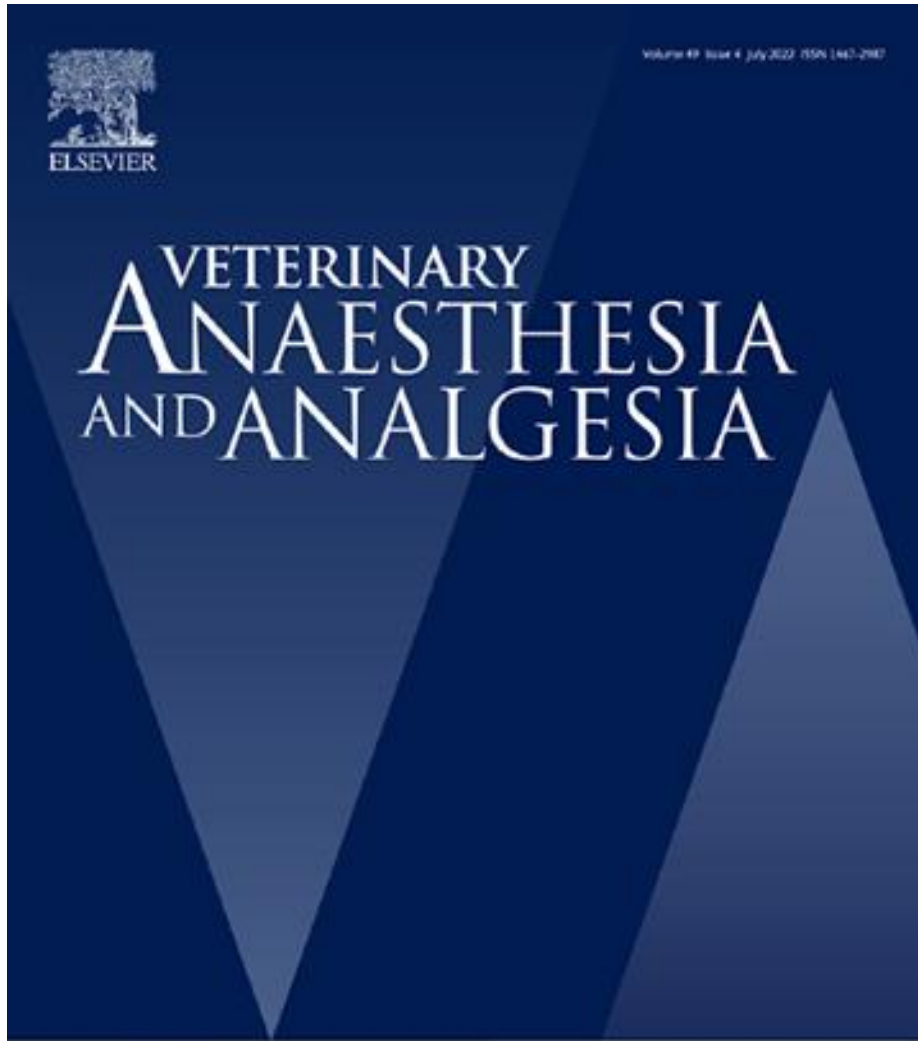


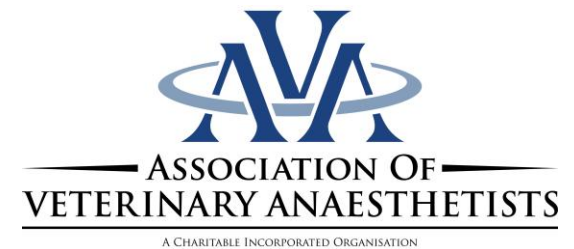


VAA update

Daniel Pang & Rachel Bennett
co-Editors
16th May, 2025



AMERICAN COLLEGE OF
VETERINARY ANESTHESIA
AND ANALGESIA



Agenda

New content

Changing Editor Roles

Simplifying submissions

Move to Open Access (OA)

Speeding up manuscript handling

Manuscript submissions 2024

Paid Associate Editor Role

Miscellaneous

New content:

Special issues:

1. Morbidity & Mortality – 19 articles spanning four species
(Guest Assoc Editor: Regula Bettschart-Wolfensberger).
2. AVA London presentations – *in progress*.

ACVAA anesthesia and sedation monitoring guidelines available online (open access).

Simplifying submissions:

1. A template for preparing case reports is now available.
2. A template for original research manuscripts is in the final stages of preparation.

Goals of these are to simplify the process of manuscript preparation for authors & simplify copy editing.

Speeding up manuscript handling:

1. Changing reference style to a standardised Harvard format – compatible with bibliographic software.
2. Goal of requesting majority of revisions at first review round, so subsequent rounds will be substantially shorter.
3. Reduced time with editorial team (Assoc Editors & EICs).
4. Active engagement with slow reviewers.
5. Increasing template use.

