Plan Overview

A Data Management Plan created using DMPonline

Title: Identifying challenges and opportunities for sustainable parasite control in Thoroughbreds

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Template: University of Liverpool Standard Template

Project abstract:

All horses are infected with parasites, known as cyathostomins, which can cause severe disease, particularly in youngstock. Despite promotion of more sustainable approaches, parasite control relies almost exclusively on using drugs, known as anthelmintics. Resistance to the macrocylic lactones (ivermectin and moxidectin), the last line of anthelmintic defence, has now emerged, threatening effective parasite control on Thoroughbred studs. Human behaviours and attitudes must be explored to increase uptake of sustainable routes to parasite control. This project aims to understand the barriers to engagement with alternative approaches to drug-based control, such as diagnostic-led or grazing-based management. It will work with studs, training yards and vets to test drug efficacy and capture their response to test results. By working directly with the racing industry, challenges and opportunities specific to racing enterprises will be identified, to prompt more sustainable means of parasite control in future.

To establish patterns of anthelmintic and pasture use and identify barriers to and drivers of behaviour change in relation to sustainable parasite control on Thoroughbred (TB) studs and training yards. This will be delivered through four objectives:

1. Explore endoparasite management practices, (including anthelmintic use and equine and pasture management, and turnout practices), on TB studs and training yards.
2. Use systems mapping to explore the stakeholders, pressures, and influences on the different components of endoparasite control.
3. Conduct strongyle faecal egg count reduction tests (FECRT) on stud farms with a history of intensive ML use.
4. Capture participants' response to, and decision-making around receiving FECRT results.

ID: 190159

Start date: 01-09-2024

End date: 31-08-2028

Last modified: 05-11-2025

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Identifying challenges and opportunities for sustainable parasite control in Thoroughbreds

University of Liverpool Required Information

Please give us some details about you and your project.

- Pre-award

Which faculty do you belong to?

- Health and Life Sciences

Do you have, or will you be applying for Ethics approval for your project?

- Yes

Will be you collecting and storing personal or special category data as defined under the terms of GDPR? (this includes email addresses, phone numbers, etc)

- Yes

Your Research Data

Give a brief description of the types of data that will be collected or created.

· Semi-structured interviews
· Focus group interviews
· Questionnaire data
· Animal biological samples (Faecal egg count data and faecal egg count reduction tests following anthelmintic treatment)
· Metadata

What file formats will you use?

The focus group interviews and semi-structured interviews will be audio recorded and the audio recording and transcript will be stored securely on drives on The University of Liverpool secure network. Transcribed files will be fully anonymised (e.g. any names, locations, or other identifiable information mentioned is altered). Questionnaire data will be captured either in the form of an online survey in JISC software (available through the University) which is compliant with the GDPR and the Data Protection Act 2018. Once complete survey data will be anonymised for analysis. Anonymised, transcribed focus group/interview data in a Microsoft Word format, and survey data downloaded in CSV and Excel format, will be stored only a UoL secure server. Anonymised files containing no personal data may be shared between the research team on a secure Teams site (which also meets security requirements). Faecal egg count and faecal egg count reduction data will be generated within the laboratories at the UoL and results will be entered onto password protected Microsoft excel spreadsheets under a tab for each de-identified enterprise. (pseudo anonymised)

How much data do you estimate you will be collecting and storing? How many files will you create and/or how large will they be in MB, GB etc?

This involves voluntary engagement from thoroughbred stud/training enterprises so is difficult to predict accurately. We will aim for a target sample size of 50-100 responses for questionnaire data, 10-15 yards for interviews and egg count data and for focus groups, 1-3 sessions containing up to 8 participants each (dependant on interest and availability of participants).

Documentation and Organisation

Describe how you will document and organise the data you collect or create. If there are any standards for organising, labelling or describing research data in your field of research, detail them below.

N/A

Ethics and Intellectual Property

Who owns the data you will be using, creating or collecting?

The University of Liverpool owns the data we will create & collect.

Are there any legal, ethical or commercial considerations? If so, how do you propose to deal with them?

Legal: Participant data will be pseudo-anonymised (with a decoding sheet), so falls under the

jurisdiction of GDPR legislation. The research team is responsible for ensuring that personal data is kept confidential and that the decoding sheet is properly stored to reduce the risk of participants being identified from their code.

Ethical: The participant information leaflet (PIL) and consent form will clarify how the data captured from the questionnaires, focus groups and faecal sampling will be collected, how it will be stored, and how long it will be stored. This leaflet will also signpost participants to online resources if they wish to learn more about data storage, and who to contact at the university if they want to raise a complaint
about handling of their personal data. The faecal egg count data will be shared with the submitting stud farm manager/owner and their nominated veterinary surgeon.

Digital copies of data will be stored in University managed stores (personal M drives); and individual files (e.g. excel files) will be password-protected on these same stores to minimise the risk of sensitive data being compromised. Participant data shared within the research team will be pseudo-anonymised, otherwise it will be fully anonymised before it is shared.

Storage and Backup Whilst the Project is Ongoing

Where will you store your data?

- University network drive (for example, the M Drive or a Departmental Drive)

If you're not using University storage, please explain why.

N/A

How do you intend to address any security issues relating to the storage of the data e.g. personal data under data protection legislation.

We do not anticipate any security issues, as data will held in UoL managed storage or on UoL campus.

Who else will have access to this data during the project e.g. research collaborator, supervisor, etc.?

Non-anonymised data (paper copies) & decoding sheet will only be accessed by the PhD student. and other members of the research team (e.g. supervisor, statistician). Individuals outside of the research team (e.g. collaborators, funder) will only have access to fully anonymised data.

Data Sharing at Project Completion

Will you be depositing your data in an open repository at the conclusion of your project?

- No

If no, please explain why. Is there any way others could have access to your data and how would this be facilitated?

Ethical consent will not be requested for open sharing of the raw data. Raw data will only be accessible to the research team. Farm specific data will be shared with the farm and their nominated veterinary surgeon with their consent.

Long Term Retention of Data Which Cannot be Shared

If any, which data cannot be made openly available but will need to be retained long-term?

The personal data will be destroyed 12 months after end-of-project date.
The anonymized research data (defined as any recorded information necessary to support or validate a research project observations, findings or outputs) will be retained for up to 10 years.
All versions will be deleted from all locations including the UoL secure M drive and departmental drives.

Where will the data be kept at the end of the project and how long will it be retained?

For the period of archiving the data will be in excel, audio transcripts and csv files.

Implementation

How often will this plan be reviewed?

The plan should be reviewed every six months to ensure it is still accurate.

List any roles and responsibilities for data management within the research team. These might include responsibilities for e.g. sharing the data or ensuring confidential disposal of data at the end of the project.

Primary responsibility for the management of data produced during research activities lies with Aisha

Kirby. This includes sharing of anonymised data disposal of data at the end of the project.