



NEWS RELEASE

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Veterinary Community and Partners Hold Workshop to Identify Requirements for National Surveillance of Antimicrobial Use

Ottawa, ON – On February 28 to March 1, over 50 veterinary community members and partners will gather in Ottawa to identify the most relevant types of data to collect for a national veterinary prescription-based antimicrobial use surveillance program.

Outputs from the workshop, organized by the Canadian Veterinary Medical Association (CVMA), will shape information-gathering methods to determine how and what kind of antimicrobial use (AMU) surveillance data can and should be collected to close gaps and optimize the efficiency and effectiveness of data collection.

“Effective antimicrobial use surveillance is fundamental to meet Canada’s commitment to identify new threats or changing patterns in antimicrobial resistance and use, in human and animal settings,” says Dr. Troy Bourque, CVMA President. “Engaging all of our partners in this initial phase of the project is of utmost importance to ensure objectives are clear and communication efforts are consistent and thorough.”

The workshop is Phase 1 of the National AMU Surveillance for Veterinary Practitioners project taking place from January 1, 2017 to March 31, 2017, funded under the Federal Assistance Program (FAP). Funding for subsequent phases is earmarked for design, distribution, and analysis of the information gathering methods.

Workshop participants include representatives from veterinary species groups, the Canadian Council of Veterinary Registrars, professional veterinary associations, the Council of Chief Veterinary Officers, CVMA’s Veterinary Pharmaceutical Stewardship Advisory Group, the Canadian Animal Health Coalition, the Canadian Integrated Program for Antimicrobial Resistance Surveillance, the National Farmed Animal Health and Welfare Council, Canadian Animal Health Surveillance System, and an international observer from the Faculty of Veterinary Medicine, Utrecht University, as well as observers from the Canadian Food Inspection Agency, Agriculture & AgriFood Canada, and the World Organisation for Animal Health.

The Canadian Veterinary Medical Association (CVMA) is the national and international voice for Canada's veterinarians, providing leadership and advocacy for veterinary medicine. Visit canadianveterinarians.net to learn more about CVMA.

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