



RESEARCH POSTER

# RISK FACTORS ASSOCIATED WITH DERMATOPHYTOSIS AMONG VETERINARY STUDENTS AT UNIVERSITAS BRAWIJAYA, MALANG, INDONESIA

APCCMI2025  
BANGKOK  
Abstract ID  
RES-266

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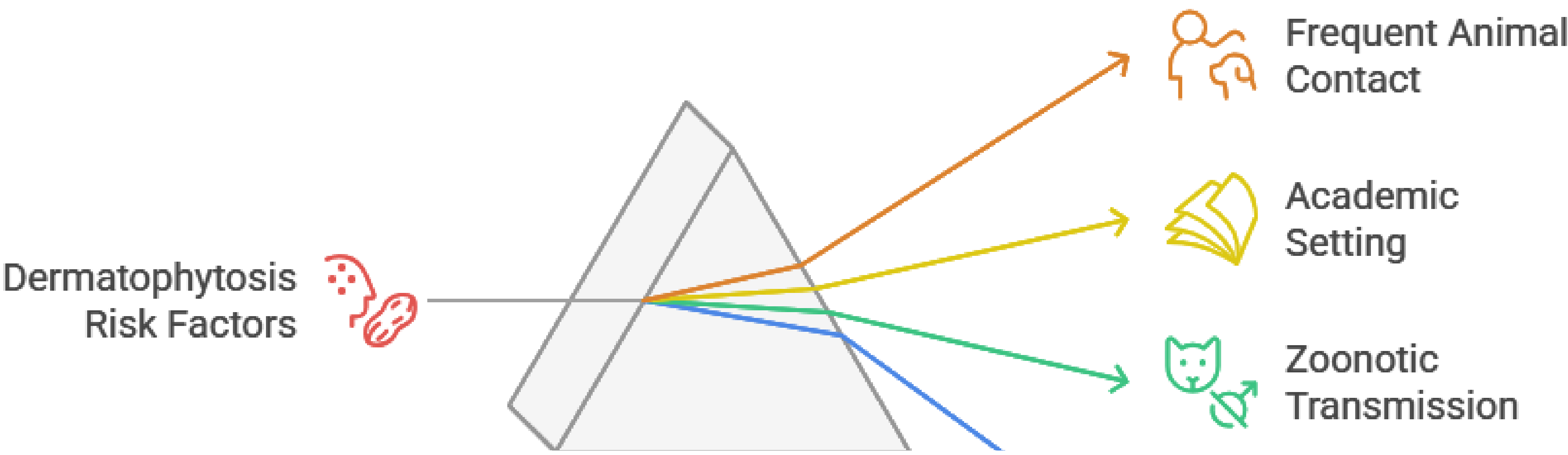
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BACKGROUND

Unveiling Dermatophytosis Risk Factors and Prevention



Dermatophytosis was a common zoonotic fungal infection among veterinary students due to frequent contact with animals. Identifying risk factors was essential for developing effective prevention strategies in academic settings.

