World Veterinary Association

Since 1863
Representing the Global Veterinary Profession
WVA’s Experience and Supportive Tools to promote Prudent Use of Antimicrobials Worldwide

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➢ Introduction of the WVA

➢ WVA supportive tools to promote prudent use of antimicrobials worldwide

➢ Summary
WVA’s History

In 1863, Prof. John Gamgee convened the first International Veterinary Congress in Hamburg, Germany with 103 veterinarians from 10 countries.
Today

The WVA represents over 500,000 veterinarians through its 95 member associations across six continents:

❖ Veterinary Medical Associations (local, national and regional).

❖ International Associations of Veterinarians working in different areas of veterinary medicine.

❖ Observers – other interested stakeholder associations whether or not they have veterinarians as members (no vote nor nominating rights)
To assure and promote animal health and welfare and public health globally, through developing and advancing veterinary medicine, the veterinary profession as well as public and private veterinary services.
In practice, the WVA

- **Unifies** the veterinary profession worldwide
- **Connects** veterinarians with other health professionals
- **Supports** the veterinary profession in delivering its responsibilities

for the benefit of society and all animals

www.worldvet.org
WVA is committed to the One-Health Concept

The One-Health concept recognizes that the health of people, animals and the environment are strongly interlinked.

WVA 5 Strategic Priorities

❖ Animal Welfare
❖ Pharmaceutical Stewardship
❖ Veterinary Education
❖ Zoonotic Diseases
❖ Organizational Growth and Partnerships
WVA is committed to the One-Health Approach

Veterinarians
Physicians
Ecologists
and many others Professionals

work together to reach optimal health

People
Animals
Environment

WVA has a Memorandum of Understanding and effectively collaborates with relevant global partners on various One Health issues

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ARTICLE 1

MODALITIES OF COOPERATION

The Parties will extend to each other invitations for participation in all meetings, seminars and conferences during which matters of common interest are to be discussed and where observers are allowed.

The Parties agree to further strengthen their collaboration in particular in the following areas of activity, where both Parties share strong mutual interests:

‘ONE HEALTH’,

(i) encourage and assist the veterinary profession to communicate and collaborate with the medical profession;
(ii) help countries to develop and articulate formal collaboration arrangements between human health, veterinary and environmental services; and
(iii) give specific attention to antimicrobial resistance (AMR) and rabies.

The objectives of the OIE-WVA collaboration in the area of antimicrobial resistance are to:

(i) advocate that antimicrobials are a global public good and AMR should be considered as a global threat;
(ii) promote the leading role and responsibility of the veterinary profession in the prudent use of antimicrobials for animal health, and to promote the WVA Global Basic Principles on the responsible Use of Antimicrobials; and

relate to antimicrobial resistance, namely chapters 6.1 to 6.5 of the Terrestrial Animal Health Code and chapters 6.2 to 6.5 of the OIE Aquatic Animal Health Code as well as the list of antimicrobial agents of veterinary importance.
One-Health initiatives are critical in addressing AMR

WVA Supportive tools to promote prudent use of antimicrobials worldwide:

- Global Veterinary Network
- Publication of Position Statements, Articles and Press Releasees
- Advocacy and Technical Advice
- Collaboration with Global Partners
- Collecting Data
- World Veterinary Day
- Global Events and Congresses
- WVA Online Continue Veterinary Education Portal
WVA Pharmaceutical Stewardship Working Group (PSWG)

**PSWG’s Vision**

_Veterinarians around the world:_

- **have access** to a broad range of safe and effective medicines for achieving optimum health for all animals
- **understand**:
  - the importance and the concept of responsible use and disposal of medicines.
  - their role in decreasing further the development of AMR.

**PSWG’s Goal**

Support of research and dissemination of research results on good stewardship practices used in food and companion animals globally.
WVA Policy on Responsible use of Antimicrobials

- Used by WVA members associations while working with their authorities preparing national action plans.
- Published and promoted on the WVA Media channels and events.

Example for a global impact

The WVA's Position paper on Prudent Use of Antibiotics was used by McDonald’s team of experts while they developed recommendations for antimicrobial stewardship in food animals.
WVA offers Veterinary Technical Advice

➢ WHO’s Guidelines on the Use of Medically Important Antimicrobials in Food-Producing Animals.

➢ UN Interagency Coordination Group on Antimicrobial Resistance Discussion papers:
  • Reduce unintentional exposure and the need for antimicrobials, and optimize their use
  • Future Global Governance for Antimicrobial Resistance
  • Meeting the challenge of Antimicrobial Resistance from Communication to Collective Action


➢ OIE’s activities in relation to AMR.
WVA/OIE conducted a survey among WVA member associations aiming to create a **global repository of available guidelines** for the responsible use of antimicrobials in animal health.

To **identify best practices and gaps** in different world regions, and to encourage and facilitate veterinary organizations to fill those gaps.
WVA and OIE received:

34 complete questionnaires (covering 57 countries)

48 Guidelines for responsible use of antimicrobials in animal health (from Governments, Veterinary Associations, Industry, Stakeholders and Veterinary Schools).