Speeding up manuscript handling (cont.):

Manuscript handling time

Rate limiting steps:

1. Finding reviewers* – please accept/decline invitations quickly.
2. Time in review, but also time to perform revisions.

Ultimately, improvements in manuscript handling time are a community effort.

*more re-certification points for VAA reviews

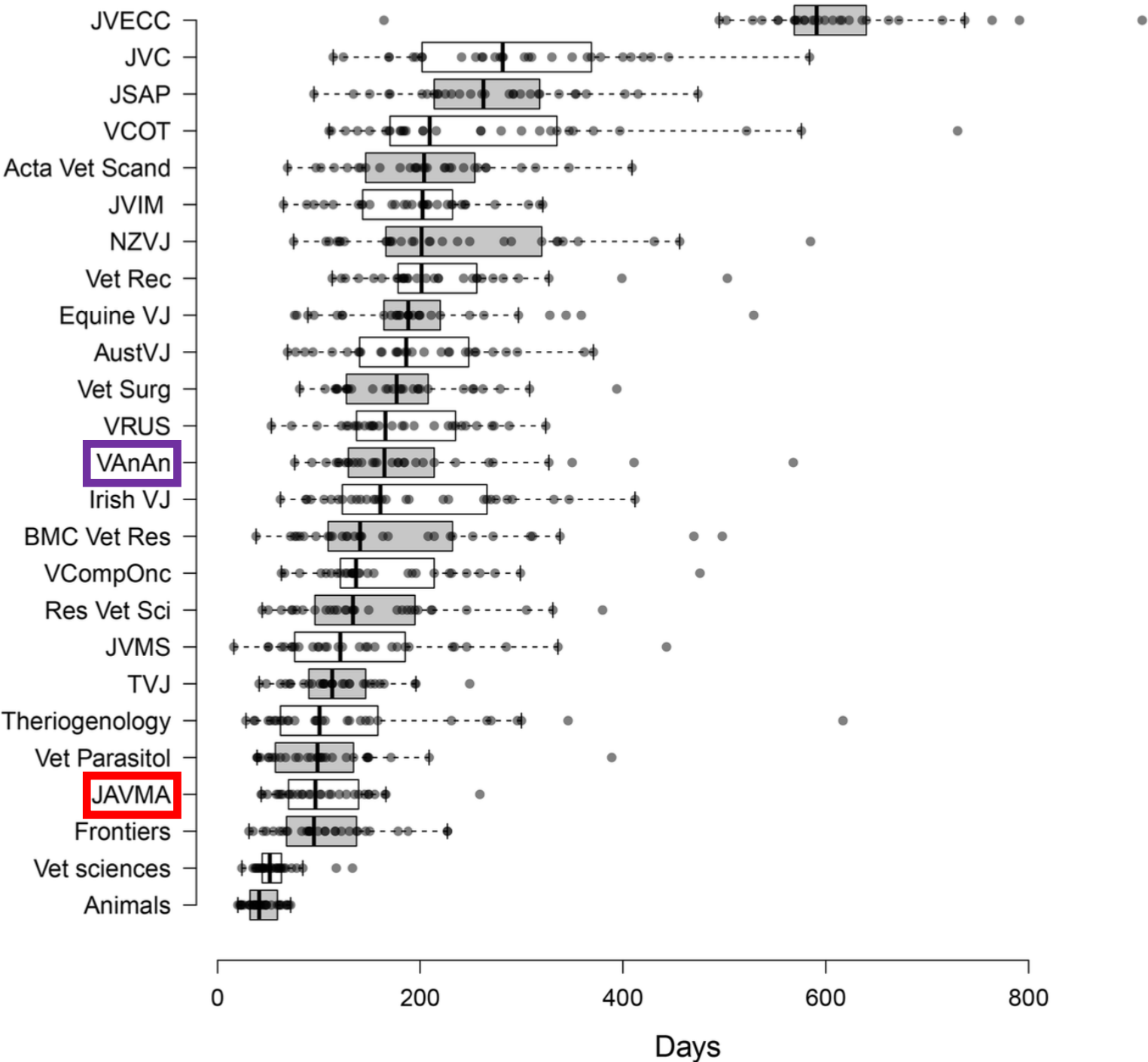
Time from manuscript submission to first online publication.



Most, but not all, clinical veterinary journals have improved publication speed of research articles—another look 6 years on

Mark Rishniw, BVSc, PhD, DACVIM^{1,2*}; Maurice E. White, DVM³

Rishniw & White, 2025



Paid Associate Editor (AE) Role:

1. Pay (\$ to be determined)
2. Currently:
 - a. Nine AEs work with Daniel.
 - b. Seven AEs work with Rachel – Ludovica Chiavaccini to step down.
 - c. Peter Pascoe – handles Review papers.
3. Future:
 - a. AEs will be pooled as a single team.
 - b. Responsibilities and expectations set.

