



Curbside measures are still in effect as regular veterinary appointments begin

Effective today, veterinary practices can offer their full range of services, including preventive care, but measures to limit COVID-19 exposure are still in effect. **Clients should not be entering the clinic, except for special situations such as euthanasia or other extenuating circumstances.** Veterinarians should use their professional judgement on these matters. Social distancing and curbside medicine and product pick up should continue, and each practice can determine the extent of the services they offer.

Practice owners and managers are encouraged to work with their staff to implement protocols to protect the health and safety of both employees and clients. To assist in that regard, OVMA has worked with Dr. Scott Weese to develop [A Guide to Reopening Veterinary Medicine in Ontario](#). Members may also want to check out the recording of OVMA's webinar on [Strategies for Dealing with Post-COVID Clients, Finances and Production](#).

If you have any questions about the reopening framework in Ontario, contact Brandi Deimling at bdeimling@ovma.org.

Updates to the Canadian Employee Wage Subsidy Program

Last week the federal government announced that the Canadian Employee Wage Subsidy Program (CEWS) will be extended to Aug. 29, 2020. Employers whose businesses have been impacted by COVID-19 and have seen a revenue drop of 30 per cent may be eligible for a subsidy of 75 per cent of employee wages. Employers can apply for CEWS through the Canada Revenue Agency's My Business Account Portal.

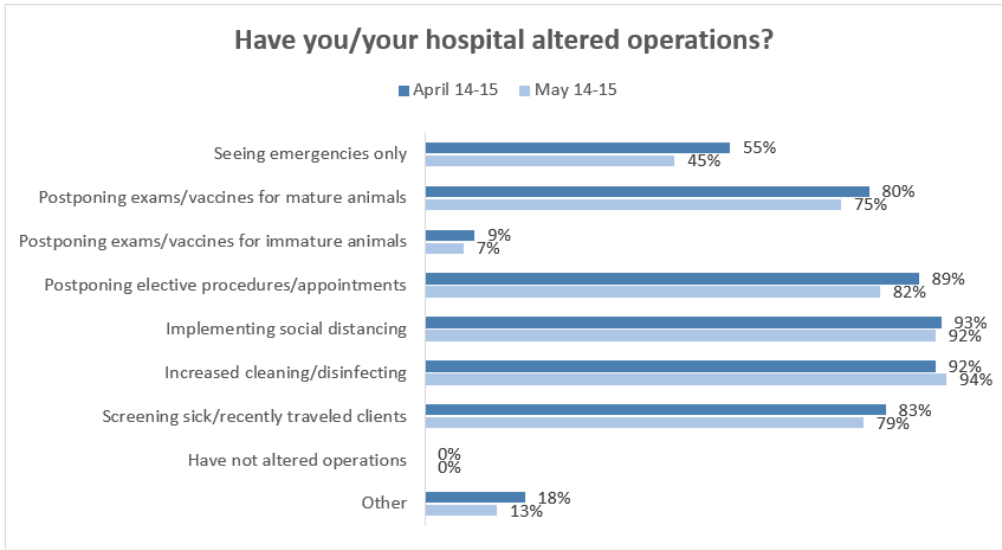
If you have questions about eligibility, contact Brandi Deimling at bdeimling@ovma.org. For help determining how to best use the available subsidies and/or budgeting/financial issues in your practice, contact Darren Osborne (dosborne@ovma.org) or Dr. Chris Doherty (cdoherty@ovma.org).

Practice survey results

OVMA's fourth survey in response to COVID-19 was launched on May 14, and over two days collected 476 responses. This survey will be run at regular intervals to monitor how veterinarians are responding to the situation as it develops.