19 National Action Plans to fight AMR

Next Steps:
- Finalize the summary of the questionnaire results and to draw conclusions and recommendations.
- Investigate further the guidelines provided to collect metadata to build the global repository.
Promoting Global Awareness on Antimicrobial Resistance

❖ World Veterinary Day
❖ Global conferences on One Health
❖ WVA Summit meeting with the support of WHO/OIE/FAO tripartite
❖ Animal Health Matters
❖ WVA Online Continuing Education Portal
❖ Articles and Press releases
Since 2000s, the WVA celebrates the Veterinary Profession with different themes:

- 2010: One World, One Health
- 2012: Antimicrobial resistance
- 2016: Continuous One Health Education
- 2017: AMR: from awareness to Action

In 2008, the WVA and the OIE created the World Veterinary Day Award to recognize a WVA Member association with the most impressive educational and celebratory events on the selected theme.
WORLD VETERINARY DAY
Collaborations with the World Medical Association

In October 2012, the WVA and the WMA signed on a MoU to improve Global Health focusing on:

- Zoonotic Diseases
- Responsible Use of Antimicrobials
- Enhancing Collaboration on Medical Education

This initiative encouraged a number of WVA and WMA members to adopt this model of collaboration and to sign similar agreements between Veterinary and Medical Associations at national level to use the One Health Approach in their countries.
2015 - 1st GCOH in Spain with support of Spanish Medical and Veterinary Associations

2016 - 2nd GCOH in Japan with support of Japanese Medical and Veterinary Associations

2019 – Ongoing discussions with the Brazilian Veterinary and Medical Associations to hold the 3rd GCOH in Brazil
Physicians and veterinarians shall strengthen their cooperative relationships to ensure the responsible use of important antimicrobials in human and animal healthcare.
WVA Global One Health Summit
with the support of WHO/OIE/FAO tripartite

Themes:
- 2011: Antimicrobial resistance
- 2015: Emerging and Re-Emerging Diseases
- 2017: Antimicrobial Resistance: from awareness to Action
- 2018: Biosecurity
- 2019: Value of Vaccination
Together with HealthforAnimals (the global animal medicines association), WVA produced an online resource entitled Animal Health Matters to educate and to build greater awareness of the most pressing issues in animal and human health.
The World Veterinary Association has the largest pool of Veterinary Continuing Education Courses in the world.

✓ Around 30 courses are related to AMR and use of Antimicrobials.
**World Veterinary Association**

**WVA Articles and Press releases on AMR**

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### PRESS RELEASE

**WVA SUPPORTS THE WORLD ANTI-BIOTIC AWARENESS WEEK**

**16 - 22 November 2015**

The World Veterinary Association (WVA) and its members - representing around half a million veterinarians worldwide - are proud to participate in **World Antimicrobial Awareness Week** that will take place on **16 - 22 November 1995 worldwide**.

One of the key objectives of the **World Health Organization (WHO)** global action plan to tackle the problem of resistance to antibiotics and other antimicrobial medicines is to improve awareness and understanding of antimicrobial resistance. The **World Antimicrobial Awareness Week** aims to encourage best practices to avoid further emergence and spread of antimicrobial resistance.

The theme of the campaign, **Antibiotics: Handle with Care**, reflects the overarching message that antibiotics are a precious resource. Overuse and misuse must be avoided.

Two important WVA priority strategy issues are Pharmacological Stewardship and Veterinary Education. The veterinarian, by making informed decisions and by giving comprehensive advice, plays a key role in the responsible use of antibiotics. Veterinary pharmaceutical stewardship is founded on good veterinary education.

The WVA President, Dr Rein Carlson expressed her concern about the fact that in more than 90% of the countries there is no surveillance on the circulation of antimicrobials: "Each country should have an appropriate regulatory system for the licensing and control of veterinary drugs and antimicrobials in particular."

The WVA advocates that antimicrobials shall only be used in animals according to a veterinary examination and diagnosis. They shall only be delivered upon a veterinary prescription, and in compliance with the laws and/or regulations of each country. Any unused or expired medicines, especially antimicrobials, should be disposed of properly, not through water waste systems.

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### World Medical Journal

**The Global Veterinary Profession View on Antimicrobial Resistance**

Dr. Jana Vanek, Dr. Karmi Voges, Dr. Jana Cervi

The discovery, development and availability of antimicrobial treatment is crucial for the management of infectious diseases. The use of antibiotics can significantly reduce the mortality and morbidity of infections. However, the overuse and misuse of antimicrobial drugs have led to the development of resistance, which is a major global health concern.

The WHO Global Action Plan on Antimicrobial Resistance (GAP) outlines the need for a coordinated global response to the challenge of antimicrobial resistance. The GAP aims to promote the appropriate use of antimicrobial agents and to encourage research and development of new agents.

The WVA supports the work of veterinarians in their role as leaders in the fight against AMR. The WVA encourages its members to participate in the Global Veterinary Masters in Antimicrobial Resistance (VMA) and the Global Veterinary Masters in Food Safety (VFS) programs. These programs aim to improve the education and training of veterinarians in the field of antimicrobial resistance.

In conclusion, the WVA calls for a global effort to combat antimicrobial resistance and to promote the responsible use of antimicrobial agents. It is crucial for veterinarians to work together with other health professionals to ensure a sustainable future for effective antimicrobial therapies.
Summary

WVA strives for veterinary access to a broad range of safe and effective antimicrobials and promotes prudent use of antimicrobials worldwide using the following supportive tools:

- Global Veterinary and Public Health Networks
- Publication of Position Statements, Articles and Press Releasees
- Collaboration with Global Partners
- Advocacy and Technical Advice
- Collecting Data
- World Veterinary Day
- Global Events and Congresses
- WVA Online Continue Veterinary Education Portal
Thank you for your attention and feel free to contact us

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www.worldvet.org