

DALBLAIR VETS HAVE THEIR SAY...

Dalblair Vets, which has been serving the good people and pets of Ayrshire since 1908, recently took the decision to become an exclusively small animal practice. "This has allowed us to provide the best possible service for our small animal clients by focusing our skills and expertise on the ever-increasing specialisation and treatment options now available for companion animals," explains Carol Mason, one of Dalblair's six vets.

Talking of new options, the Vet20 blood pressure monitor was only launched at this year's BSAVA. Available exclusively through HSAH, it has been a regular feature in Dalblair Vets' operating theatres for the last few months. So how are they finding it?

EASY TO USE. Compared to the other blood pressure monitors they had used before, it's so much easier, according to Carol. "The Vet20's intuitive touch screen means you've got everything you need to review and analyse BP data right there in front of you. It's so simple, everyone's picked it up really quickly."

PORTABLE. Weighing in at just 1.3 lbs (0.59kg) with batteries, the Vet20 can easily be passed between Dalblair's two operating theatres in Ayr town centre or taken to their nearby Prestwick practice.

RELIABLE. "We always take the reading several times for the most accurate result possible, we find the Suntech and its readings very reliable and consistent" chips in Rachael Currie, one of Dalblair's veterinary nurses. Not a problem with the Vet20, especially with that motion-tolerant technology.

QUIET. "Everyone says how quiet it is," adds Rachael, "so patients tolerate it better. We've noticed a big difference with cats in particular, which makes for much calmer procedures all round. That and the fact it's so simple to use means that practices are more likely to check cats' blood pressure routinely, in line with best practice."

ACCURATE, no matter how wriggly the patient. The Vet20 uses a BP algorithm specifically developed by experts at a leading vet school. This motion-tolerant technology means it produces more successful BP readings than other devices.

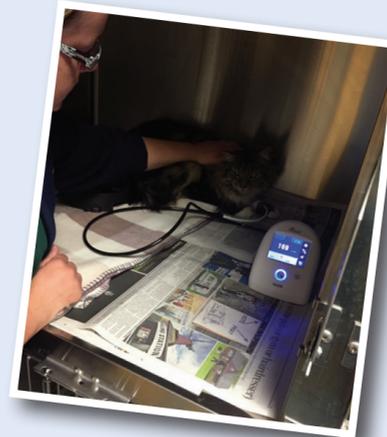
FAST. "You could be waiting up to 10 minutes for the results from the Doppler," says Carol, "but the Vet20 does it in a fraction of the time. What's more, you get systolic, diastolic and MAP BP values, as well as heart rate – all clearly displayed on the Vet20 – compared to just systolic values with the Doppler."

WE ALL LOVE IT!

It comes in very handy for vet Stuart's ophthalmology cases and we think it's a great piece of equipment in our geriatric cat clinics. All of the nurses find it very useful during surgery as an extra way to monitor their patients during anaesthesia."

So it's a big thumbs up from Dalblair Vets? "Yes", chime Carol and Rachael together. "It's by far the easiest blood pressure monitor any of us have used, really quiet and provides accurate results quickly. We all love it," sums up Rachael.

We all love it." sums up Rachael, while Carol concludes, "It has been a very useful addition to our practice monitoring equipment and our patients are already benefitting."



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STUDY: A CONTROLLED LABORATORY EVALUATION OF SUNTECH VET TECHNOLOGY AND DOPPLER ON CATS AND DOGS

While there are no mandatory veterinary clinical requirements, SunTech has recognised the need and obligation to study veterinary populations. A controlled trial was conducted at the North Carolina State University College of Veterinary Medicine comparing our vet NIBP algorithm to the Parks Ultrasonic Doppler Flow Detector Model 811-B. While Doppler typically does not provide a Diastolic value, the technology is universally accepted in Veterinary Medicine to provide Systolic values. A wide variety of animal subjects were used in this comparison to better replicate actual conditions in a Veterinary Clinic.



Results

SunTech – Doppler
Systolic Accuracy Comparison

	Mean Error
Cats (n = 29) most awake	-2.7
Dogs (n = 20) most sedated	1.1



Mean errors less than +/- 5 mmHg are considered acceptable by non-invasive blood pressure clinical standards when compared to a gold standard of accuracy. In veterinary medicine, both Doppler and Direct BP measurement (intra-arterial transducer) are considered to be valid references when evaluating oscillometric NIBP devices.

**The ACVIM clinical protocol guideline was introduced after this study occurred otherwise data collection and analysis would have followed this guideline.*

The new portable Vet20™ quickly and easily provides reliable BP measurements on companion animals, without the need for sedation. Utilising SunTech trusted advantage™ BP technology, the Vet20 quietly performs motion-tolerant, oscillometric BP measurements, delivering more accurate results with a greater success rate than other devices. The intuitive touch screen interface makes the Vet20 easy to use, with little to no staff training required.

Methodology*

Data collection included gathering pre and post Doppler measurements where oscillometric NIBP measurements were taken in between. This pattern was performed sequentially three times. Both the pre and post Doppler values were calculated by performing three sequential Doppler measurements which were averaged together to minimise variability due to technique errors and patient physiological changes. All measurements were performed on both alert and sedated/anesthetised dogs and cats. In general, most dogs were anesthetised and most cats were awake. Animal conditions varied from healthy to critical to more closely replicate real conditions in a veterinary environment. The majority of animals had some sort of health issue ranging from dental prophylaxis to brain surgery. Subject blood pressures included hypotensive, normotensive and hypertensive. Weights and ages for cats varied from 1.3 to 10kg (2.9 to 22.0 lb) and 8 weeks to 17 years old. For dogs, weights were 8 to 44 kg (17.6 to 97 lb) and ages were 1 to 13 years old. A total of 29 cats and 20 dogs were involved in this study. Since Doppler measurements only provide a Systolic measurement, comparisons for Diastolic, mean arterial pressure (MAP) and heart rate were not performed.

Features

- Intuitive touch screen interface
- Advanced memory and automated BP averaging
- SunTech motion-tolerant technology producing accurate readings
- Range of cuff sizes available

Benefits

- Quiet operation and alarm silencer to avoid frightening animals
- Fast, accurate measurements
- Lightweight and portable
- 2 year warranty

