AN INTRODUCTION TO THE WSAVA

Find out more about

- WSAVA ACTIVITIES
- COMMITTEES

contact us

www.wsava.org
yourwsava@wsava.org
AN INTRODUCTION FOR PARTNERS

The World Small Animal Veterinary Association (WSAVA) represents more than 200,000 veterinarians worldwide through its 113 member associations.

Established for more than 50 years, it aims to advance the health and welfare of companion animals throughout the world. The WSAVA’s core activities are based around four key pillars:

- The advancement of companion animal welfare
- The creation of globally relevant ‘Standardization Guidelines’ in key areas of veterinary care
- The provision of continuing education (CE) for companion animal veterinarians globally
- Increasing understanding of the importance of companion animals in the One Health movement
WSAVA ACTIVITIES

Much of the work of the WSAVA is delivered through its committees, which focus on raising standards in key areas of veterinary care. The key WSAVA committees are:

- Global Nutrition Committee
- Global Pain Council
- Animal Wellness and Welfare Committee
- Vaccination Guidelines Group
- Hereditary Disease Committee
- One Health Committee
- Global Dental Committee
- Continuing Education Committee
- Professional Wellness Group
- Therapeutics Guidelines Group

Committee members, all volunteers, and experts in their field from around the world work together to develop WSAVA Guidelines, information, tools, and other educational resources to support companion animal veterinarians. They also campaign to veterinarians globally on key issues, such as animal welfare, professional wellness, and equal access to veterinary therapeutics.

PARTNERSHIP OPPORTUNITIES

Support from partners is vital to enable the WSAVA to deliver on its goals so we are focused on ensuring that our partners receive the best possible return on their investment. The WSAVA is a global community of more than 200,000 companion animal veterinarians. It is a community that is highly engaged, collaborative, and interactive. Supporting WSAVA activities through partnership can help to build your brand and increase awareness of your products among a veterinary audience segmented by clinical area, geographic region or both.

We work with you to develop packages that are tailored to your individual requirements in order to deliver the results you require and ensure a long-lasting and mutually beneficial relationship. We are happy to work with you on innovative ideas that help us to create and educated, committed, and collaborative global community of veterinary peers.
MEET THE EXECUTIVE BOARD
AND THE WSAVA SECRETARIAT

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JOIN OUR GROWING COMMUNITY

Meet the committees that allow us to turn the WSAVA vision into worldwide action

BY PARTNERING WITH WSAVA YOU WILL BE DIRECTLY SUPPORTING THE WORK OF THE COMMITTEES, AND EXPECT TO:

Highlight your brand to 113 WSAVA member associations and more than 200,000 practicing veterinarians globally

Benefit from opportunities to forge direct relationships with member associations and individual veterinarians at WSAVA events globally and regionally

Benefit from WSAVA’s tailored sponsor promotion and recognition program

OUR COMMITTEES HAVE TWO MAIN FUNCTIONS:

Carry out activities that provide continuing professional development to our members

Uphold the integrity and relevance of WSAVA to its members and the global health community

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GLOBAL NUTRITION COMMITTEE

FUNCTION

To promote the importance of nutritional assessments and recommendations to every pet at every visit. With many patients globally receiving poor quality or unbalanced nutrition, the GNC aims to promote the importance of nutrition and to equip veterinarians with the tools they need to educate pet owners.

VISION & MISSION

Good nutrition enhances the quality and quantity of a pet’s life. The GNC’s vision is to help the veterinary healthcare team and the public understand the importance of nutrition in companion animal health by providing an expert source of accurate nutritional information and recommendation.

PRIORITIES FOR 2020

Tool development, nutritional assessment awareness, importance of nutrition for optimal health

- Toolkit Development:
  - Pet-food ingredient and analysis tool
  - How to place a naso-gastric feeding tube video
  - How to place an esophageal feeding tube video
  - Raw foods infographic tool

- Updating of Tool: “Selecting the best food for your pet”

- Final edits for publication of nutritional assessment survey results

- IVSA nutritional and gastrointestinal talk

- WSAVA Congress Warsaw, 2020: We are scheduled to provide a full day of clinical nutrition talks as well as a 3 hours of talks to nurses/technicians.
Marge Chandler – Co-Chair of the GNC

Gregg Takashima – Co-Chair of the GNC
Michael Lappin – Chair of the OHC
ONE HEALTH COMMITTEE

FUNCTION

Proposes the unification of the medical and veterinary professions with the establishment of collaborative ventures in clinical care, surveillance and control of cross-species disease, education, and research into disease pathogenesis, diagnosis, therapy and vaccination.

VISION & MISSION

‘One Health’ recognizes that human health is connected to the health of animals and the environment so unites the medical and veterinary professions to develop joint solutions. The WSAVA OHC works to ensure the prominence of the small companion animal–human interface within the global One Health agenda.

