



## European Association of Veterinary Laboratory Diagnosticians

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### Foreword

Dear Colleague,  
We start this issue with the summary report of EALVD congress and the invitation to the next conference in Padua in 2024  
In this number find the profile of new EAVLD board members and the complete board description, an invitation to contribute to a special issue of Veterinary Science and details of the some interesting upcoming events.

# The next EALVD congress will be in 2024





## European Association of Veterinary Laboratory Diagnosticians



### *EALVD 2022: CONFERENCE REPORT*

Last October 24, more than 250 people gathered in the city of Seville to celebrate the 6th Congress of the European Association of Veterinary Laboratory Diagnosticians, in an excellent venue such as the Hotel Renacimiento and its functional facilities, prepared to host our Congress.

This Congress should have taken place in October 2020, but we have all lived through the sad moments that have forced its delay until this year 2022. All those who have left us will always be in our memory, and their memory pushes us to continue working every day with more intensity.

We would like to start this brief summary with our acknowledgement to the companies that support the meeting. Without their help, this meeting could not be celebrated, and our organizations could not survive. Our gold sponsors, IDEXX, EUROFINNS INGENASA and THERMOFISHER. Our silver sponsors: BIOCHECK, APHA SCIENTIFIC, EUROIMMUN, ID.VET, INDICAL, BIOX, BIOSELLAL, TETRACORE, EXOPOL, BRUKER, VMRD. Our Bronze sponsors DIATHEVA, MAGNITIVIO, MEDIAN, GD; and also, GPS.

And of course our thanks to the company organizing the event, BARCELO CONGRESOS, whose excellent work has made possible the development of a Congress that we will all remember.

Punctually, at 8:30 on the 24th, the opening ceremony took place, chaired by the Rector of the Complutense University, Dr. Joaquín Goyache, accompanied by the President of the EAVLD, Dr. Marialaura Corrente, and the President of AVEDILA, Dr. José Luis Blanco. The three of them gave a warm welcome to all the attendees, remarking the joy of being able to meet personally after the bad times experienced. And that punctuality was a constant throughout the congress, where all the sessions were developed as planned, with great participation of the attendees and great scientific interest in all of them.

Eight plenary conferences were held. **Dr. Gudrun Overesch** presented very interesting data on the situation of the problem of antimicrobial resistance in Europe, with updated and worrying data. **Dr. Joaquín Goyache** shared data from his laboratory regarding the presence of SARS-COV 2 in our pets, especially worrying in the case of cats. **Dr. Nick Johnson** concerned us with the possible new pathogens that may arrive, alerting us to the control mechanisms that we must establish. **Ms. Elisa Gredilla** commented on a topic of great importance such as everything related to the legislation on ISO accreditations and the importance it has on the development of laboratory diagnostic procedures. **Dr. Antonio Martínez-Murcia** talked about the new molecular diagnostic methodologies, with special attention to the threat that is looming over Europe with the African Swine Fever. **Dr. Laura Lechuga** introduced us to the incredible world of nanotechnology and its applications in laboratory diagnostics, something that has gone from science fiction to reality in just a few years.

**EAVLD**  
6TH CONGRESS OF THE EUROPEAN ASSOCIATION  
OF VETERINARY LABORATORY DIAGNOSTICIANS  
SEVILLA OCTOBER 24, 25, 26 - 2022





## European Association of Veterinary Laboratory Diagnosticians



### EALVD 2022: CONFERENCE REPORT

**Dr. Beatriz Romero** explained the recent advances in the diagnosis and control of tuberculosis, an ever-present threat. Finally, **Dr. Elena Bozzetta** spoke to us about a field that is rarely dealt with in our congresses, the detection of anabolic agents, opening up our spectrum of action.

Likewise, **8 Sessions were held with a total of 48 oral communications**, all of them of a high scientific level. In addition, **90 posters** on various topics were exhibited in the poster room throughout the Congress.

