

## Third Annual General Meeting & Election of the New Executive Council

The third Annual General Meeting (AGM) of the College was held on 14th June 2018 at the Oak Ray Regency Hotel, Getambe. The meeting was preceded by the Annual Scientific Sessions of the Sri Lanka Veterinary Association (SLVA) at the same venue.

The proceedings included confirmation of the minutes of the second AGM and discussion on matters arising therefrom, reports of the General Secretary and Treasurer, and election of the third Executive Council. The event was attended by around 70 Members and Fellows of the College.



### Sri Lanka College of Veterinary Surgeons Third Executive Council, 2018-2020



Seated L to R : Prof. N. P. Sunil-Chandra (Vice President), Dr. D. D. N. de Silva (President Elect), Prof. H. Abeygunawardena (Immediate Past President), Dr. H. P. Premasiri (Vice President), Dr. D. S. Kodikara (President), Dr. D. M. S. Munasinghe (Dean, FVMAS), Dr. L. N. A. de Silva (Treasurer), Dr. K. K. Wijesundera (General Secretary).

Standing L to R : Prof. Mangala Gunatilake, Dr. Chanaka Rabel, Dr. Chandani Ganga Wijesinghe, Dr. Eranda Rajapaksha, Dr. R. M. C. Deshapriya, Dr. Susantha Mallawarachchi, Dr. Keerthi Gunasekera, Dr. Ruwani Kalupahana.

Absent : Dr. H. R. N. Jinadasa (Addl. General Secretary), Dr. D. Welagedera, Dr. W.R. Bandula Kumara, Dr. N. Vedasinghe, Dr. N. Priyankarage

## The Mace of the College



The mace is made out of three metals, stainless steel, bronze and copper. The aggregate appearance of the object and all the sub-units were decided according to the principles of the traditional art in Sri Lanka. The globe represents the world, while the lotus flower in Sri Lankan art characterizes happiness, fortune, prosperity and success. The square unit which appears below the globe is the symbolic representation of our main object 'restore to health'. The globe is surmounted by the medal of Sri Lanka where the logo of the College is engraved. The mace measures 1.5 m in length and 20 cm in height, and weighs 5.5 kg. It was designed and donated by Dr. D.S Kodikara, who is a Founder Fellow and current President of the College.

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## Induction of the Third President & Awarding of Fellowships & Memberships

The third Induction Ceremony of the College was held on 21st July 2018 at the Hotel Kingsbury, Colombo, with Prof. Mohan de Silva, Chairman of the University Grants Commission of Sri Lanka, as the Chief Guest. The ceremony was attended by over 130 persons, including invited special guests, members, fellows, their spouses, sponsors and other invitees.



Ceremonial Procession



Traditional Lighting of the Oil Lamp



Dignitaries at the Head Table



Newly Appointed and Outgoing Presidents



Participants at the Ceremony

The incumbent President, Prof. H. Abeygunawardena, welcomed all those present and highlighted the main activities of the College over the past two years. These included:

- Conduct of a series of Continuing Professional Development (CPD) programmes, some of which were done in collaboration with sister organizations such as SLVA, Society of Companion Animal Practitioners (SCAP) and Sri Lanka Association for Laboratory Animal Science (SLALAS)
- Conduct of several seminars in Kandy and Colombo on topics of special interest with participation of visiting veterinary experts
- Playing an active role in facilitating the development of the new veterinary curriculum

## Milestones

- **February 2009:**  
Formation of a Working Group for establishment of a College of Veterinary Surgeons.
- **14-07-2014:**  
Inaugural meeting, adoption of Articles of Association and election of Founder Executive Council.
- **22-09-2014:**  
Articles of Association approved by the Registrar of Companies.
- **20-10-2014:**  
Registered as a Company Limited by Guarantee under the Companies Act No. 7 of 2007, with Reg. No. GA 2976.
- **30-10-2015:**  
Formal inauguration, induction of Founder President and awarding of Founder Fellowships and Memberships.
- **18-03-2016:**  
First Annual General Meeting and election of Second Executive Council.
- **26-05-2017:**  
Induction of second President, awarding of Fellowships and Memberships, and second Annual General Meeting.
- **14-06-2016:**  
Third Annual General Meeting and election of third Executive Council.
- **18-03-2016:**  
Induction of third President and awarding of Fellowships and Memberships.

