

Appendix 1: Veterinary Focus Group Questions

1. In general, what views and opinions do you have about obesity in companion animals?
2. What kinds of things would pet owners like you, the clinic or other team members, to provide them with during or after these weight discussions?
3. In general, think about times when you had a very good weight discussion with a client. And, in general, think about times when you had a very bad weight discussion with a client. Get a partner and talk about both situations. On the left-hand side of the page, write down things about the good weight loss discussion. On the right-hand side of the page, write down things about the bad weight loss discussion. Write down things like- What you did or said? How do you know it went well? How do you know it went poorly? What words did you use to describe the weight of the pet? How did you treat the owner and pet? How did the owner make you feel?
4. Thinking about the set-up of your clinic, please fill out the sheet. In each square write down whom the pet owner talks to, in order from when they enter the clinic for a weight loss discussion, to when they leave the clinic. Also, in each square write down what you think each person says to the pet owner.
5. Think about the team members of the practice you are working in- by team members we mean the veterinarians, RAHTs, and receptionists. Now, still thinking about the weight discussions in the practice, write down what you think the responsibilities of each person is. What do you think their duties are during weight loss discussions? What do you want them to do more of? What you want them to do differently? What can each of you do to make weight loss discussions for effective?
6. If you had access to any tactic that would make obesity education and prevention easier to impact, what would it be? Write each idea down on a Post-It note. Pass each Post-It note to the person to the right of you. As you receive notes, read the note. If you have something to add to your neighbour's Post-It note, write that down on their Post-It note.