



OCTOBER 29, 2020

# POST-EVENT REPORT

WVA VIRTUAL SEMINAR:  
THE IMPACT OF THE COVID-19  
PANDEMIC ON THE VETERINARY  
PROFESSION - ONGOING  
ASSESSMENT

# OVERVIEW

The WVA Virtual Seminar on The Impact of the COVID-19 Pandemic on the Veterinary Profession was held on October 29, 2020; 15:00-17:00 CET. The seminar featured presentations from leading veterinary professionals, who presented preliminary research findings and discussed the impact of the SARS-CoV2 pandemic on various veterinary services around the globe. The seminar also included the announcement of the 2020 Global Animal Welfare Awards winners, and concluded with a panel discussion addressing ongoing questions from attendees. Packed with two hours of engaging CE, the lecture recordings will remain available via The Webinar Vet FREE of charge! [Check it out here!](#)

## OPENING AND WELCOME

### **Dr Patricia Turner – President, World Veterinary Association (WVA)**

WVA President, Dr. Patricia Turner, opened the seminar by welcoming those in attendance, and commending members of the global veterinary community for stepping up in response to the pandemic.



## THE ROLE OF THE VETERINARY SECTOR IN COVID-19 PANDEMIC RESPONSES

### **Dr Luis Pedro Carmo – Veterinary Public Health Institute, Vetsuisse, University of Bern**

Together with a large international consortium, Dr. Carmo documented the role of the veterinary sector in pandemic response. During his presentation, Dr. Carmo shares his preliminary research findings, and tries to identify ways to strengthen collaboration with the public health sector. The presentation can be viewed [here](#).

## THE AFRICAN PERSPECTIVE

### Dr Ntombi Mudenda – President, Zambia Veterinary Association

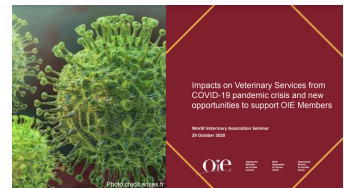
Dr Mudenda presented the impact of COVID-19 on the veterinary profession in Africa, including data from leading professionals throughout the African Union. She discusses the effects on private practice, public services, veterinary education, pharmaceutical access, and more! The presentation can be viewed [here](#).



## IMPACT OF COVID-19 ON VETERINARY SERVICES

### Dr Matthew Stone – Deputy Director-General, World Organisation for Animal Health (OIE)

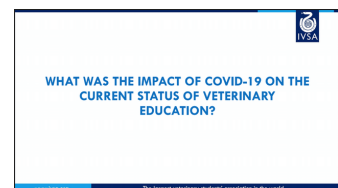
Dr Stone addresses the impact of COVID-19 on veterinary services around the world and how the OIE has managed to support members through the global crisis. He discusses disease emergence and preparedness, maintaining business continuity, and supporting resilience in veterinary services. The complete presentation can be viewed [here](#).



## A STUDENT PERSPECTIVE ON THE FUTURE OF VETERINARY EDUCATION UNDER A PANDEMIC SITUATION

### Merel Knoops – President, International Veterinary Students' Association (IVSA)

5th year veterinary student Merel Knoops discusses the effect of COVID-19 on the global veterinary student community, including preliminary survey results outlining the issues experienced by veterinary students in various world regions. Among the issues discussed, Merel addresses the mental health impact and the digital divide, and speculates on the future of veterinary education. The presentation can be viewed [here](#).



*Congratulations to the 2020 Global Animal Welfare Award Recipients. To view the virtual award ceremony that took place during the live COVID seminar, [click here](#).*



# COVID19 - MOVING FORWARD

The lectures were proceeded by a panel discussion and Q&A session bringing together all speakers and additional veterinary leaders: Dr Scott Weese, Director of the Centre for Public Health and Zoonoses, University of Guelph; Dr Doug Kratt, President of the American Veterinary Medical Association (AVMA); and Dr Nancy

De Briyne, Deputy Executive Director of the Federation of Veterinarians of Europe (FVE). The speakers addressed a variety of issues including the declaration of veterinary services as essential, the role of veterinarians in One Health, and helping communities flatten the curve.



*We need to capture the time... this is the One Health example of our century.*

**Dr. Scott Weese**

*We have seen veterinary medicine evolve in very meaningful ways within a very short period of time...*

**Dr. Doug Kratt**

*We have to use the momentum we have now to build on collaboration with the medical community for the future*

**Dr. Nancy De Briyne**

## CLOSING

The WVA COVID Seminar was concluded with closing remarks from WVA President, Dr. Patricia Turner. In her closing address, Dr Turner urged the importance of utilizing the pandemic to keep our governments and the general public aware of the critical role and capacity of the veterinary profession in tackling global one health and one welfare challenges. Dr. Turner closed by thanking all of those involved in ensuring the success of the seminar, and the global veterinary community for their unwavering commitment during these challenging times.

*And yet through this challenging time, veterinarians have demonstrated their ability to cope, adjust, and adapt; and to continue in their role as leaders of animal health and welfare and public health, all while safeguarding the health of their teams, clients, families, and themselves.*

### DID YOU MISS THE SEMINAR?

We've got you covered. The [COVID Seminar recording](#) will remain available for FREE on the WVA Youtube channel! Don't miss it!