



## Clinical Scores and Classification Systems Supporting Illness Severity Evaluation, Decision-Making, and Management in Food Animal Practice

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### Message from the Guest Editor

In recent years, many diagnosis-specific clinical scoring systems have been developed and are gaining increasing popularity. Indeed, they can decrease bias or confounding and provide a quantitative and objective measure of patient illness. In addition, clinical scores, decision-making trees, and checklists can benchmark procedures for triage, therapeutic protocols, quality assessment of farm management and animal welfare.

Although scores used in veterinary research are increasing, often the data available are barely utilized in clinical practice. Regarding scientific literature, the use of an objective criterion for the evaluation of disease severity and treatment effects in patients presenting different diseases can improve both observational and randomized trials validity, especially when group sizes are small.

This Special Issue aims to present clinical studies that validate the quality of scoring systems, checklists, or decision-making trees in farm animal practice. Furthermore, reviews of scoring systems already in use are invited.





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