1	Title: Implementing One Health in Australia: A modified Delphi survey and analysis
2	of expert perspectives
3	Authors: Degeling C, Johnson J, Ward M, Wilson A, Gilbert GL
4	Abstract
5	Background: One Health (OH) is an interdisciplinary approach aiming to achieve
6	optimal health for humans, animals and their environments. Case reports and
7	systematic reviews of success are emerging, however discussion of barriers and
8	enablers of cross-sectoral collaboration are rare.
9	Methods: A four-phase mixed-method Delphi survey of Australian human and
10	animal health practitioners and policymakers (n=52) explored areas of consensus and
11	disagreement over: (i) the operational definition of OH; (ii) potential for cross-
12	sectoral collaboration; and (iii) key priorities for shaping the development of a OH
13	response to significantly elevated zoonotic disease risk.
14	Findings: Participants agreed OH is essential for effective infectious disease
15	prevention and control, and on key priorities for outbreak responses, but disagreed
16	over definitions and the relative priority of animal health and welfare and economic
17	considerations.
18	Interpretation: Strong support emerged among Australian experts for a OH
19	approach. There was also recognition of the need to ensure cross-sectoral differences

are addressed.

#### 23 Introduction

24 Emerging and re-emerging infectious diseases [EIDs] are an unpredictable, 25 continuing threat to human, animal and ecological health. They are characterized by 26 complex causes, consequences and potential solutions that critically limit the effectiveness of scientific and technocratic approaches to governance.<sup>1,2</sup> EID crises 27 28 create major issues for distribution of scarce resources, access to health services and 29 global health security. Historically, EIDs have been managed in overlapping, 30 uncoordinated, disciplinary silos.<sup>3</sup> However, since they are largely driven by human 31 behaviours and human structures in the context of human-animal interactions, the 32 effectiveness of traditional sectoral approaches has been limited. 33 34 "One Health" [OH] is the preferred approach to responding to EIDs. OH is based on 35 recognition of the interdependence of human, animal and ecological health and an 36 assumption that cross-sectoral integration of expertise, research methodologies and 37 public health infrastructure increases the capacity for anticipating disease risk and effective intervention.<sup>4,5</sup> The OH literature emphasises the benefits,<sup>3,6,7</sup> but there has 38 39 been little attempt to identify and assess barriers to and enablers of cross-sectoral collaboration.<sup>8-11</sup> Possibly this is because the need for an OH response seems obvious. 40 41 42 Against this background, OH advocates are concerned that early collaborations have 43 not included all relevant disciplines<sup>8,12</sup> especially experts from social, ecological and environment health sciences.<sup>13,14</sup> Moreover, despite almost two decades of 44 45 interdisciplinary advocacy by international agencies and national governments, OH 46 still means different things to different people (Text Box 1).<sup>15</sup> It remains an 'umbrella

47 concept' for a variety of expert perspectives and disciplinary agendas. This raises

- 48 concerns about the capacity and willingness of different professional groups to
- 49 collaborate<sup>5,16,17</sup> and the extent to which various sectoral priorities can be aligned,
- 50 during EID response planning.<sup>18-20</sup>
- 51 Text Box 1: Current definitions of One Health

One Health is	
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- "...a collaborative, international, cross-sectoral, multidisciplinary mechanism to address threats and reduce risks of detrimental infectious diseases at the animal-human-ecosystem interface." Food and Agriculture Organization
- "...a collaborative and all-encompassing way to address, when relevant, animal and public health globally.' World Organization for Animal Health [OiE]
- "...the collaborative effort of multiple health science professions, together with their related disciplines and institutions working locally, nationally, and globally to attain optimal health for people, domestic animals, wildlife, plants, and our environment." **The One Health Commission**
- The One Health concept recognizes that the health of humans is connected to the health of animals and the environment. US Centers for Disease Control and Prevention
- "...a worldwide strategy for expanding interdisciplinary collaborations and communications in all aspects of health care for humans, animals, and the environment" **The One Health Initiative**
- 52
- 53