Changing Editor Roles:

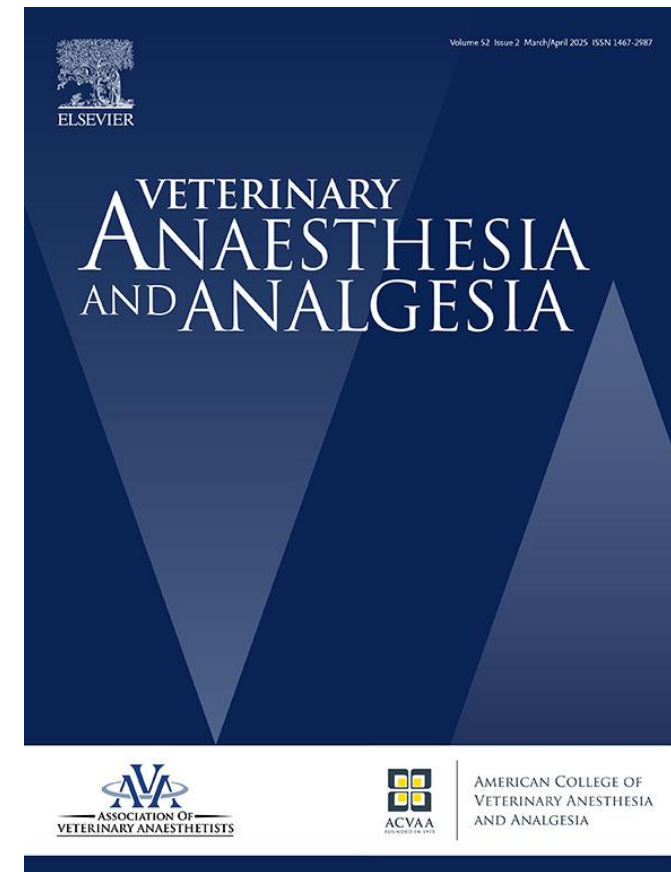
1. Rachel will step down – support role as Innovations Editor:
 - a. Mentoring & assisting new Assoc Editors.
 - b. Working with Editorial Board to increase involvement.
 - c. Potential voluntary study registration to strengthen the quality of research published & expedite processing of submitted manuscripts.
2. Daniel will continue in role as Editor - will handle all submissions.

Move to Open Access

– Jan 1st, 2026

Basis

- **Increased visibility:** publications rapidly, freely & permanently accessible – broaden reach and impact.
- **Access:** recognises most work is publicly funded & should be publicly available. OA increasingly mandated by funding agencies. Broaden interdisciplinary reach.
- **Citations:** expected to increase.
- **Support** from our members (2023 survey).



Open Access cost

1. Publishing fee (APC):
 - a. **Full length paper/ Review/ Perspectives** – US\$1500 (US\$3300 for non-members from 2028 onwards).
 - b. **Short Communication/ Case Report** – US\$1200 (US\$2640 for non-members from 2028 onwards).
 - c. **Letter/ Editorial** – US\$0.
2. APC takes effect from 1st September, 2024.
3. APC waiver for manuscripts submitted 2 months before transition.
4. ECVAAs paying full cost of each resident's first paper. *Other financial support is likely to be available.*

Manuscript Types – 2024 – Submissions

Manuscript type	Number of manuscripts	Percentage (%)
Research study	174	66.2
Short communication	17	6.5
Review article	7	2.3
Letter to the Editor	27	10.3
Editorial	1	0.4
Historical notes	1	0.4
Case reports*	36	13.7
Total	263	100

*includes 26 submissions to Special Issue: Morbidity & Mortality

Acceptance / Rejection rates

Year	Accept	All Rejects	Reject & resubmit	Reject - out of scope	Total final decisions	Accept %
2024	133	98	57	5	231	58
2023	50	64	36	2	114	44
2022	76	111	70	7	187	41

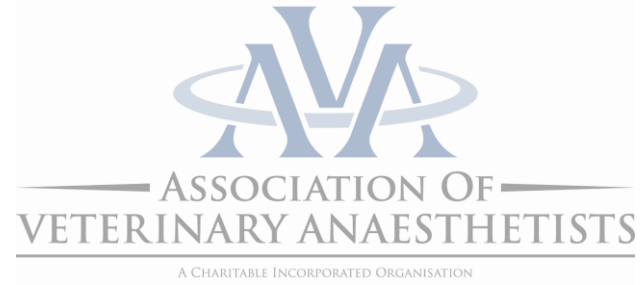
*Timeframes based on decision date, not submission date

Origin of Submissions – top 10

Country	Number of submissions	Percentage
USA	52	19.8
UK	47	17.9
Brazil	31	11.8
Spain	12	4.6
Canada	10	3.8
Republic of Korea	10	3.8
Australia	10	3.8
Italy	8	3.1
Japan	6	2.3
Turkey	6	2.3

49.5%

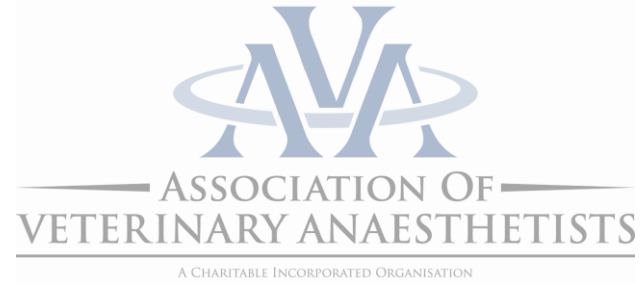
Editorial team & Editorial Board Update



Elsevier – Thank you to Wes Jones and Laura Guilherme.