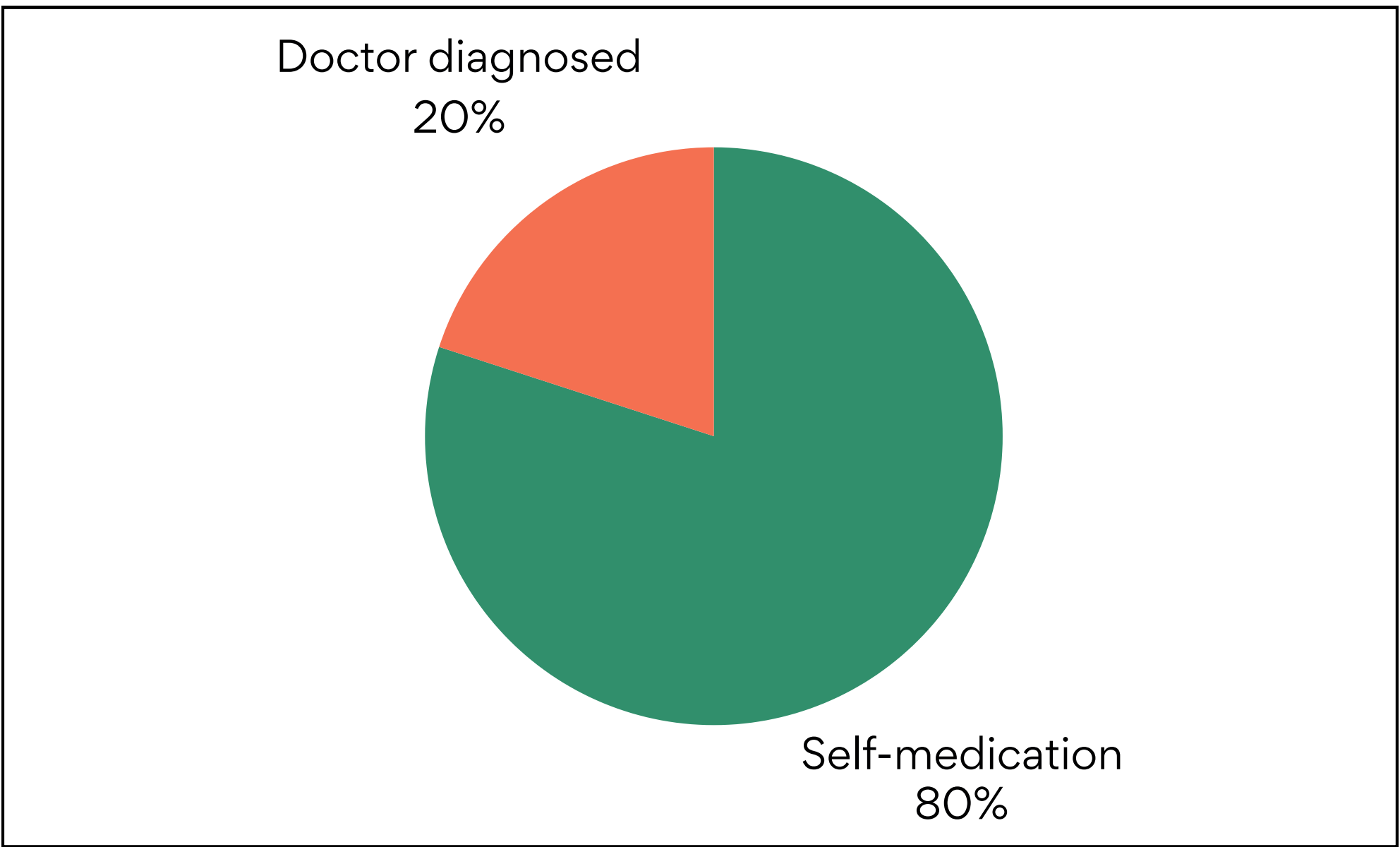