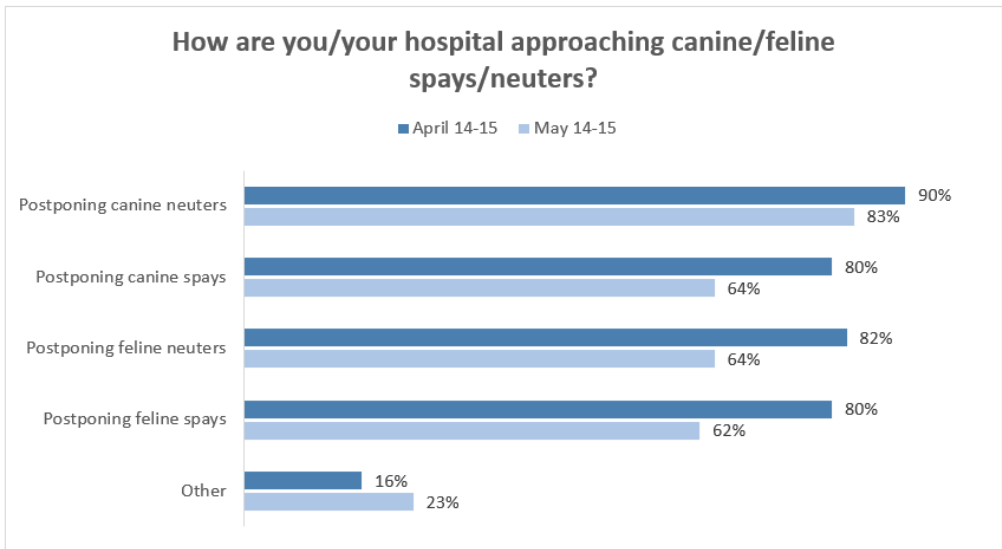
Please note that some new questions were added, while others were significantly altered and therefore don't have trend data from previous surveys.

Changes in Operations



Some of the common “other” responses to how veterinarians have altered operations included conducting certain appointments depending on risk, and increasing appointment times to allow for more cleaning and safe handling.

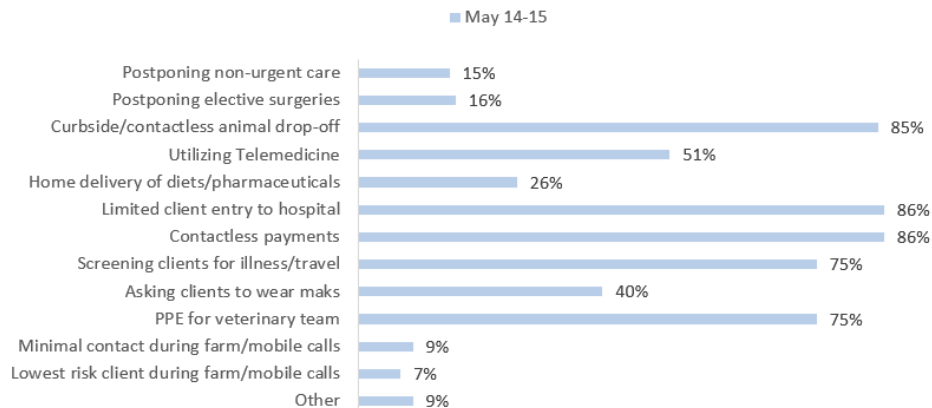
Spays and Neuters



Note that those respondents who indicated that they didn’t routinely perform canine/feline spays/neuters were filtered out in determining percentages. The most common “other” response to how veterinarians are approaching these surgeries were that they were assessing lifestyle risk in determining if to perform or postpone the procedure, and determining their response on a case-by-case basis.

Measures After Urgent Care Only Provision Lifted

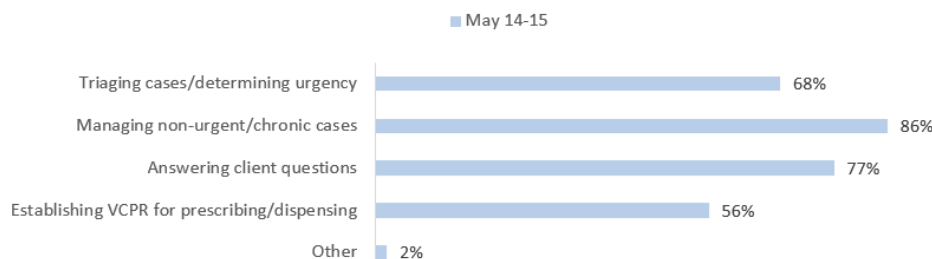
Which measures will you/your hospital implement/maintain after the urgent care only provision is lifted?



