



WSAVA
Global Veterinary Community

**Vaccination
Guidelines
Group**


WSAVA VACCINATION GUIDELINES GROUP

REPORT TO ASSEMBLY 2014

The Vaccination Guidelines Group (VGG) is now reaching the conclusion of its third phase project. The VGG has produced global guidelines for the vaccination of dogs and cats for veterinarians (2007 and 2010) and pet owners (2010). The phase III project focuses on the unique challenges of small companion animal infectious disease and vaccination on the Asian continent.

The membership of the VGG for the phase III project includes: Professor Michael Day (University of Bristol, UK; Chairman), Professor Ron Schultz (University of Wisconsin-Madison, USA), Professor Hajime Tsujimoto (University of Tokyo, Japan) and Professor Richard Squires (James Cook University, Australia). Dr Umesh Karkare (Mumbai) was co-opted onto the committee for our visit to India.

The work of the VGG for this project began in July, 2012 with a visit to Japan (Tokyo and Osaka) and continued in September 2012 with a visit to India (Delhi and Mumbai). In 2013 the VGG continued the project with a 10-day meeting in China and Thailand.

The 2013 visits began in Beijing where the committee held separate meetings with academics from two veterinary schools, practitioners from five veterinary hospitals and three government officials (including the Chair of the China Veterinary Medical Association and the head of vaccine licensing). The VGG made site visits to three veterinary practices in Beijing. The VGG continuing education (CE) event in Beijing was attended by 100

practitioners. During the meeting, data from the VGG survey of practitioners (150 replies for Beijing and Shanghai) were presented.

The committee then moved to Shanghai for a further round of meetings with practitioners from nine veterinary hospitals and academics from four veterinary schools. A large meeting of industry representative included delegates from international and national small animal vaccine manufacturers. A second series of site visits of three veterinary practices was undertaken. The second CE event in Shanghai was attended by 80 practitioners. The Shanghai practitioner survey data were presented at this symposium.

In Bangkok, the committee held meetings with veterinary practitioners from five veterinary hospitals, three vaccine regulators from the Thai FDA, academics from three veterinary schools and a further industry forum with representatives of each of the major international manufacturers. The third CE event in Bangkok was attended by 80 practitioners. Data from the Thai practitioner survey (267 responses) were presented at this symposium. It is worth noting that over the seven CE meetings presented as part of the Phase III project, the VGG has spoken to over 800 Asian veterinarians.

This visit concluded the fact-finding activities of the VGG in Asia. Through our face-to-face meetings in four countries and the collection of survey questionnaire data from these and other Asian countries, the committee now has a good understanding of the challenges and issues facing Asian small animal practitioners with respect to infectious disease and vaccination.

The committee will now work on the major written outcome for the Phase III project. A draft outline of this manuscript has been prepared and it is anticipated that the paper will be submitted for publication to the official WSAVA journal (*Journal of Small Animal Practice*) early in 2014. The manuscript will include commentary on the VGG findings and recommendations for governments, academic institutions training veterinarians and veterinary practitioners in the Asian countries.

The VGG gratefully acknowledges the ongoing sponsorship of MSD Animal Health for their work. The VGG greatly appreciates the local logistical support provided by MSD Animal

Health for the meetings and the assistance provided by the Beijing and Shanghai Small Animal Associations and by VPAT in Thailand. The three associations are also gratefully acknowledged for the work they did in running, analysing and presenting the survey data from their membership.

Professor Michael J. Day

Chairman, WSAVA Vaccination Guidelines Group

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