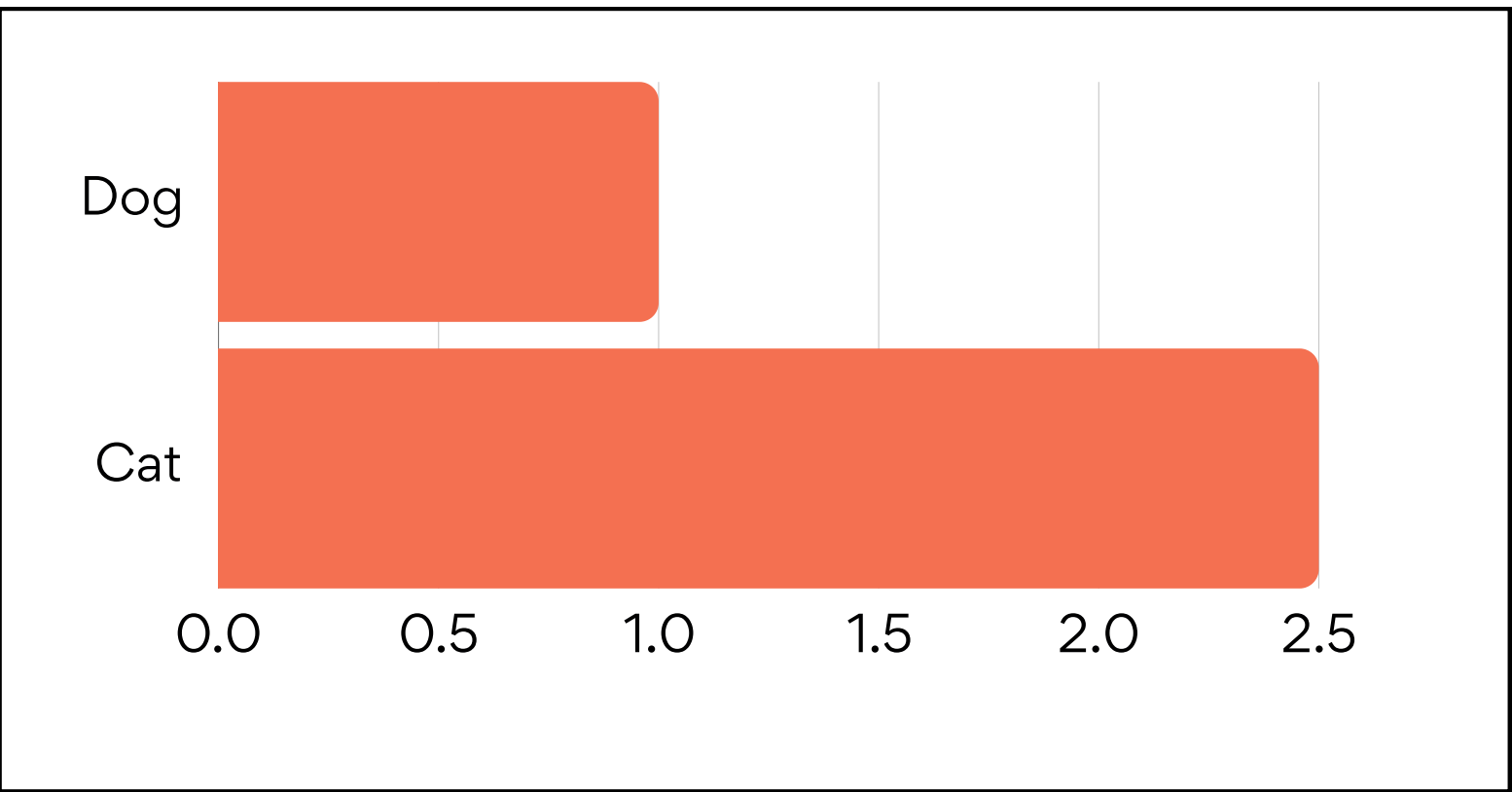
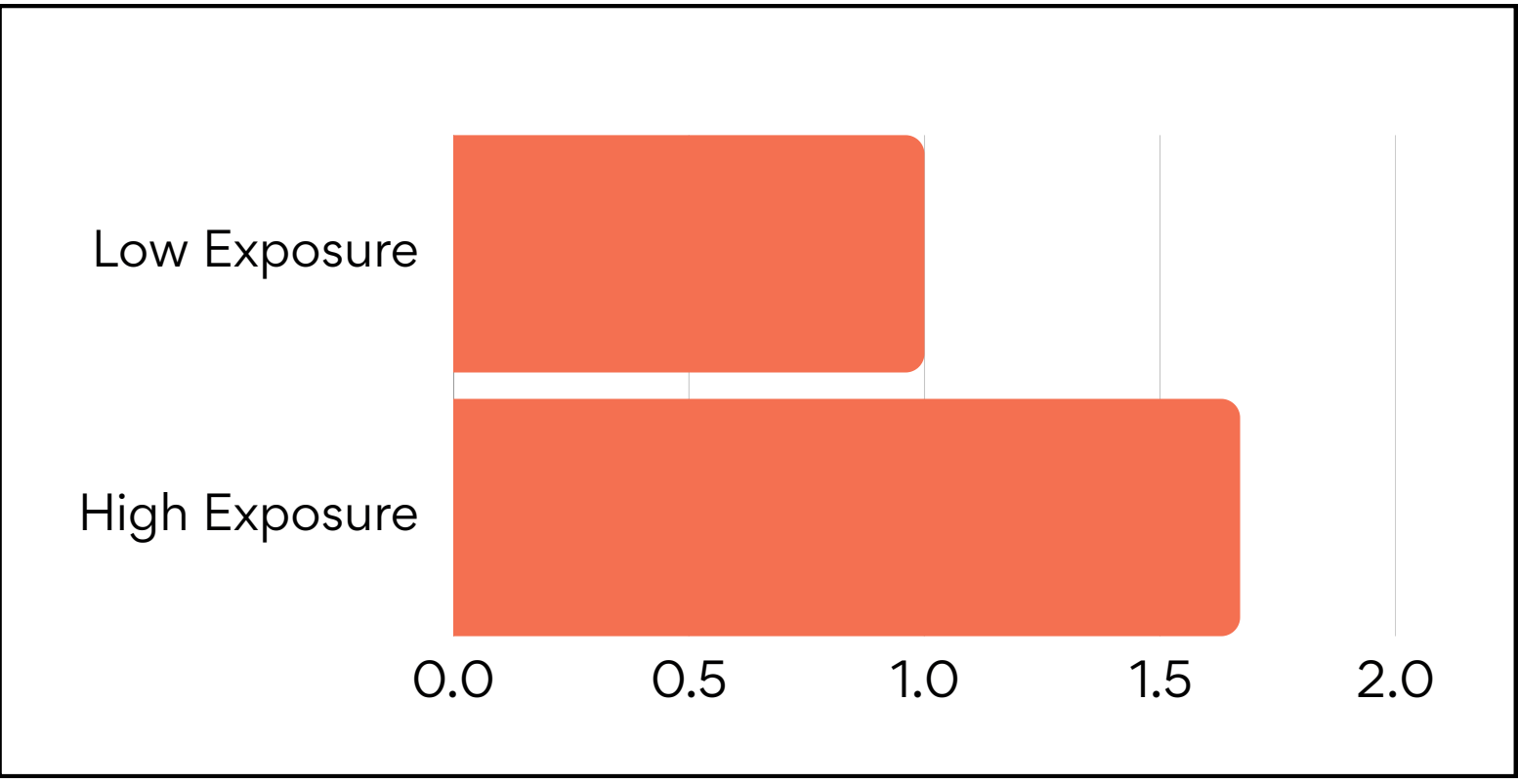
