

Prediction is difficult, preparation is critical and possible

Zilli, Romano; Dalton, Luke; Ooms, Wim; Schobesberger, Hermann; Imberechts, Hein; Egan, John; Møller, Kristian; 'Astiz, Susanna; Black, Peter; Renwick, Shane; Nunn, Mike ; Bagni, Marina

Publication date:
2014

Document Version
Publisher's PDF, also known as Version of record

[Link back to DTU Orbit](#)

Citation (APA):
Zilli, R., Dalton, L., Ooms, W., Schobesberger, H., Imberechts, H., Egan, J., ... Bagni, M. (2014). Prediction is difficult, preparation is critical and possible. Abstract from CoVet 2014, Prague, Czech Republic.

DTU Library

Technical Information Center of Denmark

General rights

Copyright and moral rights for the publications made accessible in the public portal are retained by the authors and/or other copyright owners and it is a condition of accessing publications that users recognise and abide by the legal requirements associated with these rights.

- Users may download and print one copy of any publication from the public portal for the purpose of private study or research.
- You may not further distribute the material or use it for any profit-making activity or commercial gain
- You may freely distribute the URL identifying the publication in the public portal

If you believe that this document breaches copyright please contact us providing details, and we will remove access to the work immediately and investigate your claim.

CoVet 2014 Abstract Submission

One Health

CoVet14-ABS-1073

PREDICTION IS DIFFICULT, PREPARATION IS CRITICAL AND POSSIBLE

Romano Zilli¹, Luke Dalton², Wim Ooms³, Hermann Schobesberger⁴, Hein Imberechts⁵, John Egan⁶, Kristian Møller⁷, Susana Astiz⁸, Peter Black⁹, Shane Renwick¹⁰, Mike Nunn¹¹, Marina Bagni¹², Alex Morrow²

¹Istituto Zooprofilattico Sperimentale delle Regioni Lazio e Toscana, Rome, Italy, ²Department for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs, London, United Kingdom, ³Netherlands Food and Consumer Product Safety Authority, Utrecht, Netherlands, ⁴University of Veterinary Medicine, Vienna, Austria, ⁵Veterinary and Agrochemical Research Centre, Brussels, Belgium, ⁶Central Veterinary Research Laboratory, Celbridge, Ireland, ⁷National Veterinary Institute, Copenhagen, Denmark, ⁸Instituto Nacional de Investigación y Tecnología Agraria y Alimentaria, Madrid, Spain, ⁹Essential Foresight, Canberra, Australia, ¹⁰Canadian Food Inspection Agency, Ottawa, Canada, ¹¹Australian Centre for International Agricultural Research, Canberra, Australia, ¹²Ministry of Health, Rome, Italy

Do you have a preferred presentation method?: Oral

Problem Statement: Animal disease challenges appear to be ever increasing with new and emerging conditions rapidly becoming global problems due to factors such as climate change and globalisation of trade. Avian Influenza, Ebola, African Swine Fever and Porcine Epidemic Diarrhoea are just a few of the many transboundary diseases for which global cooperation in research is vital. These diseases can cause serious social, economic and environmental damage and in some cases also threaten human health. Various social, technological, economic, environmental, political and biological driving forces act at the level of the source of infection, transmission pathways, and the outcomes. Changes to such challenges and uncertainties are inevitable and foresight in identifying strategies is required for us to prepare for a sustainable future.

The EU-funded Global Network on Infectious Diseases of Animals and Zoonoses (STAR-IDAZ) conducted foresight studies as part of its objective to improve coordination of research activities on the major infectious diseases of animals (including zoonoses) to hasten the delivery of improved control methods. The aim of these studies was to identify the scientific and technological needs, including research capacity and support structures to prevent, control or mitigate animal health and zoonotic challenges for 2030 and beyond.

While our ability to predict the future is often limited, being prepared to engage with whatever may happen is critical.

Methods: Foresight workshops were initially conducted in the Americas involving consideration of scenarios developed in Canada, Asia and Australasia based on the seven questions method, and in Europe involving scenario building and back-casting.

Following these regional exercises, critical drivers already identified in a range of other related foresight projects were classified under eight categories and the top 3 – 5 drivers in each category were ranked with the level of uncertainty noted (high/medium/low) by experts from a range of backgrounds from Europe, Africa and the Middle-East, Asia and Australasia and the Americas. The likely impact of these drivers on various disease categories was considered, a preferred future scenario agreed and back-casting conducted at a workshop held in Moscow in June 2014. More than 40 veterinarians and animal health scientists from around the world outlined priorities in terms of research capability and capacity to attain the ideal future.

Results: In each of the regions, the research capacity and knowledge networks required to optimise enablers and ameliorate barriers to our ability to meet future animal disease challenges were identified then grouped and prioritised across the regions to give an overall list in which transnational data sharing, knowledge transfer, public-private partnerships, vaccinology/immunology, vector control, antimicrobial resistance, socioeconomics, genetics/bioinformatics and utilisation of big data rated highly.

Conclusion: The outputs of the STAR-IDAZ Foresight study will form the basis of a Global Strategic Research Agenda with which research funders and programme managers can prioritise and coordinate national research efforts to improve global collective preparedness for future animal, human and environmental challenges.

Disclosure of Interest: None Declared