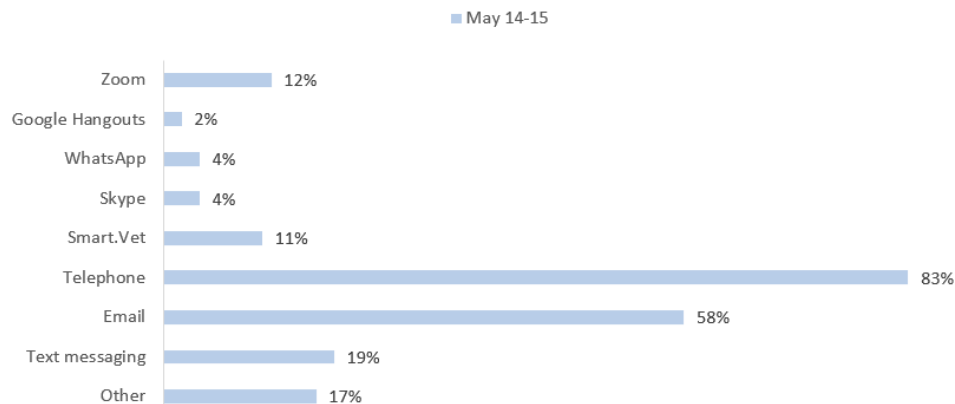
Note that of those respondents who worked in mixed and large animal or small animal mobile, 76 per cent indicated they would minimize contact during farm/mobile calls, while 53 per cent indicated they would utilize the lowest risk client available for assistance/restraint during farm/mobile calls. Some of the common “other” responses were that clients would be permitted in the hospital for euthanasia appointments only, and that appointment requests would be assessed on a case-by-case basis.

Telemedicine

What are you/your hospital utilizing telemedicine for?



Which platform(s) are you/your hospital utilizing for telemedicine?

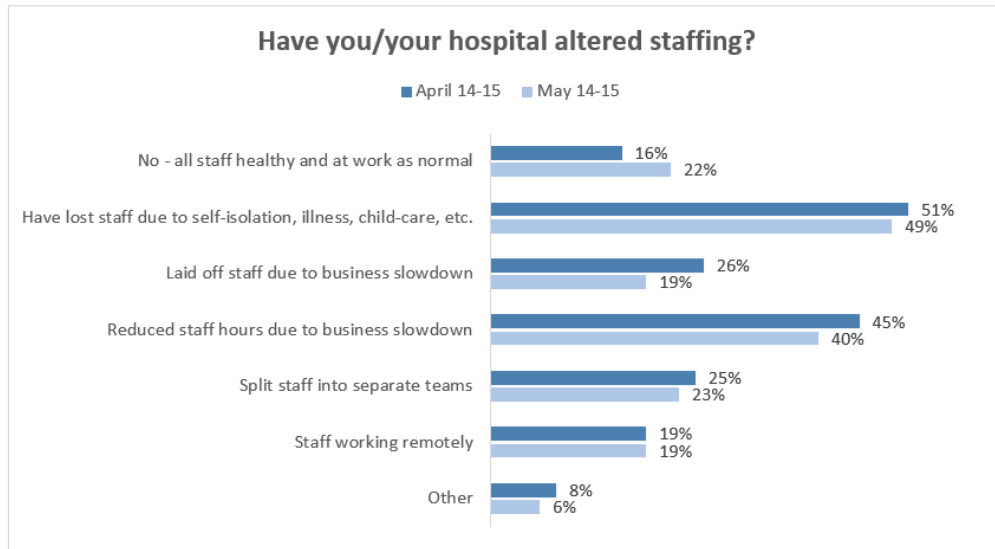


Survey respondents were asked, if they have implemented telemedicine, what they were currently utilizing it for, and the platform(s) they were providing this service through. The most common “other” responses provided to which platform(s) were utilized were Facetime and Microsoft Teams.

