
PRESS RELEASE

Free WSAVA Webinar: Tails, Ears, and Claws - the Welfare of Mutilated Animals

3.00 pm UTC, Sunday 20 November 2022

With high profile cases of procedures such as tail docking, declawing and ear cropping regularly appearing in the media, the WSAVA's Animal Wellness and Welfare Committee (AWWC) is hosting a free webinar to explore whether mutilations performed on cats and dogs are for their cosmetic appearance or for the convenience of owners.

The webinar will be chaired by Dr Natasha Lee, Chair of the AWWC. A Malaysian veterinarian, Dr Lee has a strong interest in animal welfare. She led a campaign to introduce animal welfare science into veterinary curricula in Asia, providing training to more than 125 vet schools, building a network of animal welfare educators, and conducting online courses.

The webinar's speakers are AWWC members Dr Heather Bacon, who has worked internationally on veterinary education and animal welfare projects for 15 years, and Dr Cheryl Good, a past president of the NAVC and chief veterinary officer at Dearborn Family Pet Care in Dearborn, Michigan, USA. During the webinar, the speakers will discuss how these procedures affect animal welfare and highlight the approach that Dr Good took to stop these practices in her own hospital.

The AWWC's goal is to make animal welfare an everyday consideration for small animal practitioners, working within international welfare circles by combining advocacy with mutual respect and consensus building. It also aims to educate and motivate veterinarians and their teams to continuously improve animal welfare by promoting good practice guidelines.

The work of the WSAVA Animal Wellness and Welfare Committee is generously supported by [the Purina Institute](#).

For further information and to register for the webinar, visit:

https://us02web.zoom.us/webinar/register/3016659418560/WN_HBi2wqcASV2AB47q60F2mg

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Issue date: 21 October 2022