Editorial Board – new members, Dr Sean Langton and Dr Andre Escobar.

Podcasts, Video Abstracts, Editors' choice articles



VAA podcasts – 33 on VAA webpage thanks to the efforts of Associate Editor Dr Ludovica Chiavaccini

Video abstracts – may be submitted by authors of accepted manuscripts.

Editors' choice articles – two selected from each issue; freely available online until the end of the year of publication.

Reviewer Acknowledgements



Reviewer acknowledgements – published in Vet Anaesth Analg in the new year.

Reviewer certificates – available if needed for reaccreditation etc.
These can be downloaded from Editorial Manager

Questions/Comments?

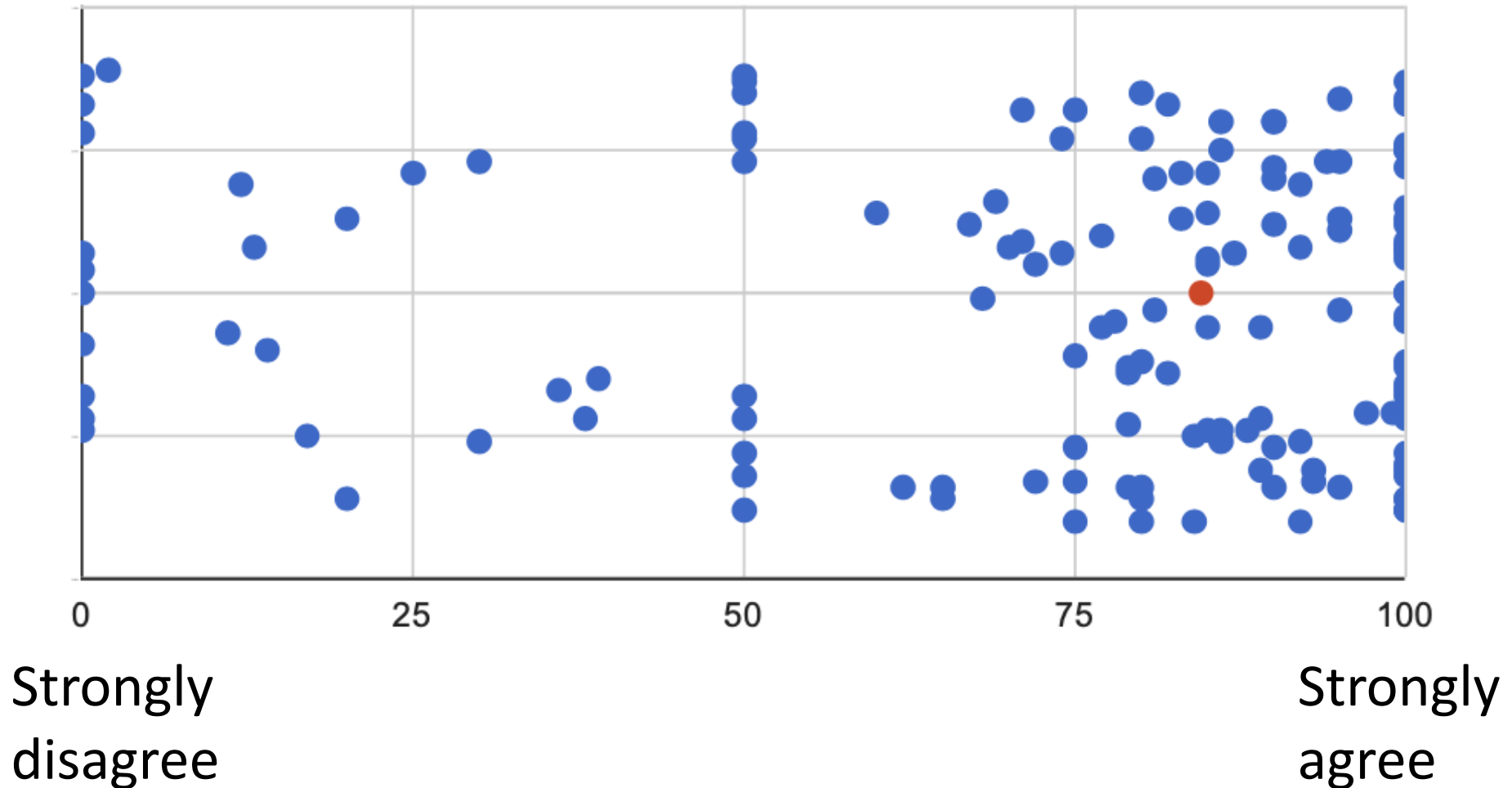
Daniel Pang: eic.vaa@ucalgary.ca

Rachel Bennett: vaa.eic.19@gmail.com

Following slides not presented at AVA Vienna
(summary of OA survey results – 2023)