Special mention should be made of the session for PhD Students, which was coordinated by the DVM Kiki Streng, and PhD student. Not only was it a session with four interesting communications, but also a survey was conducted during and after the Congress to find out the concerns of young researchers and what they ask from an association like the EAVLD and its periodic congresses. We are sure that the analysis of this survey will be of great benefit to the EAVLD in the near future.

As is tradition, **the awards for the best oral communications and posters** were presented to the following researchers.

#### **Awards for the best Oral Communications:**

First Prize (Sponsored by Eurofin ingenasa ):  
Joan Marti Carreras (Nanohealth Barcelona).

Second Prize (Sponsored by EAVLD):  
Raffaele Scarpellini (Università of Bologna, Italy).

Third Prize: (Sponsored by EAVLD):  
Gaelle Gonzalez, (Ecole Nationale d'Alfort, France).

#### **Best Poster Award:**

First Prize (Sponsored by IDEXX):  
Virginia Mattioda (Istituto Zooprofilattico Sperimentale del Piemonte, Liguria e Valle d'Aosta, Torino, Italy).

Second Prize (Sponsored by EAVLD):  
Maddi Oyanguren (Neiker-Basque Institute for Agricultural Research and Development, Derio, Spain).

Third Prize (Sponsored by EAVLD):  
Laura Pavliscak (Centralstar Cooperative, Lansing, USA).

Congratulations to all of them.



Joan Marti Carreras (Nanohealth Barcelona).  
First Prize Sponsored by Eurofin ingenasa:





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Prior to the Congress, AVEDILA had awarded four scholarships to young researchers to cover the Congress registration fees.

The scholarship recipients were: Gabriela González-García, from Eurofins Ingenasa; Cora Luján Segura, from the Autonomous University of Barcelona; Biel Garcias, from the Autonomous University of Barcelona; and Victor Lorente-leal, from VISAVET-UCM.

The EAVLD had also awarded two scholarships covering expenses in the amount of 500 €, which were awarded to Georgia Diakoudi (University of Bari Aldo Moro,) and Esther De Haan (1WBVR, Lelystad,).

Finally, FATRO awarded a special prize of 1000 € to Francesca Nocera (University of Naples "Federico II").

**Congratulations to all the scholarship recipients.**



From right to left:  
Georgia Diakoudi  
(University of Bari Aldo Moro);  
Esther De Haan  
(1WBVR, Lelystad);

Francesca Nocera  
(University of Naples "Federico II").



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But in a Congress **not everything is about work**, and there is always time for recreational aspects.

We were fortunate to have spectacular weather for a nice reception in the gardens of the Hotel Renacimiento.



From there, free time to visit the beautiful city of Seville and taste some of its typical dishes.

On the 25th, the congress dinner was held in a relaxed and friendly atmosphere, which also included the presence of the flamenco show, emotional and typical of the region, which cannot be missed in Seville.







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In an atmosphere of tiredness, but also of satisfaction for the good development of the Congress, on October 26th the closing of the congress took place, with the words of Dr. Marialaura Corrente and Dr. Jose Luis Blanco, with a clear message

# SEE YOU SOON

# IN 2024!!

The poster for the EA VLD 2024 Congress features a grey background on the left with logos for the University of Padua and EA VLD, a green line-art illustration of a city, and the text: **EAVLD 2024**, 7<sup>th</sup> Congress of the European Association of Veterinary Laboratory Diagnosticians, and **ITALY - PADUA**. On the right, a photograph shows the illuminated facade of the Basilica of St. Anthony in Padua at dusk, with a stone fountain in the foreground. A circular logo for 'VET INTERNATIONAL' is overlaid on the image.



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### EAVLD2022 PhD Session report SURVEY by Kiki Streng, PhD candidate, Wageningen University & Research – The Netherlands

As EAVLD and AVEDILA are aware that the future of their associations is relying upon young researchers, new talents and new ideas; a dedicated PhD session was held for the first time during the EAVLD congress in Seville, Spain. During this session, four PhD candidates were given the chance to talk about their PhD project, or a specific study within their project. In this way, EAVLD and AVEDILA wanted to create an accessible platform for young researchers to highlight their project and present this to the EAVLD audience.

