

# Continuous education: lifelong learning for judgement and knowledge

**S. May**  
Director, LIVE Centre,  
The Royal Veterinary College,  
University of London,  
United Kingdom

Veterinarians have an important role to play both in the development of a collective vision for a sustainable and all-inclusive world ecosystem and the delivery of important elements within any such plan, including the place of animals (domestic and wild), food production and safety, and public and animal health.

Important to their role is the need to be up-to-date, well-informed and capable of making good judgements at all levels, from the level of society to the level of individual animals. This highlights the need for an appropriate mix of core knowledge, information-sourcing skills, discriminatory and decision-making capabilities.

In order to proactively recognise the needs of society, professionals must engage in continuing education. The two key skills, judgement and the ability to engage in lifelong learning, must be nurtured during the undergraduate phase and beyond, through courses which, as well as updating him/her, continue to enhance the professional's higher order skills.