PRIORITIES FOR 2020

- One Health Certificate Course maintenance and speakers
- One Health Pre-congress Day (Domestic violence)
- Stream in WSAVA 2020, Poland
- American Family Physicians lectures
ANIMAL WELLNESS AND WELFARE COMMITTEE

FUNCTION

To promote advances in animal welfare and wellness around the world

VISION & MISSION

The AWWC aims to ensure that welfare issues are an everyday consideration for small animal practitioners and that the WSAVA is a proactive and respected partner within international welfare circles, combining advocacy with mutual respect and consensus-building amongst partners.

PRIORITIES FOR 2020

Animal Welfare Guidelines
- Raise awareness of the guidelines – translations, podcasts, social media posts, executive summary
- Resource and tools – Slides for speakers, self-assessment checklists, posters on basic info e.g. animal handling, body language, surgery dos and don’ts
- Train the trainers program

Capacity building for animal welfare
- WSAVA Congress AW stream
- Shelter medicine workshop – post WSAVA congress, Poland.
- Domestic Violence workshop (with One Health Committee)
- Develop a position statement
- Conduct workshop in Poland together with One Health committee

Animal welfare issues
- Identify issues through membership survey
- Developing position statements and work on animal welfare issues: Mutilations / cosmetic surgeries, Disaster management, Domestic violence and pets, Early-age neutering, DPM, dog meat trade, online trade and puppy mills
- Forming alliances with other WSAVA Committees: Pets and Domestic Violence (with OHC), Breeding (HDC), Humane euthanasia drugs (TGG), train the trainer initiatives (CE)
- Forming alliances with international partners: Enhance welfare in practice (Fear Free), Disaster management (WAP), dog/cat population management (ICAM)
Nat Lee – Chair of the AWWC
CONTINUING EDUCATION COMMITTEE

FUNCTION

Provides post graduate education across five continents and over forty-one countries. To encourage learning and professional development for companion animal practitioners and to assist member associations develop their own self sufficiency in continuing education programmes.

VISION & MISION

Education is key to the future development of the profession globally. The WSAVA CE Committee supports global companion animal veterinary education by bringing relevant and practical CE to veterinarians in countries where the discipline is still emerging.

PRIORITIES FOR 2020

- Moving from 100% face to face events to 50% face to face and 50% digital
- Programme of Face to Face events to include a Train the trainer component
- Development of digital courses
- Working on a basic curriculum of minimum standards
GLOBAL DENTAL COMMITTEE

FUNCTION

To raise global standards in the diagnosis and treatment of dental disease

VISION & MISSION

Dental disease is the most common medical condition in small animal practice. The DSPC’s vision is that all veterinarians understand the importance of proper dental care and are equipped to communicate its importance effectively to their clients.

PRIORITIES FOR 2020

- Lecture programme in Poland, India, China and Georgia
- Create toolkits
Brook Niemiec – Chair of the GDC
Duncan Lascelles – Chair of the GPC
GLOBAL PAIN COUNCIL

FUNCTION

To eliminate the “pain incidence-pain treatment gap” which arises as a result of the wide variation in pain assessment, pain management, and their consistent implementation.

VISION & MISION

The ability to experience pain is shared by all mammals, including companion animals. It is our duty to mitigate this suffering to the best of our ability. However, despite advances in the recognition and treatment of pain, there is a gap between its occurrence and its management. An inability to accurately diagnose pain and limitations in, and/or comfort with, the analgesic modalities available are the root causes. The GPC is working to address these issues and to create an empowered, motivated and unified veterinary profession that effectively recognizes and minimizes pain prevalence and impact.

PRIORITIES FOR 2020

- Teach the Teacher Scholarship
- Translate Treatise
- Pain capsule videos
- Stream at WSAVA 2020, Poland
- Pain capsule publications
PROFESSIONAL WELLNESS GROUP

FUNCTION

Design Professional Wellness guidelines, toolkits and provide platforms for disseminating information of relevance to small animal practitioners; Provide guidance and assist veterinarians in promoting Professional Wellness in their practice

VISION & MISION

To improve the health and well-being of veterinarians, para-veterinarians and all members of the veterinary team.

PRIORITIES FOR 2020

- Finalize a Compiled list of resources
- Professional Wellness Stream at the WSAVA Congress in Poland
- Draft Various Chapters of the Guidelines
- Publish Mental Wellness Survey Results in a peer reviewed Journal
- Develop a WSAVA Wellness section on the wsava.org website
Nienke Endenburg – Co-Chair of the PWG

Veterinarians take care of the health and welfare of animals and their owners. But to do so, it is important to take care of your own mental and physical health. This is important for veterinarians worldwide. Therefore I am very happy WSAVA decided to have a special group, the Professional Wellness Group (PWG) to help veterinarians to stay healthy mental as well as physical.

Derick Chibeu – Co-Chair of the PWG
HEREDITARY DISEASE COMMITTEE

FUNCTION

As many of the characteristic breed traits and common and rare genetic diseases seen in veterinary practice are now recognized to have a heritable basis the committee are tasked to develop a comprehensive resource on hereditary diseases and genetic predispositions.