54	The conceptual	ambiguity of	of OH co	ould actually	diffuse i	political	tensions	hetween
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- 55 competing sectoral agendas, allowing them to work together.<sup>17</sup> Nevertheless, lack of
- 56 evidence about how different sectors understand OH, their roles and responsibilities
- and how they pursue their priorities, could limit collaboration and its benefits.
- 58 Because resources are limited, prioritisation and resource allocation require political
- 59 decisions, based on ethical principles, about what is valued, what must be protected
- 60 and what is dispensable.
- 61
- 62 In this paper we report the results of a modified Delphi survey from a larger study,
- 63 which aims to elicit the values underpinning OH and develop guidance for

64	practitioners and policymakers. We employed mixed methods to explore areas of
65	sectoral consensus or disagreement on: how OH should be defined; the potential for
66	cross-sectoral collaboration in Australia; and key priorities that should shape
67	development of an OH response to a zoonotic EID emergency, when knowledge of its
68	nature, scale and scope is absent or fluid.
69	
70	Methods
71	Participants
72	A heterogeneous and geographically dispersed group of experts in human and
73	veterinary medicine, health law and wildlife ecology and representatives of
74	agricultural industries and animal welfare/protection organisations were invited to
75	participate in this survey. We defined 'experts' as individuals with knowledge and
76	experience of EID risks and outbreaks among humans and animals. <sup>21</sup> Sampling was
77	purposive, to ensure representation of traditional OH stakeholders. Potential
78	participants were identified through institutional websites and researchers'
79	professional networks.
80	
81	Delphi processes
82	The rationale of Delphi surveys is that group consensus about contentious issues is
83	more valid than individual opinions. <sup>22</sup> Anonymous data are collected from
84	individuals, collated and then re-presented to the group to elicit further responses. <sup>21</sup> In
85	this study we analysed data iteratively in parallel with data collection. Rather than
86	force consensus, we employed a modified technique that allows participants to
87	explain their views. Except for early discussions about OH definitions (Round [R]
88	2/Q1), consensus 'cut offs' (i.e. fixed levels of agreement) were not employed to limit

the choices available to survey participants. Otherwise, participants were asked to judge and respond to the levels of consensus/disagreement that emerged from each round to provide greater insight into the operational relevance of OH. Participants who completed each round were invited to participate in the next, but were free to withdraw at any time. We used an online survey platform [*Limesurvey*].

94

95 In R1, we asked participants about their understanding of OH and to respond to three 96 hypothetical scenarios, each describing a substantially elevated risk of a significant 97 EID event in Australia. Scenarios [available in online materials] were adapted, with 98 permission, from a similar study in Singapore (see acknowledgements). Responses 99 were analysed qualitatively and coded thematically by two authors (CD and JJ) using 100 framework analysis, a matrix-based method for ordering and synthesizing textual data.<sup>23</sup> During rounds 2–4, participants' comments, key arguments and levels of 101 102 consensus from previous rounds, were presented as quotations, bar charts and 103 summaries of qualitative findings, taking care to weigh different opinions and 104 arguments equally. Individual comments were de-identified.

105

Additional data and comments were collected, using Likert scales and free text
responses. On completion of each round, participants' Likert scores were tabulated
and free text answers analysed qualitatively, as described. The final stage of analysis
during preparation of this report drew on the knowledge and professional experience
of the research team.

111

To aid analysis, each participant was allocated to a disciplinary/sectoral category –
animal or human health – based on their qualifications and current responsibilities.

- 114 Consistent with previous reports that ecologists and environmental scientists are
- poorly represented in OH discourse,<sup>12,14</sup> participants from these disciplines all

116 occupied positions within the animal health sector, and were allocated accordingly.

- 117 This study was approved by the [Blinded] Research Ethics Committee.
- 118

119 Results

120 Participants:

121 Email invitations were sent to 85 potential participants, of whom 52 (61%) from a

range of relevant OH roles, disciplines and geographic regions, responded [Table 1].

- 123 Invitations included an individualized link to the online survey, through which
- 124 participant consent was obtained.

125

126 As expected, the panel size gradually decreased as participants withdrew,<sup>24</sup> but the

127 balance between human and animal health sectors and characteristics of participants

remained substantially constant [Table 1]. The final round was run at the request of

129 participants who were keen to give further feedback on the findings.