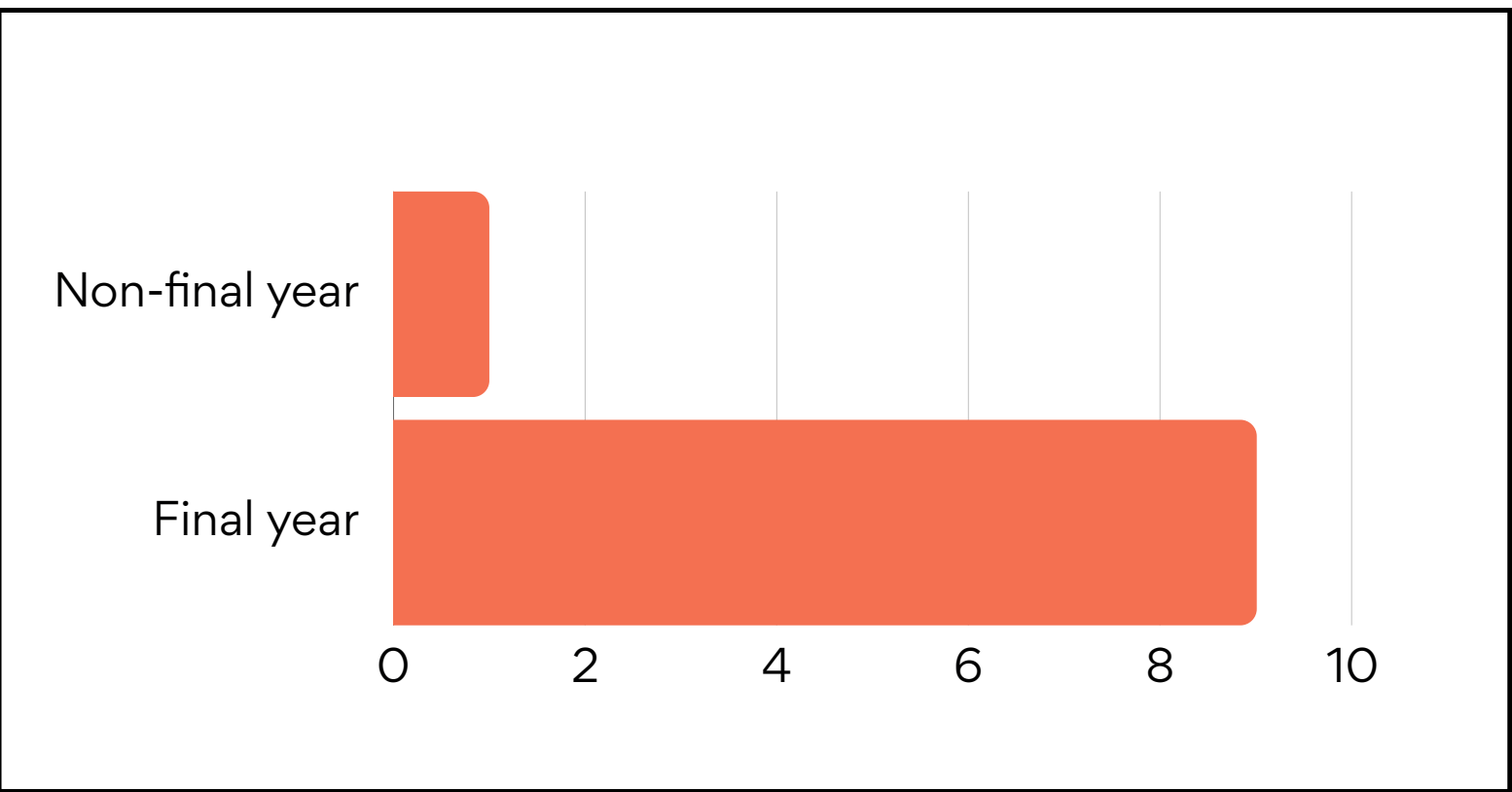
