

Failure rates at d14 were significantly different between treatments ($p < .01$). Group C had 53% failures, compared to 18% for F, 13% for N, 9% for L, and 3% for T. FRL rates at d28 were 16% for C, 24% for F, 35% for N, 33% for L, and 26% for T. Overall treatment success rates through d28 (FRL + HL) were 34% for C, 71% for

F, 74% for N, 91% for L, and 94% for T. The F and N groups were significantly different from untreated controls ($p < .005$). The L and T groups differed significantly from the controls ($p < .001$). Differences among treatments were not significant.

Computer Practice Tips

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The Interactive Video Network: Delivery of Continuing Education Programs Through A Videoconferencing System

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Abstract

Continuing education programs for veterinarians must overcome many obstacles to succeed. These obstacles include program accessibility concerns (e.g., time away from practice, travel distance and cost of attending), and program caliber issues (e.g., relevancy, utility, and quality of the information presented). The Interactive Video Network (IVN) in Maryland provides a means for delivering continuing education programs that breaks through program accessibility barriers. In addition, effective use of the interactive capabilities of IVN enhances the value of a program. IVN is a land based, computer videoconferencing system that links multiple locations statewide into a single sight and sound network. Video, audio and any computer-based data signal are interactively shared between participating locations through special telephone network connections. Equipment at each site compresses (or decompresses) the signals into a single, digital signal that is sent (or received) across the network. There are no limits to the number of sites that can be connected for a program, although two to six sites work best for most situations.

IVN provides all the same presentation choices and information exchange capabilities that are available in a meeting held at a single, centrally-located site. Two-way, real-time communication and interaction are possible among all linked sites. Multimedia presentations, term-teaching, and small group interactions within a larger group setting are handled easily by IVN. The use of videoconferencing for continuing education programs offers many advantages over traditional formats. The IVN system 1) increases the accessibility of experts or specialists to veterinarians living in remote locations, 2) encourages the delivery of short (e.g., two-hours during a weekday evening), focused, cost-conscious programs to multiple sites simultaneously, 3) stimulates the development and use of innovative approaches for information and technology transfer and 4) breaks down geographic barriers so people from different regions of the state can interact face-to-face easily. After attending a series of continuing education programs on IVN, one private practitioner from Maryland wrote that "It was great! This technology is the wave of the future. It puts veterinary medicine on the cutting edge."