



Dear Colleague,

The introduction of practice management systems (PMS) during the past two decades has seen practices and staff alike become more efficient and effective in the way they work.

From time management and ease of updating client records through to automated accounts so invoices aren't missed, the benefits of a PMS are endless.

Nonetheless, it has often been the case that data held on a PMS was marooned on an island; only accessible to colleagues within your practice group and not shared easily with external organisations (including insurers, labs etc).

Therefore, dealing with third parties often involves transferring data non-electronically (i.e. using paper/fax). This is time-consuming and costly to a practice and tracking the information once sent can be fraught with difficulties.

Enter VetXML: an industry standard data format allowing all compliant computer systems to easily read and understand the data electronically. Practices using a compliant PMS can quickly and securely exchange information with other practices and other veterinary service providers.

The result of VetXML is greater practice efficiency by freeing up staff, as well as reducing costs and increasing client satisfaction.

Early in 2006, SPVS established the VetXML Consortium, which is dedicated to the development and specification of the VetXML standard, whilst being independent.

SPVS continues to support the development of VetXML and welcomes its use in a widening range of applications across the veterinary profession.

We hope you find the information in this pack of interest and look forward to working with you in the future.

Stephanie Writer-Davies

**SPVS President**

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