130

## 131 <u>Responses to questions on how OH should be defined:</u>

132 Seven statements describing OH were compiled from participants' responses to

133 questions about the nature of OH. In R2, they were asked to indicate the extent to

134 which they agreed/disagreed with these statements [Supplementary materials]. To

- focus discussion, we applied a cut off of >65% agreement. The three statements that
- 136 met or exceeded this threshold, were presented to participants in R3, namely:

137 1. The inter-relationship between human, animal and environmental health [A]

138 2. The integration of human, animal and environmental health [B]

139 3. Cross-disciplinary collaboration and communication between veterinary, 140 medical and ecological sciences and relevant government agencies [D] Participants were asked to indicate, with reasons for their choice, which statement 141 142 best reflected their view of OH [Table 2]. 143 144 Key differences (as revealed in comments) were the extent to which participants 145 considered OH to be: a concept for understanding linkages between human, animal 146 and environmental health (statement 1); an emerging integrative discipline (statement 147 2); or a political initiative to promote cross-disciplinary collaboration (statement 3). 148 Several participants regarded none of these statements as satisfactory, citing the 149 limited importance given to the environment in current discourse. One participant 150 commented: 151 *DP #26 - The problem at the moment with the way many people in the* 152 veterinary and human health fields use the term 'One Health' is that it 153 focuses on human and terrestrial animal health i.e. zoonoses, and excludes 154 the other organisms (plants, fish) and their interactions with the 155 environment. ... If we are serious about a concept of 'One Health' then it

- needs to be used to describe the interactions and interrelationships across all
- organisms and the environment otherwise it's not 'One Health' 157
- 158

156

159 In R4, participants were shown a representative sample of comments and given the 160 opportunity to change their position. Table 2 shows that support (in relative terms) 161 drifted from statement 2 to statement 3. Participants who still preferred statement 2 in 162 R4 were all aligned with the animal health sector. Otherwise, disciplinary background 163 appeared not to influence how participants defined OH.

174

165	These results revealed the difficulty of arriving at a consensus definition of OH,
166	despite considerable cross-disciplinary agreement. Substantively, the three statements
167	are very similar; the key tension is whether OH is a means to reach an holistic
168	understanding of EID threats or a road map for effective cross-sectoral responses.
169	Comments from R3 and R4 (Table S1 Supplementary data) suggested that
170	participants who preferred statement 1 were resistant to disciplinary integration or
171	specific outcomes, whereas those who preferred statement 3 were more pragmatic and
172	focused on cross-sectoral collaboration as the key driver of a successful OH approach.
173	

In R2 we asked participants to indicate on a Likert Scale their (dis)agreement with thestatement in Text box 2.

<u>Responses to questions on cross-sectoral collaboration</u>

# **Text Box 2**

When faced with possible multiple unexpected animal-to-human disease transmissions in Australia, Federal and State Departments [Health, Primary Industries, and the Environment], The Australian Health Protection Principal Committee, The Office of Health Protection, The Communicable Diseases Network Australia, Animal Health and Public Health Laboratories, and Biosecurity Agencies would rapidly be in communication and would collectively develop a plan to limit the impact of such a zoonosis.

- 177 Just over two-thirds of participants agreed; the statement was most strongly endorsed
- by human health sector participants. Those from the animal health sector were more
- 179 pessimistic or unsure about the immediate prospects for cross-sectoral collaboration

180 (Figure 1).

## 181 Insert Figure 1

- 182 To explore these positions we constructed a list of potential barriers to OH
- approaches, from participants' responses to R1 scenarios. Figure 2 shows the extent to
- 184 which R2 participants agreed or disagreed with each.
- 185 Although participants were generally optimistic that different sectors would work
- together during a significant EID outbreak, we were surprised by how strongly they
- 187 believed that most barriers were likely to impede an OH response.
- 188 Insert Figure 2
- 189 A comment from one participant [R3] illustrates this:
- 190 DP #46 ... there are quite a number of issues preventing an optimal
- 191 response to a major zoonotic disease outbreak. It will require additional
- 192 resources and plenty of planning and training (including a merging of
- 193 cultures) to provide the sort of response we should expect. ... This does NOT
- 194 mean we should abandon the process of One Health but serves to illustrate
- 195 *the many difficulties to overcome.*
- 196 A general theme of the comments was the need for inter-agency consultation,
- 197 relationship building, planning and funding allocation, to deal with cross-sectoral
- 198 differences before threats occur. Participants' responses were analysed according

disciplinary background. Applying Fisher's exact test (comparing agree vs. disagree and excluding the neither agree/disagree group),<sup>25</sup> the only significant (p<0.05) difference was that participants from the animal health sector were more likely to see a focus on human, rather than animal or environmental health, as a barrier to an OH response.

