

WSAVA in Numbers



114

Member associations





18

Committees



200

Volunteers





2,000+

World Congress delegates annually



views on Facebook, Instagram and Twitter

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Companion Animal Veterinary Medicine in a Changing World

In a challenging and complex world, the veterinary profession has stressors of its own. A 2019 WSAVA survey confirmed that the mental health of veterinarians and vet techs/nurses was an issue in all parts of the world and a particular problem in Asia, Africa, Europe and North America.

For veterinarians in developed countries, the sheer pressure of their work; the long hours; staff shortages; poor remuneration and clients with complex needs clients contribute to the mental health challenges and burnout experienced by many. Veterinarians working in countries in which companion animal practice is still emerging face the additional hurdle of struggling simply to gain access to the essential drugs they need to provide care to their patients.

Of course, there are positive developments too. An initiative led by the WSAVA is seeking to resolve the issue of inequity of access to veterinary medicines around the world and both the WSAVA and its members are working actively to provide additional support to veterinarians and their employers in order to tackle the profession's mental health challenges.

Advances in online learning technologies offer the potential to transform veterinary education, enabling veterinary students and veterinarians to benefit from the latest knowledge wherever they are. New technologies are also set to have a beneficial impact on the delivery of veterinary care.

There is, however, much still to do. At a time when pet ownership levels are increasing rapidly in some regions and, as the benefits of pet ownership to human mental health become clearer, providing a rewarding environment in which dedicated veterinary professionals can enjoy a satisfying career and deliver a high standard of care is the very least we should expect.

The WSAVA is leading efforts globally to drive the changes required to realize this goal.

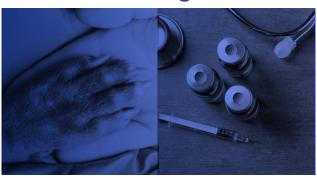
Opportunities



Technological advances in online learning and veterinary care

Greater understanding of the value of the humananimal bond

Challenges



Mental health issues and burnout

Difficulties in accessing veterinary medicines



The WSAVA works towards to achieving its goals by:



The creation of 'standardization guidelines' in key areas of veterinary care

Its peer-reviewed, regularly updated Global Guidelines are the WSAVA's most frequently downloaded resources and are developed by experts to be relevant to veterinarians wherever in the world they are in practice. Nutrition, pain management, vaccination and animal welfare are just some of the topics supported by WSAVA Global Guidelines with others in development.



The provision of continuing education (CE) tailored to the needs of companion animal veterinarians

The annual WSAVA World Congress is the association's flagship CE event. It offers delegates a feast of learning, as well as the opportunity to network with colleagues to better understand the opportunities and challenges facing their profession at a global level. The WSAVA also offers face-to-face CE to its members in countries where companion animal practice is still emerging, together with a growing range of state-of-the-art online learning through its education portal, the WSAVA Academy.



Raising awareness of the importance of companion animals in One Health

Discussions around One Health often focus on interactions between man, production animals, wildlife and the environment. Yet the beneficial bond between many humans and their companion animals brings with it challenges, including the risk of zoonotic disease transmission. The WSAVA is working ensure that the growing significance of the human-companion animal bond in One Health is fully appreciated and acted upon.



Advocating on behalf of veterinarians and their patients on key issues affecting their health and welfare

Whether it is the difficulty they experience in accessing drugs to treat their patients; limitations to veterinary education in their country; concerns about mental health or animal welfare, the veterinary profession faces many challenges. The WSAVA advocates for veterinarians at a global level, highlighting the value of their work and working with stakeholders to develop practical solutions to the problems they face.

WSAVA Vision

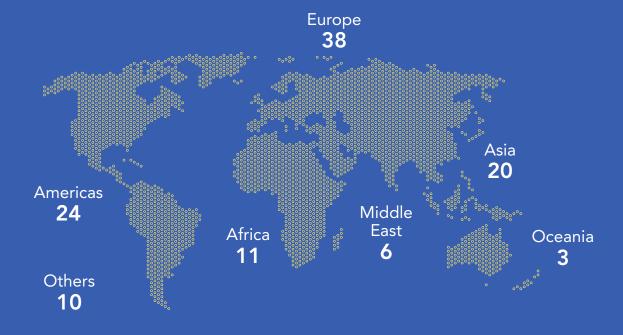
All companion animals worldwide receive veterinary care that ensures their optimal health and welfare

Mission

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



Member Associations



How We Work

The WSAVA is led by an Executive Board of volunteer veterinarians. The Board is responsible for developing the association's strategy and for its successful delivery. Much of the WSAVA's work is delivered through its clinical committees, which comprise volunteer veterinary experts from around the world.