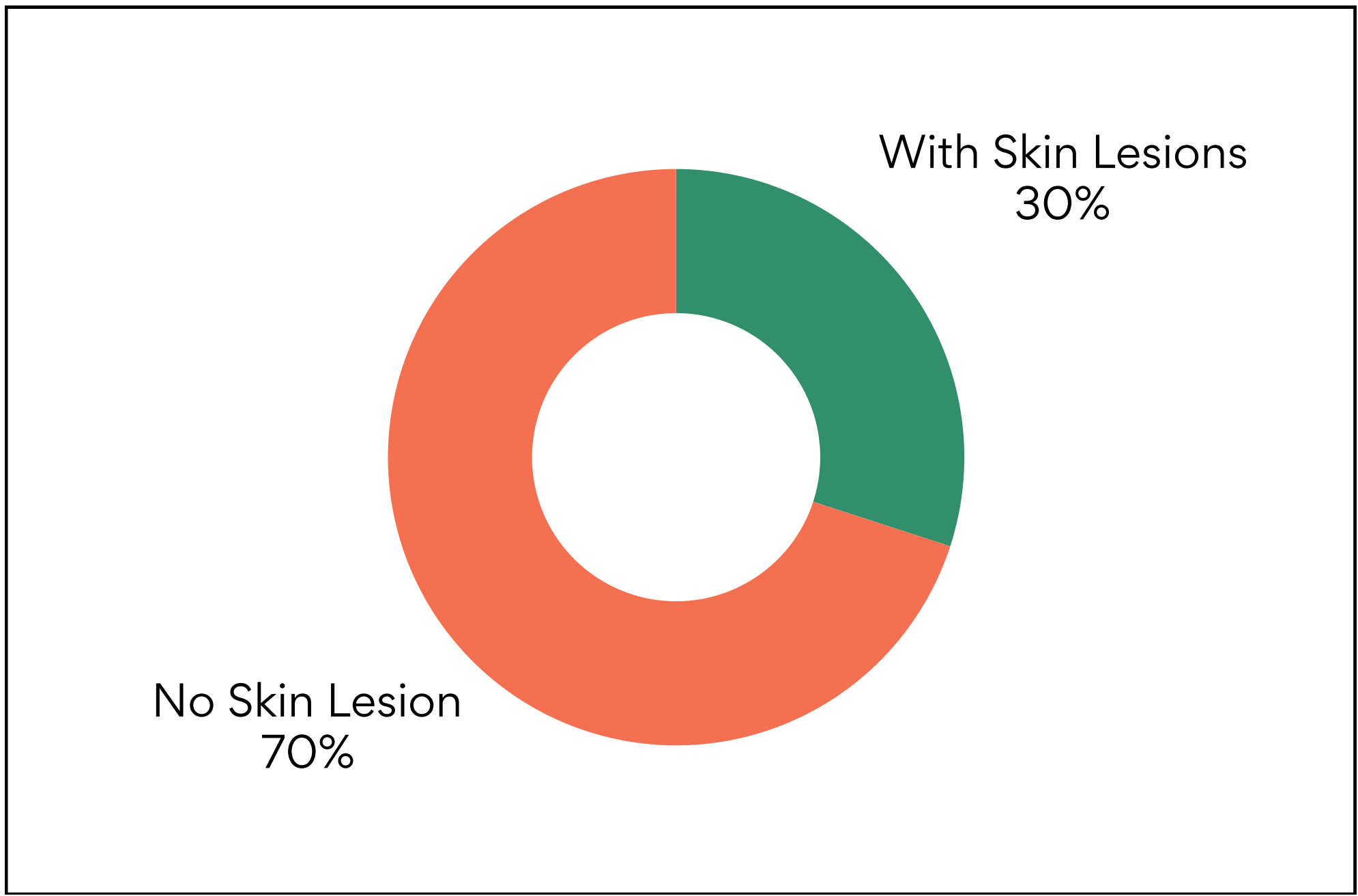
METHOD

