

Current and future role of the World Veterinary Association in continuing education for veterinarians

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The World Veterinary Association (WVA) represents over 500,000 veterinarians through its member associations across six continents. The WVA strongly supports lifelong continuing education for veterinarians to remain current and competent after achieving a veterinary medical degree. Several avenues exist to access continuing education including; the annual World Veterinary Congress, the Global Conference on One Health in collaboration with the World Medical Association, and the WVA Online Education Portal.

Outcomes and recommendations from the 1st WVA/WMA Global Conference on One Health to move toward a more preventive and inter-professional One Health Approach to animal and public health challenges will be presented. Other topics of continuing education in areas of veterinary responsibility include the proper use of animal medicines to minimize the risks for development of antimicrobial resistance, improving animal welfare, and guidelines for prevention of dog-mediated human rabies.

The WVA Online Education Portal will be introduced with the goal to become the most comprehensive centralized online resource for veterinary continuing education in the world. The Portal provides free access to continuing educational content to any veterinarian in the world by laptop, tablet, smartphone or other mobile devices. Use of the Portal involves options for two groups primarily – a means for Educators and Associations to provide high quality educational content for distribution and sharing of resources through the Portal, and the Users who access the content for educational purposes. Further information on the WVA Education Portal will be presented during Session 4 under “Online Training for Initial and Continuing Education”.

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