Each member association of WSAVA nominates a representative to the WSAVA's governing body – its General Assembly – which meets once a year during WSAVA World Congress to discuss the association's performance, vote on the Executive Board's plans and take other key decisions for the year ahead.



As a vet in practice, I know just how useful it is to be able to rely on WSAVA resources for up to-date, practical advice. It is thanks to the support of our Partners that we are able to deliver the accessible, independent and relevant educational resources to our members, that are helping to raise standards of companion animal welfare around the world.



Veterinary medicine has experienced both remarkable challenges and advances in recent years. One of the great benefits of WSAVA membership is providing a sense of community, support and constancy within our profession. At the same time, the WSAVA is actively looking to the future to ensure our members are at the forefront of developments and are well-placed to ensure optimum veterinary care for their patients. The support we receive from our Partners is instrumental in helping us to achieve our goals. We simply couldn't do it without them.





Dr Ellen van Nierop WSAVA President 2023 - 2025



Dr Jim Berry WSAVA Vice President 2023 - 2025

WSAVA Committees

The WSAVA's clinical committees are its 'engine room,' delivering educational resources, such as Global Guidelines and other resources for its members. Each covers a defined area of veterinary medicine and seeks to raise standards of practice and care in this area.



We are very proud of the WSAVA's Global Nutrition Guidelines and the ever-growing Nutrition Toolkit. The GNC brings together members with different experiences and perspectives and we enjoy the collaborative process of working together and learning from each other. It is also, of course, very rewarding to create resources that add such value to the veterinary profession globally and have such a positive impact on the health and welfare of companion animals.



VGG members take great professional satisfaction from working together on the creation of vaccination guidelines that we believe are helpful to veterinarians all around the world, not just those in the regions we know best. Creating our regional guidelines specifically enables us to learn about vaccines and vaccination practices from colleagues, many of whom are working in very different environments and who face different disease threats and levels of owner education. Meeting our global colleagues, learning from them, and working with them to raise standards of vaccination practice around the world is very rewarding.









Dr Marge Chandler and Dr Cecilia Villaverde Co-chairs of the WSAVA Global Nutrition Committee (GNC)



Dr Richard SquiresChair of the WSAVA Vaccination Guidelines
Group (VGG)

Each committee is led by a chair and comprises experts from around the world and a variety of workplaces. All committee members are volunteers.

Increasingly, WSAVA committees work collaboratively in areas of common interest. Responsible breeding is one example.

The WSAVA's clinical committees focus on the following areas:



Animal Wellness and Welfare

Aims to make welfare an everyday consideration for veterinarians and ensure that the WSAVA is a proactive, respected partner within international welfare circles



One Care

Aims to support leadership and association development through dynamic workshops and strategic planning



Continuing Education

Aims to provide practical CE to assist general practitioners solve clinical problems, regardless of the size, sophistication and location of their practice



One Health

Aims to raise awareness of the role of companion animals in the global One Health agenda



Dentistry

Aims to improve the oral health of small animal veterinary patients worldwide



Pain Management

Aims to elevate the level of confidence and competence of veterinarians in recognizing and managing pain in small animals



Hereditary Disease

Aims to facilitate the clinician diagnosis, treatment and control of hereditary diseases and genetic predispositions in dogs and cats, improving the health of patients and future generations



Professional Wellness

Aims to improve the health and wellbeing of veterinarians and all members of the veterinary team



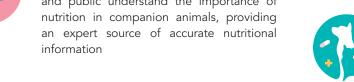
Nutrition

Aims to help the veterinary healthcare team and public understand the importance of



Reproduction Control

Aims to ensure that veterinarians globally have access to the latest resources and knowledge in this rapidly-evolving area





Therapeutics

Aims to ensure best practices for the selection and use of medicines, including their quality, availability and responsible use in companion animals



Oncology

Aims to overcome regional imbalances in veterinary oncology development resulting from financial and human resource limitations



Vaccination

Aims to provide evidence-based scientific advice to the veterinary profession on optimum vaccination practice for dogs and cats

Partner with the WSAVA

The WSAVA is the only global association to represent and support companion animal veterinarians. A fast-growing, diverse and inclusive community, the WSAVA supports its members by setting global standards, creating educational resources and driving positive change in the profession at a global level. It also offers its members a unique opportunity to contribute to the development of the profession around the world and to feel part of a global veterinary family.