A cross-sectional study was conducted among 100 veterinary students at University of Brawijaya, Malang, Indonesia

Participants completed a structured questionnaire on demographics, academic year, animal exposure history, and occurrence of skin lesions

Associations between potential risk factors and symptomatic skin lesions were analyzed using Fisher’s Exact Test, Odds Ratio (OR), and Relative Risk (RR) with 95% confidence intervals

RESULTS



DISCUSSION

About 30% of veterinary students reported symptomatic skin lesions suggestive of dermatophytosis. Final-year students showed significantly higher risk (OR = 9.01;  $p < 0.0001$ ), likely due to increased clinical exposure. Handling animals with skin lesions also raised the risk (RR = 1.667; OR = 2.600;  $p = 0.026$ ), with cats identified as the strongest risk factor (RR = 2.500; OR = 8.500;  $p = 0.0014$ ). Most affected students (80%) relied on self-medication, while only 20% sought medical care. These findings highlight the occupational risk for veterinary students and the need for preventive education, PPE use, and proper health-seeking behavior.

CONCLUSION

Final-year academic status, handling animals with skin lesions, and exclusive contact with cats were significant risk factors for dermatophytosis among veterinary students. The high proportion of self-medication highlights the need for targeted health education and preventive measures to reduce occupational fungal infections in veterinary training.