Respondents were then asked to provide information on what they charged for telemedicine. Of 391 respondents offering telemedicine, 26 per cent indicated that they did not charge for this service. Those charging for telemedicine consults had a median fee of \$60 (excludes those providing service for \$0).

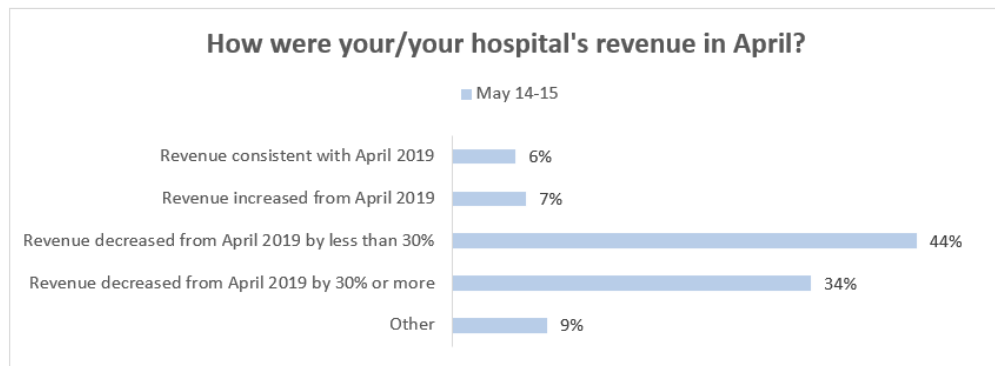
	25 th Percentile	Average	Median	75 th Percentile
Telemedicine Fee (excludes \$0 fee)	\$47.00	\$62.30	\$60.00	\$75.00

Alterations in Staffing



Some of the common “other” responses to how veterinarians have altered staffing included part-time staff no longer working, while others indicated they worked independently and therefore had no staff.

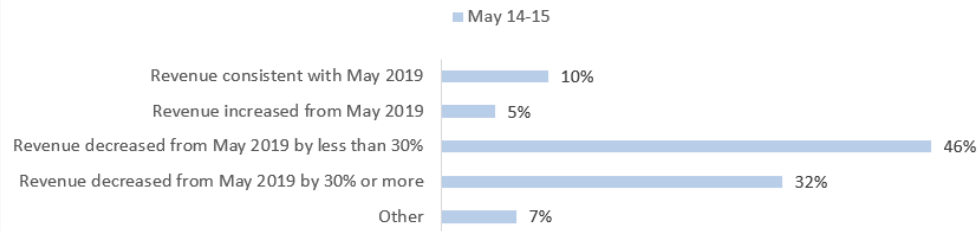
April Revenues



The most common “other” responses to hospital revenue in April were that they were unsure, or that the business was new and thus have no April 2019 to compare against.

May Revenues

How do you anticipate your/your hospital's revenues will be for May?



The most common “other” responses to how veterinarians anticipate their revenues will be for May were that they were unsure, or that it was too early for them to tell.

Register for the Summit Veterinary Pharmacy Ride for Farley

Join fellow veterinarians and veterinary professionals and cycle to raise funds and awareness for the Farley Foundation. The ride, which takes place Sept. 12 in Milton, sees riders commit to cycling 25, 50 or 100 km and raising \$500 for the Farley Foundation.

Family and friends are also invited to join the ride and fundraise as a group. Every rider participating must be registered.

New for 2020: A shorter, 25-km route has been added to ensure even the youngest animal lovers are able to participate!

[Download a registration form](#) for or [create your own fundraising page](#) and invite family and friends to donate online. For more information, visit farleyfoundation.org/events or email Nina Bauer at nbauer@ovma.org.



SUMMIT
VETERINARY PHARMACY
Ride for Farley



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Our mailing address:

Ontario Veterinary Medical Association
420 Bronte Street South, Suite 205
Milton, ON, L9T 0H9

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