Each PhD candidate was given the opportunity to answer questions from the audience, as well as enlighten the audience with advices they would give upcoming PhD candidates or supervisors based on their own experiences.

Biel Garcias from the Veterinary Faculty of the Universitat Autònoma de Barcelona (Spain) started the session with the project “A case control study of prevalence enteric pathogens in catalonian farms with post weaning diarrhea”. Bijan Godarzi from the Veterinary Faculty of Utrecht University (the Netherlands) continued the session with a talk about the development of a lateral flow micro array to detect WNV and USUV specific antibodies in humans, horses and blackbirds. Michela Maria Dimuccio from the University of Bari Aldo Moro, Valenzano (Italy) continued with a talk on the effect of rearing systems on rabbit welfare based on plasma cortisol and IL-6 detection. Last but not least, Gaia Casalino, from the same university as Michela, talked about campylobacter infections in laying hens in different rearing systems.

According to the post-congress survey, the PhD session was very well attended and participants were very satisfied with the session.

Hopefully, the PhD session can be implemented in future EAVLD events to give researchers of the future a platform to share their research!





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### EAVLD Post Congress Survey

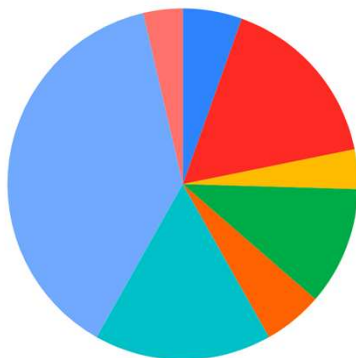
SURVEY by Kiki Streng, PhD candidate, Wageningen University & Research –The Netherlands

After the EAVLD congress in Seville, a survey among participants was set out, to evaluate the congress. **69 participants filled out this survey: 43 females (63.2%) , 24 males (35.3%);** 2 persons did not indicate their gender.

#### General information about participants

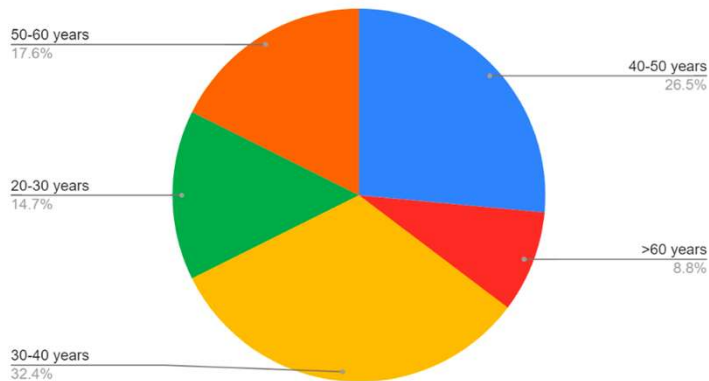
##### What is your nationality?

- Belgian
- Other (British, French, Greek, Hungarian, Portugese, Serbian, Slovakian, USA, Swiss)
- Canadian
- Dutch
- German
- Italian
- Spanish
- Swedish

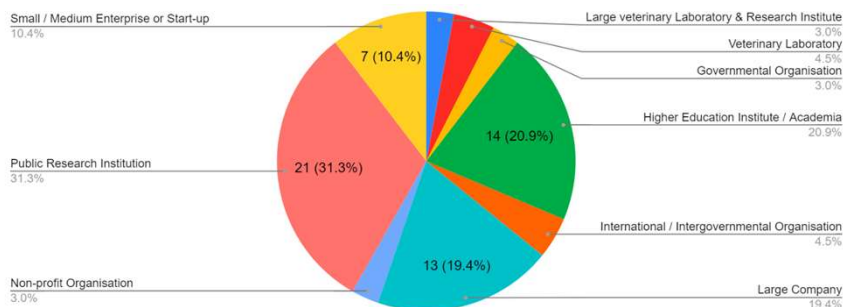


**55 Persons indicated their nationality**  
14 people did not fill out specific information

##### What is your age?



##### Can you indicate the sector you are working in?



- 21 public research institution
- 14 higher education or academia
- 13 large companies