VISION & MISSION

The committee aims to provide readily accessible comprehensive resources in various forms on hereditary disease testing and management in small animals as needed for the veterinary clinician worldwide.

PRIORITIES FOR 2020

- Continue and enhance veterinary practitioner education on hereditary diseases, genetic testing and genetic counselling in pet and breeding cats and dogs
- Enhance veterinary student education on hereditary diseases, genetic testing and genetic counselling
- Enhance engagement with specialty colleges on hereditary diseases, genetic testing and genetic counselling
- Utilize social media to broaden the reach and scope of HDC activities with veterinary practitioners and veterinary associations worldwide
- Work on specific issues with validation of genetic testing and genetic counselling practices involving; publication, commercialization of genetic tests, recommendations for genetic testing, and genetic counselling in pet and breeding dogs and cats
- Continue to support a WSAVA sponsored genetic disease/genetic testing database for both dogs and cats
- Work with the International Partnership for Dogs on issues concerning hereditary diseases, genetic testing and genetic counselling
- Foster feline veterinary, breeder and animal health foundation engagement on hereditary diseases, genetic testing and genetic counselling
- Present 1/2 day session on hereditary diseases and genetic testing at the 2020 WSAVA Congress
VACCINATION GUIDELINES GROUP

FUNCTION

Focus on the major challenges of companion animal infectious disease control and vaccination.

VISION & MISSION

There has been much debate on the most effective vaccination protocols in recent years. The VGG’s vision is to ensure that the welfare of dogs and cats is optimized by protecting them from vaccine-preventable infectious disease and to ensure that vaccination is delivered globally by veterinary professionals using the most recent evidence-based guidelines.

PRIORITIES FOR 2020

- Publication of the LATAM Guidelines Document
- Vaccination hesitancy survey will be analysed and presented.
- The committee will also begin work on its Phase VI Project: a revision of the global vaccination guidelines, with view to publishing these in 2021.
- Committee members will continue to deliver continuing education in vaccinology throughout the world.
- Publication of the WSAVA LATAM Vaccination Guidelines with translation and dissemination of the final document
- Publication of the results of the Vaccination Hesitancy Survey
- Preparation of a revision of the WSAVA Global Vaccination Guidelines
THERAPEUTICS GUIDELINES GROUP

FUNCTION
WSAVA has as one of its core goals developing guidelines promoting standards of care that often encompass appropriate use of nutritional, chemical, pharmaceutical, and biological products. The TGG was formed as a key component to moving forward on our commitment to make the availability & access to veterinary therapeutics a key focus for WSAVA. The TGG is responsible for providing evidence/ science backed recommendations and guidelines that support this and other issues related to veterinary therapeutics.

VISION & MISSION
The mission of the TGG is to ensure best practices for the selection and use of medicines including their quality, availability and responsible use in companion animals while engaging participation of stakeholders and the WSAVA Global Community under the concept of One Health.

PRIORITIES FOR 2020

- The official launch, press release, panel discussion of the list of essential medicines at the WSAVA Congress in Poland
- Campaign for the dissemination of the list of essential medicines,
- Release a newsletter with the most important activities of the TGG and relevant information related to the use of antimicrobials and drug availability
- Conduct, completing and analyse a survey on drug availability world-wide based on the essential list of medicines
- Collate all the available guidelines pertaining to antimicrobial use in companion animals and make them publicly available on the TGG homepage
- Write a position paper addressing the methodology for developing and implementing evidence-based antimicrobial use guidelines, the importance of national guidelines, priority topics for future guidelines, and research needs to improve the quality of evidence.
- Publication on core principles of appropriate antimicrobial use.
- Develop an online/presence course with interactive, multidisciplinary modules involving common clinical cases with responsible use of antimicrobials (superficial pyoderma, respiratory and urinary tract infections)
- Perform a pilot study to assess the quality of selected essential medicinal products on a global scale.
- Develop the course on the responsible use of antimicrobials
Luca Guardabassi – Co-Chair of the TGG

Paulo Steagall – Co-Chair of the TGG
TO ENHANCE OUR COMMITMENT TO OUR CORE VISION

“To advance the health and welfare of companion animals worldwide through an educated, committed and collaborative global community of veterinary peers.”

PLEASE JOIN US

We invite you to join the WSAVA community in creating a unified voice and standard of care for the benefit of companion animals and to enjoy our effective marketing tools and educational programs.

Your participation will help us impact the development and future needs of our members and the companion animals under their care.
CONTACT US
If you have any questions, feel free to contact us

Arpita Bhose
WSAVA Chief Executive Officer

yourwsava@wsava.org
wsava.org

Learn more about all the ways WSAVA is working to improve companion animal care worldwide

VISIT US NOW AT WSAVA.ORG
"TO ADVANCE THE HEALTH AND WELFARE OF COMPANION ANIMALS WORLDWIDE THROUGH AN EDUCATED, COMMITTED AND COLLABORATIVE GLOBAL COMMUNITY OF VETERINARY PEERS."