- Contributing to the drafting of an Animal Welfare Bill, which is in the final stages
- Participating in the drafting of amendments to the Animals Act No. 29 of 1958, the Veterinary Surgeons and Practitioners Act No. 46 of 1956, and the Codes of Practice for Veterinarians
- Facilitating the Department of Animal Production and Health (DAPH) to develop a proposal for establishing a Veterinary Public Health Service under its purview, and to develop policy, strategy and an action plan to improve and ensure safety of food of animal origin.

Prof. Abeygunawardena inducted Dr. D.S. Kodikara as the third President of the SLCVS. During his address Dr. Kodikara outlined the programme of activities that he proposed to conduct over the next two years, pledging that he would continue to further develop the activities initiated by the previous Councils, while paying special attention to the following areas:

- Conduct, in partnership with other organizations, national level seminars on important topics, including two that have already been identified, namely “One health approach to optimize wellbeing of the society”, and “Safety of food of animal origin”
- Establishment of a Chapter in Small Animal Medicine and a Chapter in Farm Animal Health, and collaborate with the Faculty of Veterinary Medicine and Animal Science (FVMAS) to commence suitable postgraduate training programmes with clinical emphasis primarily targeting the practicing veterinarians.

President Dr. Kodikara then inducted the new Members and Fellows who had been enrolled since the previous induction ceremony, and the Members who had been promoted as Fellows (see list in the column at right):



The following were inducted as Honorary Fellows of the College:



Left: Dr. Lachlan McIntyre - Programme Director of International Veterinary Education Partnerships, Massey University, New Zealand  
 Centre: Prof. Tim Parkinson - Institute of Veterinary, Animal and Biomedical Sciences, Massey University, New Zealand  
 Right: Dr. Terry King - Former Director, University of Queensland Veterinary Teaching Hospital, Australia

The Guest Speaker was Dr. Terry King. He outlined the historical links between Sri Lanka and Australia, being part of the Commonwealth, and similarities in the education systems of the two countries. Dr. King identified some of the challenges faced by Veterinary Colleges in promoting

## Admissions to the College 2016 - 2018

### Honorary Fellows:

- Dr. Terry King, BVSc, MANZCVS
- Dr. Lachlan McIntyre, BVSc, MVSc
- Prof. Timothy Parkinson, BVSc, PhD

### Fellows:

- Dr. A.D.N. Chandrasiri, B.V.Sc., M.Sc., Ph.D.
- Dr. G.D.R.K. Perera, BVSc, MPhil, Dip. HRM
- Dr. M.P.S. Magamage, BVSc, MSc, PhD
- Dr. E. Rajapaksha, BVSc, MS, PhD, DACAW, DACVB
- Dr. S. Lokugalappatti, BVSc, PhD

### Members Promoted as Fellows:

- Prof. C.N.R.A. Alles, BVSc, PhD
- Dr. R.M.C. Deshapriya, BVSc, PhD
- Dr. M.N.M. Fouzi, BVSc, PhD
- Dr. K. De S.A. Gunasekara, BVSc
- Dr. R.M.S.B.K. Ranasinghe, BVSc, PhD
- Dr. B.R. Fernando, BVSc, PhD
- Dr. S. Mallawaarachchi, BVSc, MBA

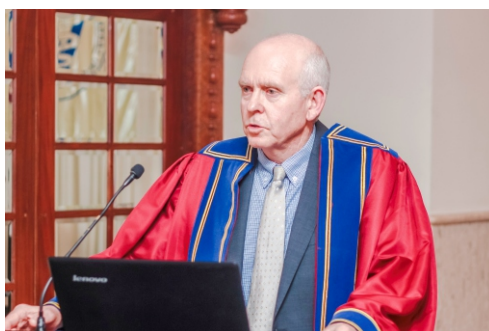
### Members:

- Dr. R.R.M.K. Wijesundera, BVSc, PhD
- Dr. D.A. Satharasinghe, BVSc, PhD
- Dr. J.M.K.J.K. Premarathne, BVSc, PhD
- Dr. G.S.S. Gunawardena, BVSc, MSc
- Dr. U. Perera, BVSc, MSc
- Dr. G.S. Pemachandra, BVSc (Hons)
- Dr. U. Hemachandra, BVSc (Hons)
- Dr. H.M.T.K. Karunarathna, BVSc, MPhil
- Dr. K.S.A. Kottawatta, BVSc, PhD
- Dr. H.M.S. Wijekoon, BVSc, MPhil, PhD

and recognizing the highest standards of all facets of veterinary science, including the art and science of contemporary veterinary clinical practice. He highlighted the importance of the establishment of specialized Chapters, as an initiative to drive the advancement of veterinary science as it relates specifically to the relevant discipline and in particular to promote recruitment to the College and the Chapter. He stressed that internationalisation of College degrees (membership and fellowship) is an essential progressive step, with adoption of current international best practice for post-graduate learning and gaining of specialisation. He concluded that this would require determination and patience, and could be assisted through alliances with other international Colleges that have already treaded this path.



Guest Speaker Dr. Terry King



Guest of Honour Dr. Lachlan McIntyre

Dr. Lachlan McIntyre and Prof. Tim Parkinson were the Guests of Honour and they delivered a joint presentation on “Veterinary education – global trends and local effects”. The presentation dealt with factors affecting veterinary education globally, such as changes in agriculture and the professions, expectations of society, governments and trade, and the knowledge explosion that requires shifting the focus of teaching from a domain and subject specific approach to one that develops critical thinking and self-learning skills. The role of the partnership between the Universities of Massey and Peradeniya in undertaking a comprehensive revision of the veterinary curriculum in Sri Lanka was highlighted, and the ways in which the new curriculum was aligned with the requirements of the Sri Lanka Qualifications Framework (SLQF) as well as international requirements were outlined. The conclusion was that there would be many challenges in moving from a teacher-centred, input-focused curriculum to a student-orientated, outcome-focused one, and professional bodies such as the SLVA and the SLCVS had major roles in facilitating this endeavour.

The next presentation was by Dr. Nayana Wijayawardhane, Chairperson, Curriculum Revision Committee of the Faculty of Veterinary Medicine & Animal Science (FVMAS). It included an overview of the procedure adopted for the recent revision of the BVSc curriculum and the major highlights of the proposed new curriculum. She pointed out that the last revision of the BVSc curriculum was conducted in the year 2000, and the currently used curriculum therefore required a major revision. The Faculty, in consultation with the DAPH, obtained the assistance of the World Organisation for Animal Health (formerly the Office Internationale des Epizooties – OIE) to initiate a “Twinning Programme”, through which the Massey University provides guidance and expertise to improve the veterinary education at the FVMAS. The major characteristics of the new curriculum include the following:



## The Third President of the College



Dr. D.S. Kodikara (BVSc, MRCVS, NVE, FSLCVS) graduated with a Bachelor of Veterinary Science degree in 1980 from the University of Peradeniya (then Peradeniya campus of University of Sri Lanka). He is a Member of the Royal College of Veterinary Surgeons in the UK, has passed the National Veterinary Examination and obtained professional qualification from the Post Graduate Foundation in Veterinary Science from Australia, and is a Founder Fellow of the SLCVS. Dr. Kodikara is one of the leading private practitioners in Sri Lanka, and a member of several international and national professional bodies, including the World Veterinary Association, World Wildlife Veterinary Association, Australian Veterinary Association, Sri Lanka Veterinary Association and Society of Companion Animal practitioners of Sri Lanka. He is an external examiner for Veterinary Medicine and Surgery at the University of Peradeniya, and visiting veterinary surgeon for the National Zoological Gardens, Sri Lanka Army and Sri Lanka Air Force.