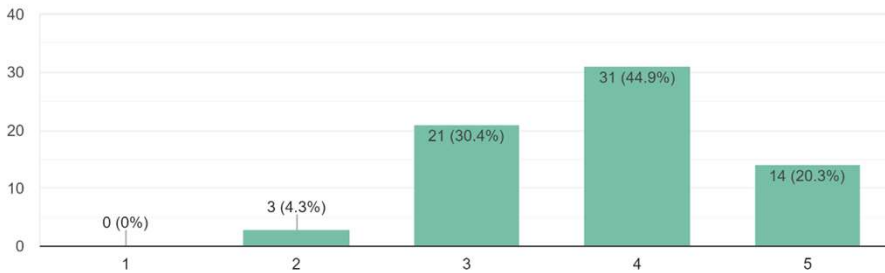




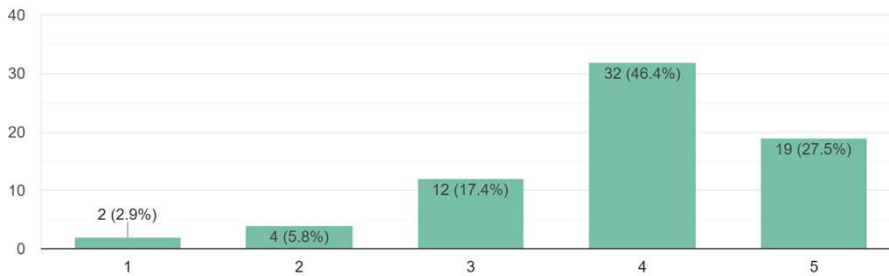
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Satisfaction of participants with regards to the congress (score: from 1, very unsatisfied, to 5 very satisfied)

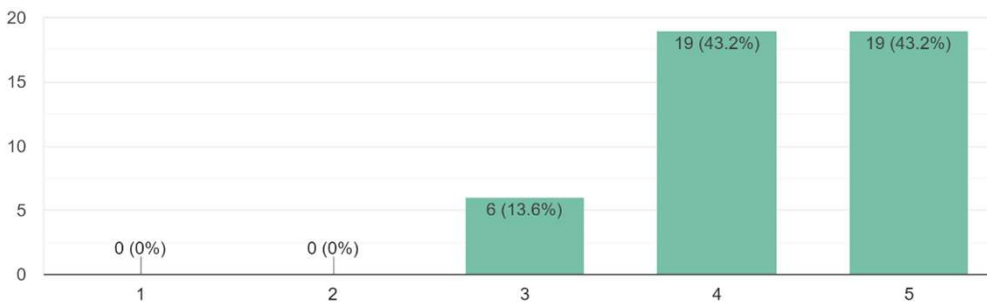
How satisfied were you with topics addressed during the congress



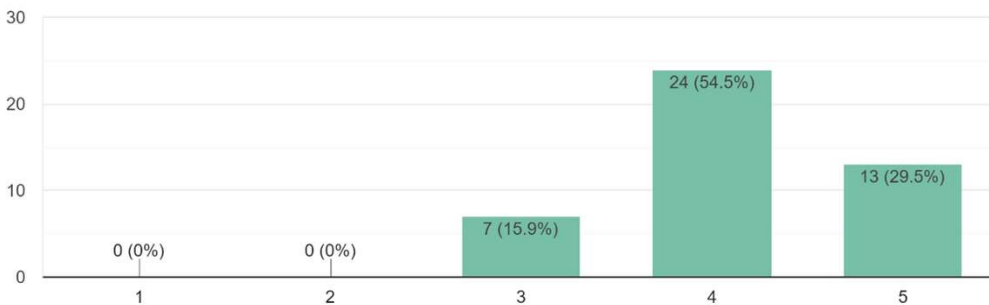
How satisfied were you with the overall organization of the congress?



