



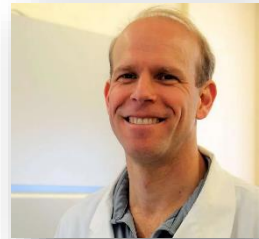
WORLD VETERINARY  
ASSOCIATION

## **WVA Supports World Antimicrobial Awareness Week** **Better animal health and management will reduce the need for antimicrobials**

18 – 24 November 2021

**The veterinary profession continues to emphasize the importance of understanding the principles of antimicrobial resistance and ensuring responsible use of antimicrobials. In addition to tackling the overuse and misuse of antimicrobials, a key principle is that prevention of disease decreases the need for the use of antimicrobials.**

*“Veterinarians play a key role in antimicrobial stewardship, but not just in how they use antimicrobials. The best way to reduce antimicrobial use is to improve animal health and animal health systems. Regardless of the species, better animal health and management will reduce the need for antimicrobials” - said Dr Scott Weese, a member of the [Global Leaders Group on Antimicrobial Resistance](#)*



One Health, antimicrobial stewardship and tackling antimicrobial resistance are key priorities of the [WVA's Strategic Plan](#). Through developing policies, such as the [WVA Policy on Responsible Use of Antimicrobials](#), initiating projects and ongoing collaborations with global health organisations, such as the OIE, WHO, FAO and WMA, the WVA works hard to reach the goals as outlined in its strategy.

*“During World Antimicrobial Awareness Week 2021, the WVA calls on governments, international organisations, communities and veterinarians worldwide to ensure that adequate veterinary care is widely available” - said WVA President, Dr Patricia Turner. “For their part, veterinarians must ensure that antimicrobials are used responsibly - overuse and misuse of antimicrobials must be avoided.”*



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