- Addresses the deficiencies revealed by the GAP Analysis that was carried out in accordance with guidelines of the OIE
- Aligns Day 1 Competencies with recommendations of the OIE, Australasian Veterinary Boards Council (AVBC) and the Royal College of Veterinary Surgeons (RCVS), United Kingdom
- Aligns the Graduate Profile with SLQF guidelines
- Complies with accreditation standards published by AVBC and RCVS
- More student centred and outcome focused
- Includes new courses in professional studies and integration
- Increases the duration from the previous four years to five years
- The final year is free of lectures and comprises clinical training including industry externships.

The final address was by the Chief Guest, Prof. Mohan de Silva, Chairman, University Grants Commission of Sri Lanka. He spoke about the fundamental similarities between the medical and veterinary professions, and the importance of animals for human wellbeing as well as survival. He opined that under the current focus on 'One-Health'



where the disciplines of human, animal and environmental health need to work together, veterinarians are uniquely placed to exploit this mutually beneficial link. Prof. de Silva referred to the curriculum revision that has been undertaken by the FVMAS in collaboration with Massey University, and emphasized that this was under an agreement signed between the Governments of Sri Lanka and New Zealand. He stated that there was a clear need for a revised veterinary curriculum that is well designed and in line with national requirements as well as international standards, and commended the FVMAS, Massey University and other facilitators in accomplishing this task.

The formal proceedings concluded with the Vote of Thanks delivered by the General Secretary, Dr. Rasika Jinadasa. This was followed by a fellowship, entertainment and dinner.



# Appreciation

We gratefully acknowledge the contributions of the following sponsors who supported the third Induction Ceremony

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## Well Wishers

- Mr. Ajith Gunasekara
- Mr. Asela Wanasinghe
- Mr. Sumedha Ariyaratne

# Role of Veterinarians in Ensuring Safety of Food of Animal Origin: Global Perspective and Current Status in Sri Lanka

Dr. Ruwani Kalupahana (BVSc, PhD, FSLCVS)  
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Faculty of Veterinary Medicine & Animal Science, University of Peradeniya



**M**eat and other foods of animal origin are a source of high quality protein and other essential nutrients in the diet of human beings. There are however potential hazards from consuming foods of animal origin and these include zoonoses (diseases that can be naturally transmitted from animals to humans), the presence of veterinary drug residues and other chemicals, and possible contamination with drug resistant bacteria. To ensure the safety of foods from animals rigorous monitoring and control measures are required along the entire food chain from “Farm to Fork”. There is worldwide acceptance that veterinarians can and should play an essential role in ensuring the safety of foods of animal origin. The World Organisation for Animal Health, (formerly the Office International des Epizooties, OIE) has recently added to its mandate the monitoring and prevention of safety risks from foods of animal origin, updating its traditional focus on issues of animal health.

Under the current mandate of the OIE the “veterinary authority” in each of its member countries has the responsibility of ensuring the safety of food of animal origin through effective implementation of veterinary services at different points of the food production continuum. The prime veterinary responsibilities include proper management of food animal production at farm level, inspection of meat, and certification of animal products for international and national trade. The effectiveness of national veterinary services are evaluated by the OIE using a set of agreed and published guidelines. The OIE PVS (performances of veterinary services) Tool is one such guide, where the level of performance in critical competencies is categorized into five levels of attainment. In the context of food safety, the highest level of attainment is described as “regulation, authorization, and inspection of establishments for production, processing and distribution of food of animal origin are undertaken in conformity with international standards at all premises”. However, the guideline also states that member countries are expected to implement veterinary services within the requirements of the individual country. Because of this wording the level of attainment of safety standards varies among countries. It is important to recognize that the existing legislative framework in Sri Lanka may limit the effectiveness of the veterinary profession to reduce potential risks from food of animal origin in the national food chain.

Sri Lanka is a member country of the OIE. The “veterinary authority” of Sri Lanka is the Department of Animal Production and Health (DAPH) and the Director General of the DAPH (DG-DAPH) is the Chief Veterinary Officer (CVO). Even though the DAPH is vested with the responsibility for ensuring the safety and quality of food of animal origin and it is embedded in the vision of the Department, its role is limited within the legislative framework of the country.