How satisfied were you with the organization of the PhD session?



How satisfied were you with the content of the PhD session?





European Association of Veterinary Laboratory Diagnosticians

# EALVD 2024: Padua

**EALVD 2024**  
7<sup>th</sup> Congress of the  
European Association of Veterinary  
Laboratory Diagnosticians

**ITALY - PADUA**

Promoting Committee  
Board Italian Society of Laboratory  
Veterinary Diagnostics (SIDILV)



- ### Scientific Topics
- Animal health
  - Animal welfare
  - Antimicrobial resistance / susceptibility testing
  - Biosecurity in animal health
  - Emerging and re-emerging diseases
  - Epidemiology / Risk analysis and communication
  - Exotic diseases in developed countries
  - Food Safety
  - Forensic diagnostics
  - Genomics
  - Immunology and vaccines
  - Laboratory animals
  - New Diagnostic Testing Technologies
  - Proficiency Testing – participant and organizer perspective
  - Zoonoses / vector borne diseases
  - Miscellaneous

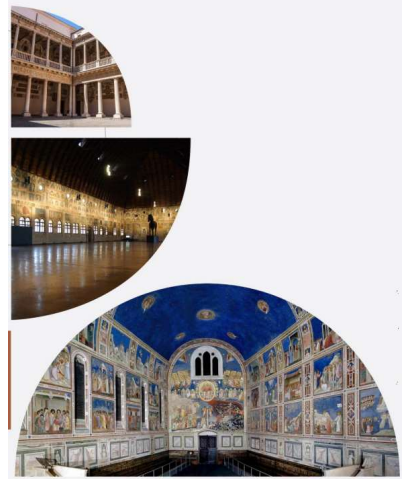
MEETING VENUE  
**Padova Congress...  
in numbers**

ROOM CAPACITIES	
1,566 pax GIOTTO	✓ can be split into 3 different meeting rooms ✓ can host 3 independent events simultaneously
988 pax MANTEGNA	✓ can be split into 3 different meeting rooms ✓ can host 3 independent events simultaneously