204

By R4 only 2 of 24 participants did not agree with the original statement [text box 2]; most believed that, despite differences or mutual cynicism, different sectors would set aside conflicting interests to mount an effective response to a significant zoonotic threat. However, many were convinced that a response could not be implemented rapidly and seamlessly, unless overall responsibility for infectious disease control and prevention in humans and animals were located within a single agency.

211

#### 212 Key Priorities in Developing a Plan of Action

213 Previous studies have shown that different priorities create tensions between OH stakeholder groups.<sup>10,17</sup> In R2 we asked panel members to rank 19 issues for 214 215 developing an action plan in response to an unexpected threat. Because our aim was 216 to understand the key concerns and types of evidence needed to formulate a response 217 at times of uncertainty, participants were asked to rank the issues, without contextual 218 information, such as the nature or source of the pathogen or size of the outbreak. 219 Rankings were determined by assigning a score equivalent to reverse rank (e.g. a 220 score of 19 to items rated 1<sup>st</sup>); scores were multiplied by the number of participants 221 who gave each rank and the overall ranking was determined by adding scores for each 222 item. Table 3 shows the final rankings, which were presented to participants in R3 for 223 comment.

225 The panel gave a strong endorsement to the top six items; at least 40% of participants 226 ranked them in the top 5 and 70% in the top 10. Responses were a mix of ideal and 227 pragmatic - burden of disease, costs of implementation and maintenance of services were key issues. In R3 participants' comments on rankings indicated general 228 229 agreement that human health, food security, resource availability and communication 230 are appropriate primary concerns. Lower-ranked items were more evenly distributed, 231 indicating more varied views about their importance. Several participants from both 232 sectors expressed surprise at the relatively low rankings of social considerations, 233 animal health and welfare and environmental health. Some were surprised at how 234 high economic impacts and costs were ranked, commenting that it was not their role 235 to prioritise according to economic factors. However, in subsequent rounds, it was 236 suggested this was naïve; in the words of one participant: "Economic considerations 237 come into everything that is done in health" (DP #33). Most agreed with the 238 importance of proportionality such that economic factors were *a* consideration, but 239 not the key consideration, in decision making. The plurality of views caused one 240 participant to note: 241 DP #5 - It depends on the particular situation: that's why we have, and need,

- 242 consultative committees with broad representation to consider each
- situation.

244

245 Table S2 (supplementary data) provides a breakdown, by sector, of priorities and 246 preferences from R3. While there was broad agreement on the top six priorities, there 247 were some differences between sectors. Where there is a lack of evidence, animal 248 health sector participants generally gave greater priority to economic and animal 249 health concerns; whereas those from the human health sector were more likely to rank 250 the effect on the emotional wellbeing and privacy of individuals and the risks of 251 stigmatisation of those affected more highly. 252 253 Several participants made the case that different situations would require different 254 priorities; for example: 255 DP #22 - Outbreak of rabies, Australian Bat Lyssa Virus (ABVL) or Japanese 256 Encephalitis (JE) would have a localised impact in which the "top six' may be 257 less important and issues 7 - 11 assume a higher importance. It is unlikely 258 that rabies, ABLV or JE would impact on food supply or major economic 259 impact yet the emotional psychological stress on individuals could be really 260 significant. 261 262 A common theme was that participants needed more information in order to make 263 decisions about priorities. Of this one participant noted: 264 DP # 52 – While I agree with the sentiments expressed, it is not always 265 possible to answer all these questions quickly enough, and actions may

- 266 usually need to be undertaken before all the questions can be answered --
- 267 especially how big is it and how big will it get, which may not be known

268 *until well into the outbreak.* 

269

Given that there may be little existing evidence or experience when new threats – like
SARS or bovine spongiform encephalitis (BSE) – emerge, key findings of this survey
include the critical role of context in EID response-planning and policy decisionmaking. Participants hoped that sectoral differences over second-order priorities
would not interfere with these key goals; rather, that they be points of consultation to
ensure that responses encompass different stakeholder perspectives.