Currently in Sri Lanka, the safety of food, including food of animal origin, is under the legislative power of Food Act no. 26 of 1980. The implementing authority for the Food Act is the Director General of the Ministry of Health and according to an amendment introduced in 2011, the DG-DAPH has been recognized as a member of the food advisory committee of the Ministry of Health. The legislative powers vested to veterinary authorities and the CVO under this act are however marginal. In addition to the role of the DG-DAPH at the Ministry of Health committee level, the veterinary surgeon is recognized as an authorizing officer in the evaluation of meat safety. However, the role of a veterinarian in the practical operation of meat inspection and processing is somewhat ambiguous. Veterinarians employed in some municipal councils are vested with powers on meat inspection and approval certification, but social pressures that hinder the construction of proper slaughter houses within city limits appears to limit the effectiveness of meat inspection. Accordingly, in some municipalities there is no opportunity for ante-mortem inspections to be conducted by veterinarians.

Though there is less authority under the Food Act, the veterinary authority of Sri Lanka has sufficient powers for implementing effective services at the farm level. Under the provisions given by existing acts such as Animal Diseases Act (No. 59 of 1992) and its regulations, Animal Act (No. 29 of 1958) and Animal Feeds Act, the DG-

DAPH is the authorized officer to ensure disease control in farm animals and the prevention and control of transmission of zoonotic diseases, whilst also ensuring animal welfare.

When it comes to international trade, the veterinary authority has adequate powers to deal with issues of safety and this is mainly due to stringent international regulations. Accordingly, all imports and exports of food of animal origin are carried out under the supervision of animal quarantine services in order to ensure that exotic diseases are not introduced into Sri Lanka by way of import of live animals, animal products and animal by-products, and vice versa. Additionally, the quality assurance procedures of certified meat processing plants are monitored by veterinary services. For international trade, in contrast with the internal situation, meat and also any food of animal origin requiring an accompanying veterinary certificate or zoo sanitary certificate is subjected to regulations set by the veterinary authority.

In order to ensure human health it is necessary to maintain and improve the quality and safety of foods of animal origin in our local markets. To achieve this objective a multidisciplinary approach is required and the role of veterinary services should be recognized at senior levels of government. The veterinary profession has an important role in formulating policies and in practical implementation of these policies in all operations of animal handling, slaughter and processing.

Further information:

<http://www.oie.int/solidarity/pvs-evaluations/oie-pvs-tool/>

[http://www.oie.int/fileadmin/Home/eng/Publications\\_%26\\_Documentation/docs/pdf/EN\\_role\\_des\\_services\\_veterinarie\\_securite\\_sanitaire\\_des\\_aliments.pdf](http://www.oie.int/fileadmin/Home/eng/Publications_%26_Documentation/docs/pdf/EN_role_des_services_veterinarie_securite_sanitaire_des_aliments.pdf)

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## A Cautionary Note on Antimicrobial Prescriptions for Companion Animals

Dr. Anuruddhika Dissanayake (BVSc, PhD, FSLCVS)  
Senior Lecturer, Department of Veterinary Clinical Sciences  
Faculty of Veterinary Medicine & Animal Science, University of Peradeniya

**D**evelopment of antimicrobial resistance (AMR) has been a concern over several decades. In recent years, AMR has gained attention worldwide due to the emergence of multidrug resistant (MDR) bacterial strains such as Methicillin resistant *Staphylococcus aureus* (MRSA) and extended spectrum beta lactamases (EsBLs) producing Gram negative organisms. Mortalities caused by MDR organisms is increasing worldwide (EU ~25,000/year, USA ~63,000/year)

Factors that contribute to emergence and dissemination of AMR are numerous and diverse. The main factor is the inherent capacity of bacteria to develop resistance. While this inherent capacity of bacteria has been widely studied, no successful mechanism to intervene in this capacity has been discovered. However, there are a number of human behavioural elements (within our control) that contribute significantly to emergence of AMR, including purchase, use and disposal of antimicrobial drugs by consumers, and regulatory policies related to use and prescription. These aspects of usage can be modified through interventions.