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By connecting with the most innovative minds in pet health, the Purina Institute is promoting collaboration across the globe and facilitating an exchange of knowledge. We are proud to be the WSAVA's first Diamond Partner as this relationship reflects our shared goals to elevate the importance of nutrition in ensuring better and longer lives for pets.

Dr Natalia WagemansGlobal Head of the Purina Institute

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At Zoetis, we are committed to supporting veterinary professionals around the world, and WSAVA provides us meaningful opportunities to partner with a global community of veterinary professionals to achieve our common goals. We find value in engaging with the WSAVA Congresses and other educational platforms, supporting veterinary specialists and experts in the profession associated with WSAVA and the organization's leaders to develop professional guidelines that set standards of care, supporting important research initiatives, and helping WSAVA to amplify the importance of One Health and the Global Pain Council. Working with WSAVA, Zoetis continues to provide opportunities for veterinarians to work with other health professionals on solutions that can positively impact humankind as well as animal kind

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Committee Partnerships

Partners have the opportunity to associate their brand with the work of WSAVA committees aligned to their areas of interest.

While WSAVA committees work strictly independently, Partners receive bi-annual briefings from partnered committee chairs on their priorities and planned activities. They also receive a tailored benefits and recognition package based on their level of support. This includes:

- The use of a 'WSAVA Supporter' logo
- Recognition in relevant content developed by partnered committees
- The opportunity to run free advertorials in the WSAVA's fortnightly Bulletin

Level	Bronze Partner	Silver Partner	Gold Partner	Platinum Partner	Diamond Partner
Annual Partnership Amount*	USD \$20,000	USD \$30,000	USD \$55,000	USD \$80,000	USD \$100,000
Committee Partnership	Partnership with 1 committee	Partnership with 2 committees	Partnership with up to 3 committees	Partnership with up to 4 committees	Partnership with up to 4 committees. First refusal on project opportunities relating to partnered committees

^{*}Partnership agreements are for a minimum 2 year period.

Additional Partnership Opportunities - bespoke packages

We are always willing to work with our Partners to build a tailored package that supports the WSAVA's objectives while aligning to their goals.

WSAVA World Congress

WSAVA World Congress is the WSAVA's annual flagship CE event and also hosts the annual meeting of its General Assembly. The location of World Congress rotates between the Americas, Europe, Africa and the Middle East and Asia/Oceania on a three-year cycle, with local associations in each region bidding to host Congress alongside their own congress.

Each World Congress boasts a top-class scientific program, prepared by the WSAVA's Scientific Committee, and featuring global experts, including some of the year's WSAVA Award recipients. A social program highlighting the culture and cuisine of the host city and region is prepared by the Local Host Committee and one of the world's largest

veterinary industry exhibitions runs alongside the scientific program.

WSAVA World Congress is, of course, an excellent congress – but it is much more than that. It is a unique opportunity for delegates to learn, share experiences and socialize with their colleagues from around the world – and this, in turn, creates the contacts, networks and friendships that, so often, go on to enrich our members' careers and lives.

Partnership opportunities for WSAVA World Congress are handled by the WSAVA's Professional Congress Organizer, Kenes.



Awards and Recognition

Every year, during World Congress, the WSAVA presents its prestigious annual awards which recognize veterinary excellence and achievement globally. WSAVA Award recipients serve as a continuing inspiration to its global veterinary community through their work to benefit companion animals and people around the world. The WSAVA presents the following Awards:

Global Meritorious Service

This award is presented to a veterinarian who has contributed meritorious service to the veterinary profession in the broadest sense, which may be as a general practitioner, an academic veterinary surgeon, or a veterinarian working in management or for a company.

Award for Scientific Achievement

This award is presented to a veterinarian who has made an outstanding contribution to the cause, detection, cure and/or control of disorders of companion animals, leading to a significant advancement in knowledge.

Global One Health Award

This award to a veterinarian or veterinary team member recognizes exemplary service by an individual in promoting the global One Health concept, particularly in relation to companion animals. This contribution may relate to leadership, public service, education, research, product development, and/or advocacy.

Companion Animal Welfare

This award is presented to a veterinarian or veterinary team member in recognition of their contribution to companion animal welfare at a local, regional or international level. This contribution may relate to leadership, public service, education, research, product development, and/or advocacy.

• Future Leader

This award acknowledges the work of a veterinarian who has graduated within the last ten years and who has contributed significantly to the betterment of companion animals, the veterinary profession and society at large.

Speaker of the Year

This award is presented to the speaker who receives the most votes based on a post-World Congress survey of delegates.

President's Award

This occasional award recognizes exceptional service to the WSAVA.