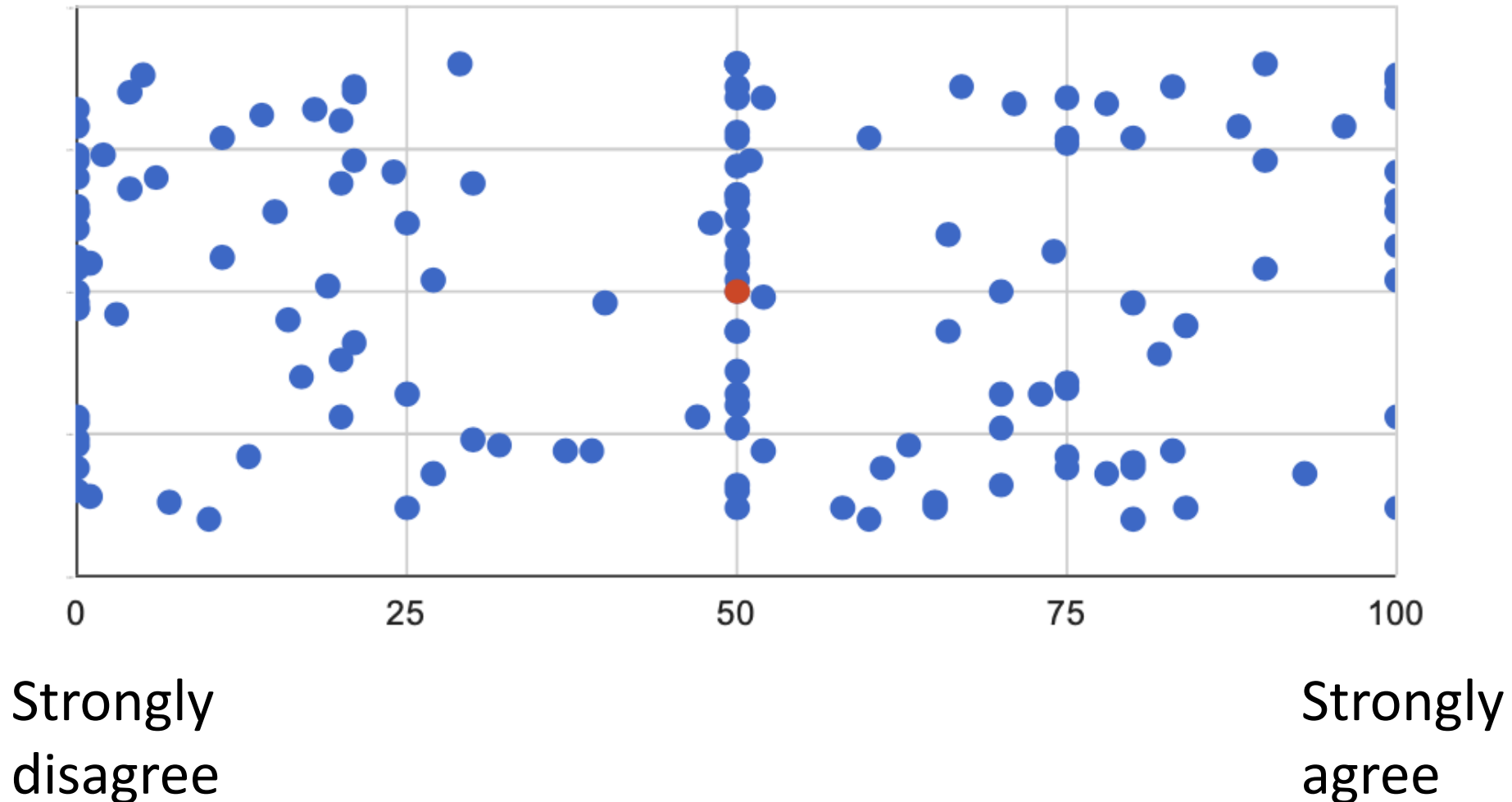
Reasons for not submitting to VAA...