Physicians and professionals in the poultry and livestock industry are often blamed for overprescribing and misusing of antimicrobial drugs. Using antimicrobial drugs in poultry and livestock industries was a serious concern due to the possibility of transmitting resistant organisms and antimicrobial residues to humans through food chains. The transmission of resistant organisms between humans and companion animals was insignificant earlier, but the contact has increased over time, making AMR a relevant issue to pet owners. Thus, the World Organisation for Animal Health and the World Health Organization are now working with veterinarians to control antibiotic use in pet animals.

Lack of laboratory support to arrive at a diagnosis often leaves the clinicians with no option other than initiating an empirical antimicrobial therapy to lower the possible risks of an infection. This is the likely reason for over-



prescription of antimicrobial drugs. Further, the use of inappropriate antimicrobial drugs, administration of antimicrobials at incorrect dosage, availability of over-the-counter drugs and prophylactic therapy are also factors that contribute to development of AMR strains.

Veterinary practitioners' associations in different countries including American Veterinary Medical Association (AVMA), Australian Infectious Diseases Advisory Panel (AIDAP) and Danish Small Animal Veterinary Association (SvHKS) have published guidelines for antimicrobial use in small animals. These guidelines highlight the importance of confirming the presence of a bacterial infection before prescribing antimicrobial drugs. In the event of a mild infection, it is also important to consider whether the immune system of the animal can overcome the infection without antibiotics. AVMA has recommended several other practices, including alternate therapeutic options, treating underlying non-bacterial infections and thorough investigations before switching or combining antimicrobials. AVMA further emphasises the following routines:

1. Avoidance of using antimicrobial therapy for diarrhoea (in otherwise healthy animals), acute uncomplicated upper respiratory tract infections and juvenile vaginitis;
2. Cytological evaluation, microbial culture and antimicrobial susceptibility tests (AST) for recurrent or refractory pyoderma and use topical antimicrobials and medicated shampoos instead of systemic antimicrobials when possible;
3. Quantitative cultures and AST when treating urinary tract infections;
4. Avoidance of prescribing antimicrobial drugs for viral, parasitic and fungal infections.

In serious clinical situations, antibiotics could be adopted empirically without performing culture and AST. The knowledge of the type of organisms affecting different biological systems, effective antimicrobials for the particular infection, ability of the antimicrobials to concentrate at the site of infection and the possible risk of spreading antimicrobial resistance are important in selecting antimicrobial drugs empirically. SvHKS has organized available antibiotics in a pyramid according to their significance to human and veterinary medicine (Figure 1). This may help veterinary practitioners to choose an antibiotic minimizing the risk of developing AMR.

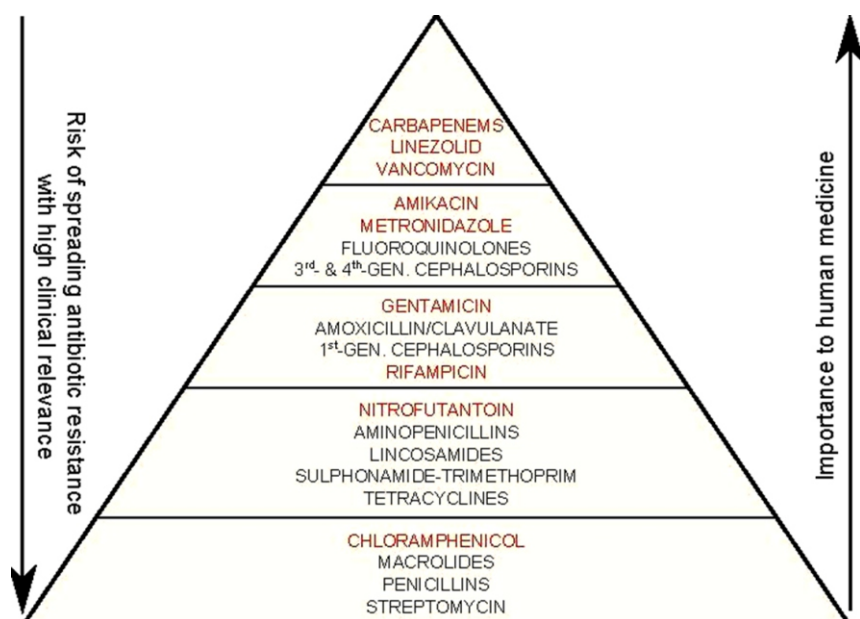


Figure 1: Classification of systemic antibiotics based on clinical importance in human and veterinary medicine (Source: Antibiotic Use Guidelines for Companion Animal Practice, SvHKS). Those in red are not licensed for use in companion animals

