



## Interesting Case from our web site [www.fairfield-vets.co.uk](http://www.fairfield-vets.co.uk)



### "George" - Rabbit with Bordetella Infection



George

Bordetella is a type of bacteria which causes a variety of debilitating diseases across a wide spectrum of species.

"Whooping cough" (*Bordetella pertussis*) in humans is a potentially fatal disease in young infants whose incidence has been largely controlled in the UK through vaccination.

"Kennel cough" (*Bordetella bronchiseptica*) is a highly contagious disease of dogs which can be very debilitating and whose incidence has been reduced though not eradicated through vaccination.

Investigation of these diseases has been driven by public health concerns and the standards now expected by pet owners in the care of their animals. With larger numbers of rabbits now being kept as pets our knowledge and capabilities in looking after their health and welfare have increased enormously.

Fortunately, at the Fairfield Veterinary Centre we not only have the interest and expertise in rabbit medicine in the shape of my colleague Agnieszka but also the kind of owners who will accept nothing less. Consequently, during the investigation of "George's" chronic nasal discharge Bordetella bacteria organisms were cultured and found to be a significant factor in his illness.

It is only through more elaborate investigation and testing that we find it possible to "shed light" on current disease and the success of treatments. Through appropriate therapy and the support of his owners "George" continues to make good progress both in himself and in helping to push back the boundaries of "rabbit medicine!"

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This article is available on the Fairfield Veterinary Centre web site at [www.fairfield-vets.co.uk](http://www.fairfield-vets.co.uk)

***You won't care how much we know - until you know how much we care***