**Case Studey: Esophageal Tube Placement in Dogs and Cats**

Esophagostomy tube placement is a common occurrence in **veterinary** practice and indicated in cases where nutritional support may be required for patients for weeks or months. They are used to administer nutrition in the anorexic patient or those where oral feeding is not possible. The tubes should not be used in patients with esophageal disorders, delayed gastric emptying, and vomiting.

Complications from esophageal tube placement in animals includes general anaesthesia risk, infection at the stoma (insertion hole), jugular vein disruption during placement or dislodging of the tube due to vomiting or regurgitation.

To ascertain if placement methodology impacted on post placement complications or development of infection at the stoma site, researchers propose to study the tube placement in cats and dogs.

**Methods**
Only cats and dogs from private families for whom esophageal feeding tubes were already going to be placed as part of their clinical care were recruited for this study. However, these tubes would have to remain placed for 7 days in order to standardize the study, even if the patient only needed the tube for a brief period.

All feeding tubes will be placed by Veterinary Surgeons under general anaesthesia in either left or right lateral recumbency (while laying on their right or left side).

Post-operative care of esophageal feeding tubes was standardized and performed daily by a registered Veterinary Nurse (RVN) or student under the direct supervision of an RVN. The condition of the tube and stoma was observed and evaluated daily using a stoma score designed for this study. These observations will be recorded for 7 days post placement or until the tube was displaced for some reason.

Evaluate reasons to approve of disapprove this research study by raising questions reflecting:

1. Fox’s for **and** against positions on animal research
2. Feminist accounts
3. Regan’s “miniride” or “worse-off” principles