Duration of antimicrobial treatment is also an important factor in developing resistance in bacteria. Acute infections in immuno-competent animals usually show good response to treatment within 5-10 days. In such animals, antibiotic treatment should continue for 1 or 2 days after resolution of clinical signs. Chronic infections such as skin infections, osteomyelitis, infections in immune-suppressed animals, and infections with intracellular pathogens need to be treated longer and generally such treatments should continue for 1-2 weeks after resolution of clinical signs.

Further information:

[www.avma.org/AntibioticUse](http://www.avma.org/AntibioticUse)

<https://studylib.net/doc/8415690/antibiotic-use-guidelines-for-companion-animal-practice>

[https://www.ava.com.au/sites/default/files/AVA\\_website/pdfs/AIDAP%20prescribing%20guidelines.pdf](https://www.ava.com.au/sites/default/files/AVA_website/pdfs/AIDAP%20prescribing%20guidelines.pdf)



# Participation in Professional Activities

The Executive Council members of the SLCVS (2018-2020) in liaison with Directorate of the Department of Animal Production and Health (DAPH) have taken an active role in the following activities.

- Development of a proposal to establish a unit/division for Veterinary Public Health Service under the purview of DAPH and development of action plan for improving and ensuring safety of food of animal origin.
- Drafting of amendments to the Animals Act No. 29 of 1958, the Veterinary Surgeons and Practitioners Act No. 46 of 1956, and the Codes of Practice for Veterinarians

## Continuing Professional Development - Seminars & Training Courses

### Seminars on Emergency and Critical Care (ECC)

This 2-day seminar series was conducted by the SLCVS in collaboration with SCAP at Rover Animal Hospital, Battaramulla, on 19th and 20th July 2018. The resource person was Dr. Terry King, the former Director, Queensland University Veterinary Teaching Hospital, Australia. The seminars covered diverse topics including basics of ECC, helpful hints in handling emergencies, case based common canine and feline emergencies, transfusion therapy, poisoning, environmental emergencies and management of seizures of small animals. This was followed by an interactive question and answer session. More than 30 small animal practitioners participated in the program.

### Lecture on Antibabesial Treatment Protocols and Occurrence of Drugs Resistant Babesia Isolates in Canines

This lecture was delivered by Dr. W.R. Bandula Kumara (BVSc, PhD) Senior Lecturer, FVMAS, on 12th September 2018 from 4.15 – 5.30 P.M at the Veterinary Teaching Hospital, University of Peradeniya. It dealt with the possible causes for development of resistance, how to avoid it and use of different treatment protocols in a logical manner.

### Seminar on Multiple differentiation potential of dog synovium-derived mesenchymal stem cells

This seminar was conducted by Dr. Suranji Wijekoon (BVSc, M Phil, PhD) on 17th October 2018 from 4.30 – 6.00 PM at the Veterinary Teaching Hospital, University of Peradeniya. A comparison was done between dog synovium-derived mesenchymal stem cells in dogs

affected with cranial cruciate ligament rupture and patella luxation, and the therapeutic use of stem cells in clinical practice was discussed.

### Training Course on Select Topics in Modern Dairy Cattle Management – Part I



This 2 credit CPD programme was conducted from 8th October to 3rd November 2018. Twelve field veterinarians attached to the DAPH participated and the program was coordinated by Dr. R.A.C. Rabel. Resource personnel were Dr. Rabel, Dr. K.K. Jagath and Prof. P.G.A. Pushpakumara.