6 AUXILIARY ROOMS      12,000 sqm TOTAL AREA      3,334 pax TOTAL CAPACITY      1,400 HOTEL BEDS within walking distance

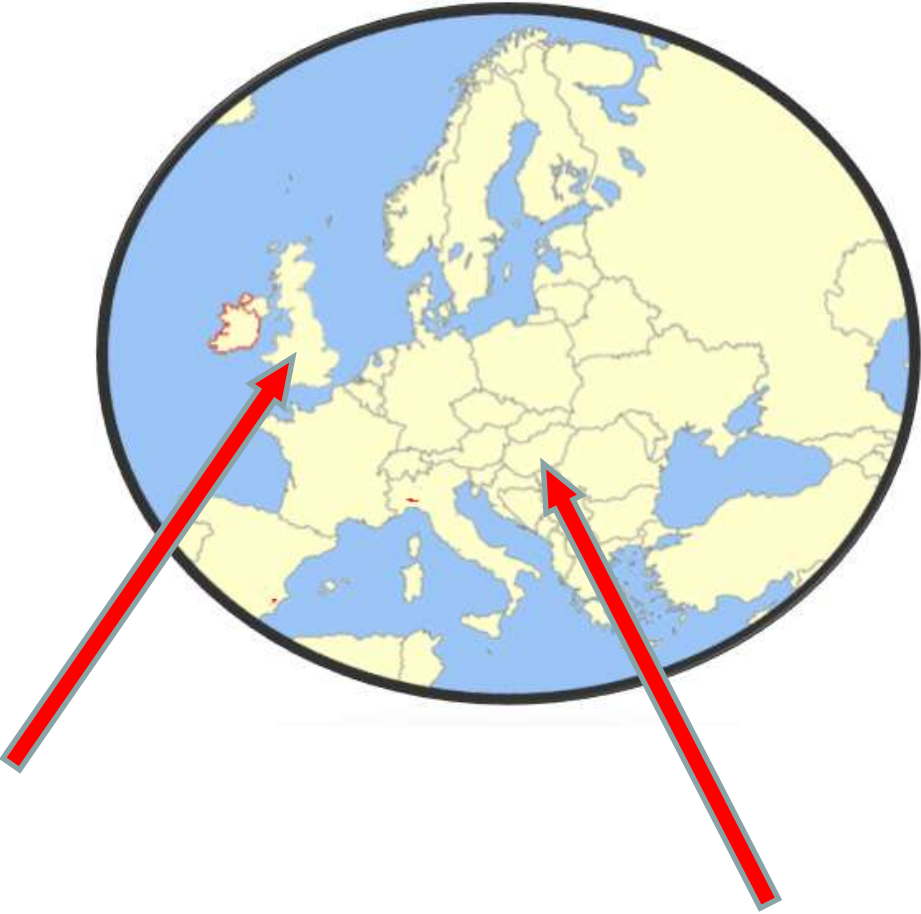
### Why Padua

Padua lies in the heart of Veneto, a region in the North-East of Italy. It is a lively and picturesque city with its network of arcaded streets opening into large squares, ancient gates, walls and mighty bastions, as well as beautiful bridges. It is one of the oldest and yet one of the most dynamic Italian cities. The historic city centre is surrounded by sixteenth-century walls and waterways connecting Padua with Venice. Padua is an ideal city for conferences and meetings. Thanks to its many accommodation options and their strategic locations, the city also offers a wide choice of pre- and post-congress tours and entertainment, from art to nature and from well-being to sport.





**European Association of Veterinary Laboratory Diagnosticians**







## European Association of Veterinary Laboratory Diagnosticians



### **Prof. Istvan Kiss** **Ceva-Phylaxia Ltd., Budapest, Hungary**

Istvan Kiss graduated at the University of Veterinary Sciences, Budapest, Hungary, in 1990, and obtained his Ph.D in 1998 in the same Alma mater.



He started as a veterinary surgeon at a multi-species farm; then joined a bovine in vitro fertilization (IVF) laboratory; followed by a human medicine company; and subsequently a government diagnostic institute.

After a few years work at the National Veterinary Institute, Uppsala, Sweden, he joined the

Scientific Support and Investigation Unit, Ceva-Phylaxia Ltd., Budapest, Hungary in 2010.



## European Association of Veterinary Laboratory Diagnosticians



**Jason Sawyer BSc (Hons), PhD**  
**TB Research Group, Department of Bacteriology,**  
**Animal and Plant Health Agency [APHA]**  
**Weybridge- United Kingdom.**

Jason studied biology at the University of Stirling and a PhD in the Department of Genetics at the University of Leicester. Two years at Brewing Research International were followed by three years at the Laboratory of the Government Chemist.



Jason moved to the Animal and Plant Health Agency (APHA) in 2000. His work at APHA has involved evaluating and introducing new laboratory diagnostic technology, working towards ensuring the APHA is using up-to-date and modern testing methods.

More recently, he has been involved with bovine TB vaccine and diagnostic research and is currently the workgroup leader for the Bovine TB research group in the Department of Bacteriology at APHA Weybridge. He is the named expert for the APHA WOA reference lab for mammalian tuberculosis.

Jason lectures in veterinary diagnostic methods at the Royal Veterinary College and also carries out assessments of diagnostic test validation data as part of the test validation team at APHA which grants approval to tests prior to adoption as official UK veterinary laboratory tests.