Time taken in review



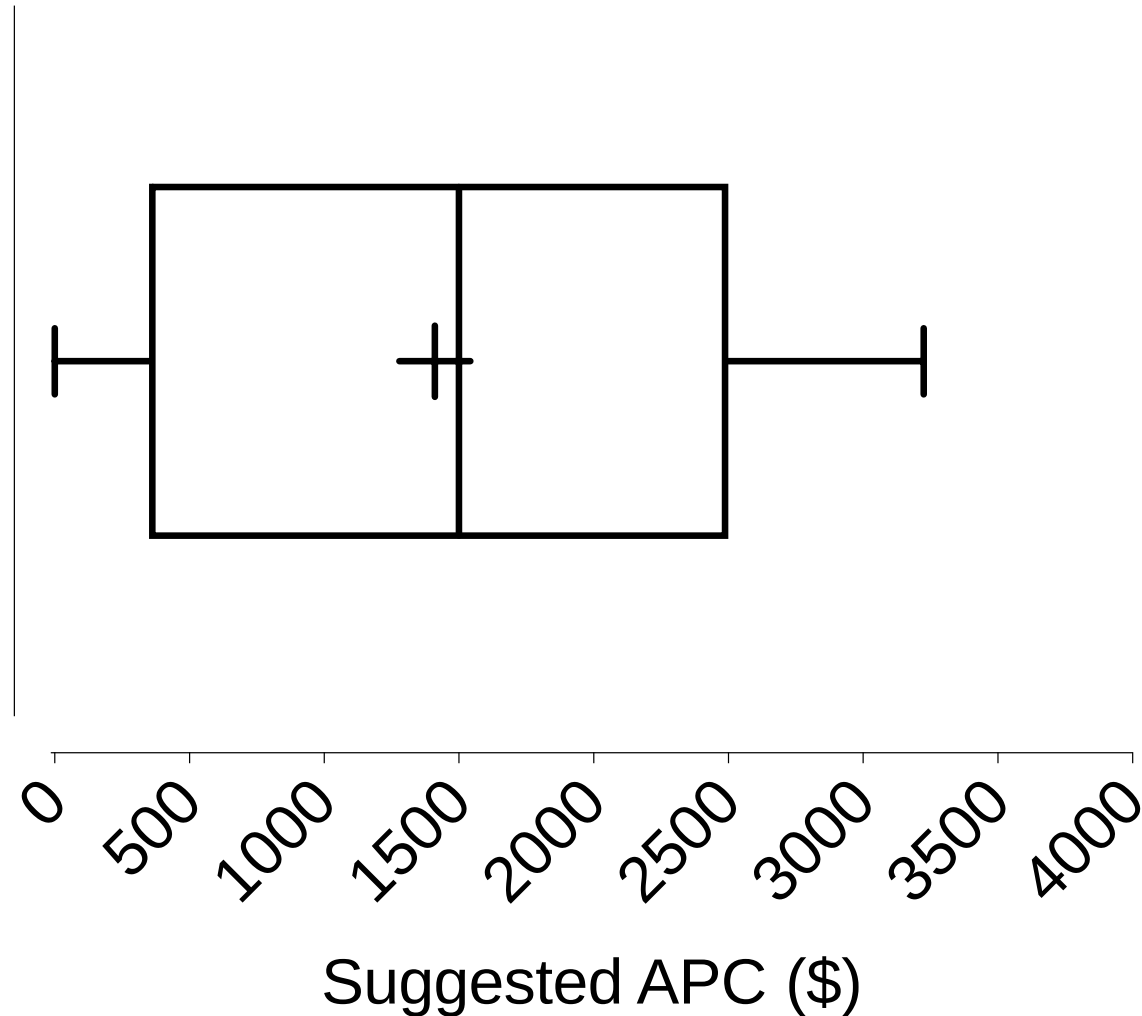
Reasons for not submitting to VAA...

Article processing charge (APC)



What APC would you consider acceptable?

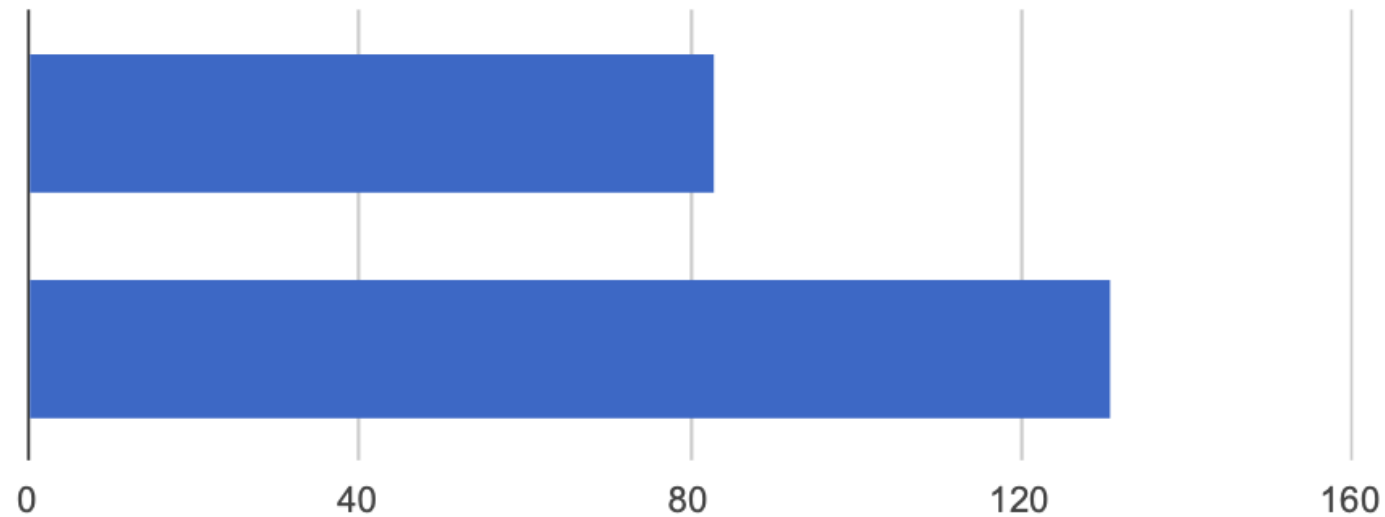
(n = 95 responses)