## Continuing Professional Development - Seminars & Training Courses

Training Course on Fish diseases: diagnosis, treatment and management



A collaborative effort of the SLCVS, VTH and CAADDR, the program was funded by DAPH and conducted from 22nd October to 25th November 2018). Twenty veterinarians serving as VIOs and VSs of DAPH and DWLC who are

involved with aquatic health and fish disease surveillance participated in the course. It was coordinated by Drs. S.S.S.de S. Jagoda and M.N. Fowzi, who together with Dr. D.M.S. Munasinghe served as resource personnel.

Seminar on Where are the developmental limits of pain?



This seminar was conducted by Dr. Craig Brian Johnson (BVSc, PhD, DVA, DipECVA), Professor of Veterinary Neurophysiology and Animal Welfare Science, Massey University, New Zealand. It was held on 6th December 2018 at the Veterinary Teaching Hospital, University of Peradeniya.

## Future Activities Planned

The Executive Council of the SLCVS (2018-2020) has prepared the following tentative programme.

- 4th Annual General Meeting in June 2019
- Establishment of a Chapter for Small Animal Practitioners
- Conduct of Continuing Professional Development Programmes:  
Including "Poultry production and health"
- Conduct of seminars and workshops  
Including "One Health approach to optimize wellbeing of the society"
- Publications, and
- Continuing to engage with other stakeholders in matters related to the veterinary profession

## Congratulations on Appointments & Awards

The SLCVS extends its warm congratulations to its Members and Fellows who received the following prestigious national and international appointments and awards:



Dr. Madura Munasinghe, who is a Fellow of the College, was elected as the Dean of the Faculty of Veterinary Medicine and Animal Science, University of Peradeniya in November 2018. He was the Head of the Department of Basic Veterinary Sciences from 2008 to 2011, from 2012 to 2015, and from February 2018 until election as the Dean. He has been actively involved in Quality Assurance activities of the University's academic programmes and is the Chairperson of the Faculty Quality Assurance Cell.

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The Sri Lanka Council for Agricultural Research Policy, Ministry of Agriculture, has awarded the first prize for the most outstanding research in the livestock and fisheries sector, under the national awards scheme for the year 2017, to a research team from the Faculty of Veterinary Medicine and Animal Science. The research title was "Establishment of methods to ensure Chemical and Microbial safety of food of animal origin", and the team led by Prof. P. Abeynayake included Dr. R.S. Kalupahana, Dr. D.M.S. Munasinghe, Dr. B.R. Fernando, Dr. M.H. Hathurusinghe, Dr. K.S.A. Kottawatta, Dr. W.M.A.P. Wanigasekara, Mr. A.R.C. Gunasena and Dr. H.M.T.K. Karunarathna.



The World Small Animal Veterinary Association (WSAVA) has named Dr. Nalinika Obeyesekere, who is a Founder Fellow and was a member of the first two Executive Councils of the SLCVS, as the first recipient of a new award for companion animal welfare. The award, developed by WSAVA's Animal Wellness and Welfare Committee (AWWC), recognizes individual veterinarians who have made a significant contribution to animal welfare and inspired others to play their part in advancing welfare globally.

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Prof. Mangala Gunatilake, who is a Founder Fellow and a member of the second and third Executive Councils of the SLCVS, is the winner of a TurnKey 2018 Award for Innovation in the 3Rs in laboratory animal science. The award recognizes the creative ways used to implement the 3Rs, which are "Replace animal models, Reduce the number of animals used, and Refine animal care and research".



## Condolences

The College records with deep sorrow the passing away of Dr. Priennie Ranatunga, BVSc Hons (Ceylon), MS (Illinois), and Dr. Jagath Peiris, BVSc Hons (Ceylon). Both were Honorary Fellows of the College. Dr. Ranatunga was the first lady veterinarian to graduate from the University of Ceylon. She served as a Veterinary Research Officer in the DAPH and subsequently worked in the field of community nutrition in humans. Dr. Peiris started his career as a veterinarian in the state sector and later joined the private sector, serving in technical and administrative positions as general manager, farm executive and consultant. He was a well-recognized expert in the poultry sector in Sri Lanka.

## Sponsor

We gratefully acknowledge Seepet Animal Hospital for sponsoring the publication of this Newsletter and the Articles and By-Laws of the College

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