**European Association of Veterinary Laboratory Diagnosticians**

## ***EAVLD BOARD***

Marialaura Corrente (President)



Antonio Martinez-Murcia (Vice-President)



Viktor Ahlberg (Treasurer)



Jason Sawyer (Secretary)



Heather Graham



Istvan Kiss



Marzia Pezzolato







## European Association of Veterinary Laboratory Diagnosticians



*veterinary sciences*

an Open Access Journal by MDPI



### *Special Issue - Diagnostics in Veterinary Medicine*

#### Guest Editors:

**Ms. Heather Graham**

Department of Diagnostics and Crisis Organisation,  
Wageningen Bioveterinary Research, The Netherlands

**Prof. María José Cubero Pablo**

Antimicrobial Resistance in Animal Health, University of  
Murcia, Spain

**Dr. Marzia Pezzolato**

Istituto Zooprofilattico Sperimentale del Piemonte, Liguria  
Valle d'Aosta, Turin, Italy

#### *Submission Deadline:*

**31 May 2023**



#### Keywords

- EAVLD
- diagnostics
- detection of disease
- veterinary microbiology
- monitoring and surveillance
- one health
- public health
- sample management
- laboratory information management systems
- proficiency testing
- developments in diagnostics
- improvements and standardization in diagnostics



## European Association of Veterinary Laboratory Diagnosticians

### Memorandum of Understanding

Between:

European Society of Clinical Microbiology and Infectious Diseases (ESCMID)



European College of Veterinary Microbiology (ECVM)



European Association of Veterinary Laboratory Diagnosticians (EAVLD)



The MoU has identified **six main areas** for collaboration between the three organisations as follows:

- 1. standardisation** of methods and procedures in veterinary diagnostic microbiology;
- 2. antimicrobial stewardship** and best infection control practices in veterinary medicine;
- 3. training** of ECVM-certified specialists in veterinary microbiology;
4. communication and training on **prevention and control of antimicrobial resistance (AMR)** in animals;
5. training and scientific collaboration with human medical colleagues using a **One Health approach**;
- 6. joint organization** of scientific congresses in the field of veterinary microbiology in Europe.

#### MoU committee representatives

ESGVM: Luca Guardabassi and Els Broens

ECVM: Dorina Timofte

EAVLD: Heather Graham

### Memorandum of Understanding: **ECVM, EALVD and The ESCMID Study Group for Veterinary Microbiology (ESGVM) in practice**

- Discount fee for EAVLD members attending courses and congresses of ECVM and ESGVM
- Newsletter and LinkedIn
- Joint meetings and workshops



**European Association of Veterinary Laboratory Diagnosticians**

# UPCOMING EVENTS



## ISWAVLD 2023

International Symposium of the World Association of Veterinary Laboratory Diagnosticians

29 JUNE-1 JULY  
2023  
Congress Centre  
Lyon

*Towards  
the veterinary  
diagnostics  
of the  
future*

<https://www.iswavld2023.org>



ICOHAR International Conference  
on One Health Antimicrobial Resistance



18-20 April 2023

<https://www.icohar.org>



8th International  
Calicivirus Conference  
7 - 11 May 2023 in Rotterdam, The  
Netherlands

<https://calicivirus2023.com>





**European Association of Veterinary Laboratory Diagnosticians**



## **EAVLD Members, we need you!**

### **Would you to contribute to our mission?**

Do you have news for the EAVLD newsletter?

Do you are a young researcher working across Europe? Tell us your story!

Please send to Marzia Pezzolato, [marzia.Pezzolato@izsto.it](mailto:marzia.Pezzolato@izsto.it) before May, 3 2023.

Do you have ideas or proposals to share with us?

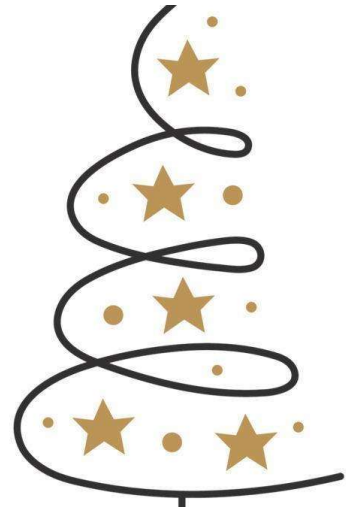
Contact [marialaura.corrente@uniba.it](mailto:marialaura.corrente@uniba.it)



**European Association of Veterinary Laboratory Diagnosticians**

Merry Christmas

and Happy New Year



*Newsletter by Marzia Pezzolato*