Preferred access to VAA

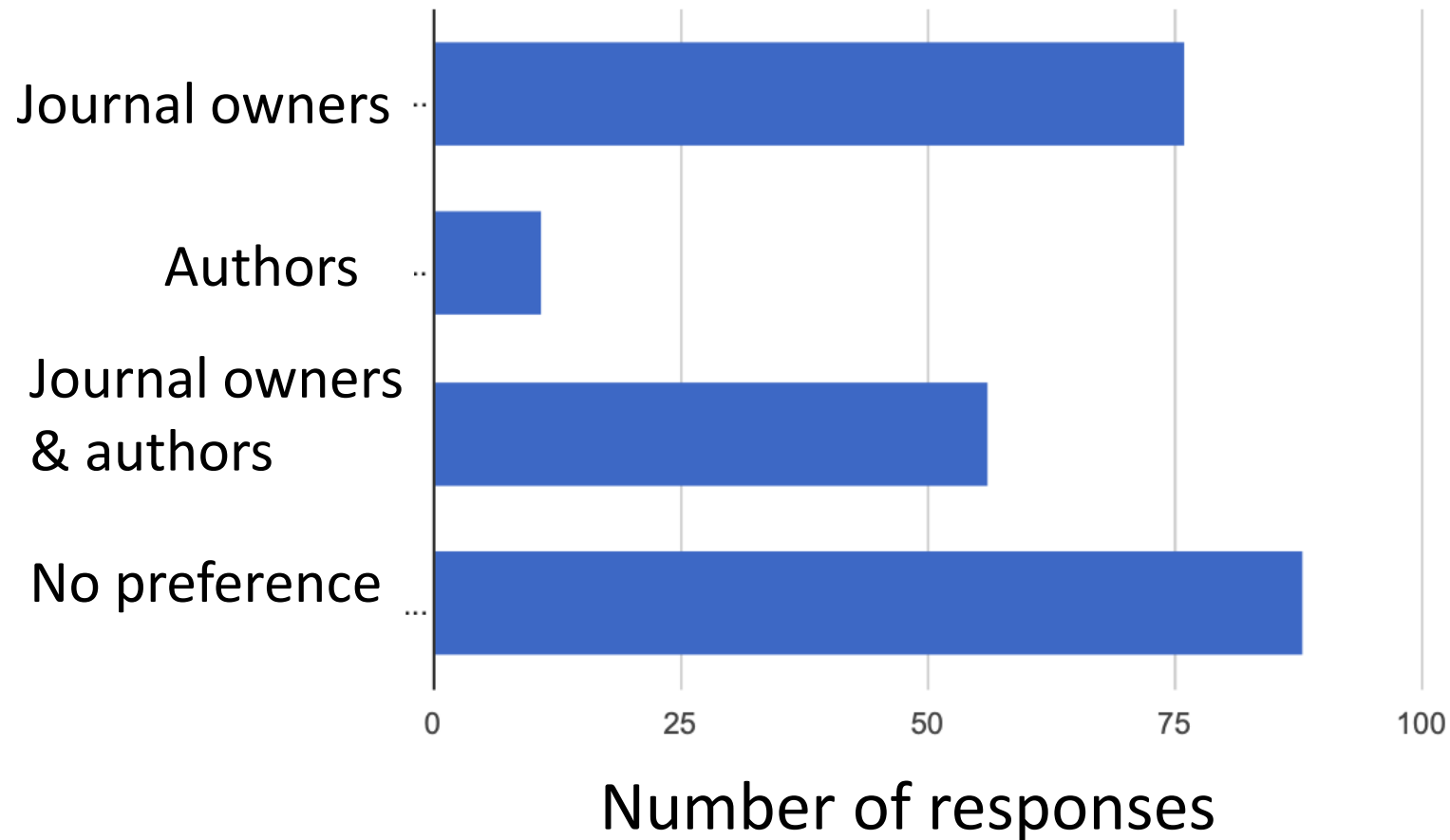
No change from hybrid
format

Freely available to all



Number of responses

Who should pay the cost of publishing?



