that are being used to help shape improvements in management of feline hyperthyroidism.<sup>1</sup>

We are asking for responses to the survey from Australian veterinarians in general practice. More than one person from each practice can complete the survey. We would appreciate if you could forward this email to other veterinarians in your practice. The survey closes on 1 June 2015.

**We are offering entry into a prize draw for an iPad and three \$100 textbook vouchers for completing the survey.**

### **Investigators:**

Small Animal Specialist Hospital and Centre for Veterinary Education (in collaboration with researchers from the University of Bristol, UK)

Dr Andrea Harvey      aharvey@sashvets.com

Dr Lucy Kopecny      lkopecny@sashvets.com

Dr Richard Malik      richard.malik@sydney.edu.au

### **How do I participate in the study?**

The link provided below will take you to the online survey. The survey takes approximately 15 minutes to complete. Once you start the survey, you cannot close and resume at a later time. You cannot return to previously completed sections.

<https://www.survey.bris.ac.uk/svs/felinehyperthyroidismsurvey>

*Participation in this study is voluntary.* Submission of the survey signals your consent to participate in the study. To withdraw from the survey, simply close the page. Please note, however, that each time you progress through the survey, your responses are submitted. Once your responses to the survey have been submitted, they cannot be withdrawn as they are anonymous and therefore cannot be identified.

### **What will happen to the information collected in this study?**

The study is confidential and no individuals or practices will be identifiable, including in any reports arising from the study. No personal data is required, however, if you wish to enter the prize draw you will need to enter an email address at completion of the survey. This information will not be used in any way in the interpretation of the survey responses. The intent is that results of the survey will be submitted for publication in the *Journal of Feline Medicine and Surgery*.

### **Further information**

If you would like further information about the study, please contact Lucy Kopecny (lkopecny@sashvets.com)

### **Reference**

<sup>1</sup>Higgs, P, Murray, JK and Hibbert, A 2014, 'Medical management and monitoring of the hyperthyroid cat: a survey of UK general practitioners', *Journal of Feline Medicine and Surgery*, vol. 16, pp. 788-795.