Recipients are selected by the WSAVA President.

Scholarships

The WSAVA partners with other associations, organizations and companies in offering a range of Scholarships to support the raising of standards in all aspects of companion animal veterinary care. Current examples include:

The Michael J Day Scholarship

This Scholarship, in memory of Emeritus Professor Michael J. Day, offers financial assistance to enable the selected Scholar to carry out research into an aspect of small companion animal infectious disease, clinical vaccinology or immunology. This Scholarship has been created by the WSAVA with the generous support of MSD Animal Health.

The Colin F Burrows International Scholar Program

This Scholarship is awarded to a veterinarian who has made an outstanding contribution to the cause, detection, cure and/or control of disorders of companion animals, leading to a significant advancement in knowledge. This Scholarship is run in partnership with the North American Veterinary Community.

The Global Pain Council's Teach the Teacher Program

This program, hosted by the WSAVA's Global Pain Council, aims to create a global network of key opinion leader (KOLs) – 'teachers' – in pain management, who are motivated to propagate and disseminate their knowledge within their regions. It is open to veterinarians and veterinary nurses/technicians with a demonstrated interest in pain management and the potential to become global KOLs.



Future Focus

Looking to 2023 and beyond, the WSAVA plans to focus its work according to its strategic goals, all of which offer opportunities for Partner support such as:





Annual WSAVA Report: 'Companion Animal Veterinary Medicine – A Global Update'

The WSAVA is the global leader in companion animal veterinary care and will be working with its member associations, Partners, and stakeholders to gather the data required to produce an annual global report. The report will highlight progress made by companion animal veterinary medicine that year. It will also recommend next steps in order to continue to raise standards of care. Finally it will explore progress made in overcoming the challenges faced by companion animal veterinarians and work still needed. Repeated annually, the report will form a global benchmark from which to measure and monitor progress.



Developing the WSAVA's global veterinary community

The enthusiasm and passion of many WSAVA members and Partners confirms the collegiate nature of the veterinary profession. While the opportunities and challenges its members face may vary in different parts of the world, they share a common commitment to raising standards of veterinary care and enjoy meeting and learning from each other.

The WSAVA is exploring how it can bring its global veterinary community together more effectively online, enabling members to work together, to share experiences, to network and even to mentor each other.

The foundation for this project is a new online WSAVA Village which the WSAVA aims to launch during 2023. It will offer enhanced opportunities for tailored communication and engagement between individual members, member associations, WSAVA committees, as well as Partners and wider stakeholders.



A continuing focus on association development

Strong, dynamic and sustainable national and regional associations are essential to ensure that the profession thrives globally – but this can be difficult in countries in which companion animal practice is still emerging and where the economic situation is challenging.

The WSAVA is working to support the creation and development of veterinary associations in Asia, Africa and Eastern Europe. Participating veterinary communities initially take part in a day-long workshop, planned by a WSAVA One Care facilitator. During the session they work through exercises with the facilitator and devise an action plan to help them achieve their goal. Their WSAVA coach then works with them to help them deliver their action plan. Based on the excellent feedback received so far, the WSAVA plans to train additional facilitators so that it can expand its work in this area during 2023.



Setting professional and clinical standards

The WSAVA's signature Global Guidelines already set definitive standards for clinical care in key areas of veterinary practice. Downloaded by hundreds of thousands of veterinarians every year, they are the cornerstone of the WSAVA's educational work. Existing Global Guidelines will continue to be updated regularly while Global Guidelines in new areas of practice are already in development and scheduled for launch during 2023.

However, the long-term sustainability of the veterinary profession globally is reliant on more than clinical skills. Exceptional leadership and management, highly developed client, and public relations skills, together with a strong understanding of the value of digital tools for all veterinary team members are also essential. Moving forward the WSAVA will place greater emphasis on the development of non-clinical standards, to support the development and resilience of the profession in the face of the many challenges it faces.



Broadening WSAVA Continuing Education (CE)

The provision of CE remains a key activity for the WSAVA. While face-to-face CE is resuming in some regions of the world, the WSAVA is also working to enhance its clinical online CE offer, delivered through the WSAVA Academy. It will soon be providing an enhanced range of content in non-clinical areas, such as leadership and management.

Get in Touch

Partnership Options

Existing initiatives

- ☐ Clinical committees
- ☐ World Congress
- Awards and recognition
- Scholarships
- Bespoke package

New initiatives

- Annual WSAVA Report
- Non-clinical committees
- Association development

If you would like to discuss partnering with the WSAVA, please contact its Executive Director Richard Casey:

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