Veterinary Anaesthesia and Analgesia

EDITORIAL BOARD

LEVEL 1: Editors-in-Chief (EiCs)

Oversee the journal, manage the editorial team and place final decisions

LEVEL 2: Associate Editors (AEs)

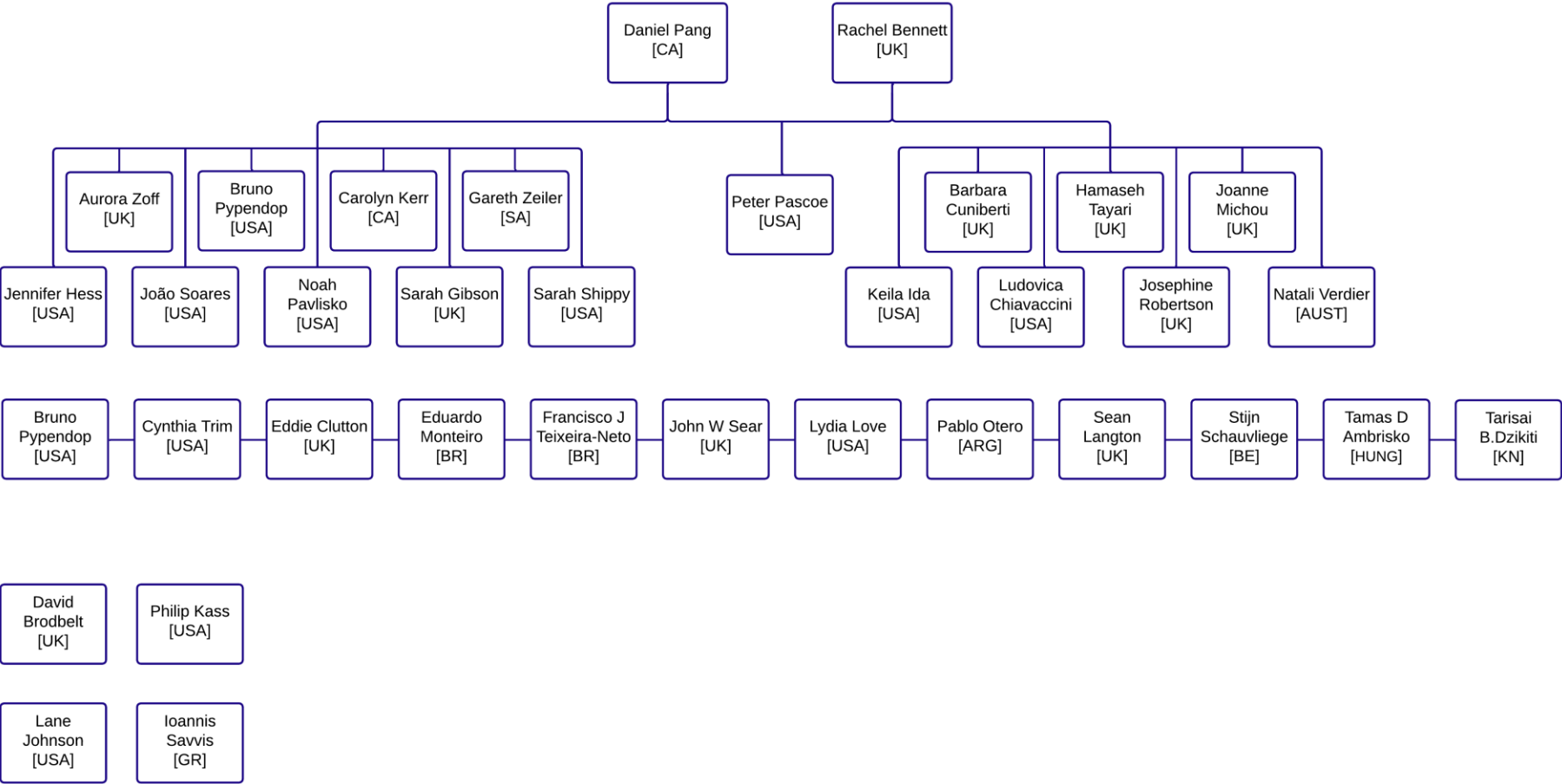
Responsible for the peer-reviewing, suggest final decisions

LEVEL 3: Advisory Editorial Board (AEB)

Review, advise and advocate for the journal

Statisticians

Abstract Editors



VAA Business Management Board

Membership

- AVA President, JVP, SVP
- ECVAA President
- ACVAA President, President Elect, Past President, BOD member

Remit

- Liaison between AVA and ACVAA and our Publisher and the Editorial Team and Editorial Board
- Manage business side of VAA



— ASSOCIATION OF —
VETERINARY ANAESTHETISTS

A CHARITABLE INCORPORATED ORGANISATION