276

#### 277 DISCUSSION

278 Our findings indicate high levels of support among Australian policy-makers and 279 practitioners for an OH approach to zoonotic disease control and prevention, despite 280 several points of disagreement. One key difference was whether OH should be 281 defined as a means to integrate disciplinary practices or as a framework to understand 282 linkages between separate disciplines. Proponents of both positions were found in 283 both the main sectors, suggesting that the tension between integrationists and those 284 who want to maintain disciplinary integrity is a personal rather than sectoral 285 preference. Focussing on differences in the definition of OH may miss the point, but 286 the complexities of EID control and prevention probably mean that an effective 287 response requires genuine cross-sectoral integration and re-sectoring of some institutional and professional responsibilities.<sup>6</sup> The results of this survey suggest that 288 289 any such efforts are likely to meet with resistance within and across the relevant 290 sectors.

291

It is notable that not all of the barriers to the effective implementation of an inter-

agency plan identified by Delphi participants (Figure 2) were addressed by key

294 priorities for action (Table 3). This is likely to be because some of the barriers

295 identified simply don't have a practical action that can easily be included in a plan of 296 action. That there is substantial overlap between the two lists in this study is actually 297 positive sign that there are many practical and collaborative actions that can be taken 298 in the event of an EID outbreak. Sectoral differences in participants' responses tended 299 to coalesce around the relative importance of each of the groups' professional roles 300 and responsibilities. The animal health sector, which traditionally works to maximise 301 the value, utility and welfare of animals, emphasised economic and animal health 302 considerations. Those working in the human health sector thought that ethical 303 considerations and factors that affect epidemiological investigations should have 304 higher priority. Differences in the goals and values of different sectors are not 305 unexpected, but are likely to complicate cross-sectoral co-operation. Past experience 306 with BSE and pandemic influenza H<sub>1</sub>N<sub>1</sub> indicate that, in the face of scientific 307 uncertainty and ethical ambiguity, these differences will be amplified. Consequently, 308 sectoral interests and short-term political considerations will threaten efforts to devise effective long-term interventions.<sup>26,27</sup> 309

310

There is some urgency to address disagreements revealed by this survey because calls 311 312 for increased inter-sectoral co-operation, by public health practitioners and policymakers in Australia,<sup>28,29</sup> and elsewhere, are not new.<sup>30</sup> Unfortunately, past experience 313 314 suggests that attempts to promote a cross-sectoral approach rarely move beyond 315 rhetoric, even when driven by the best intentions and supported by substantial 316 resources. The problem is that arguments focus on the likely benefits of collaboration 317 rather than what needs to be done, organisationally and politically, to achieve the desired outcomes.<sup>29</sup> Established 'sectors' have genealogies and rationalities shaped by 318 319 social, political and administrative processes; as institutions, they are inherently and

structurally resistant to measures that divert resources and re-orient practices away
from their own sectoral priorities. Consequently, even with commitment to
information-sharing, through collaborative working groups and interdepartmental
committees, inter-sectoral co-operation has rarely delivered the outcomes promised.
Many recognise that integrationist reforms are likely to promote more effective crosssectoral collaboration,<sup>9,13</sup> and OH opinion leaders are now advocating for the
establishment of a supporting OH infrastructure comprised of:

327 *complex, polycentric organizational structures* ... [that] *rely on multiple,* 

328 strong connections and coordinated activities across sectors.<sup>30</sup>

329 Against this background, there is evidence that enthusiasm for OH in Australia is

330 genuine rather than symbolic, as governments in recent years have moved towards

aggregating responsibility for agriculture and environmental health under

332 'biosecurity'. Initiatives such as the Australian Antimicrobial Resistance Strategy and

333 Hendra Virus Interagency Technical Working Group are significant attempts to

achieve collaboration between human and animal health sectors. This survey showed

that there is considerable agreement among human and animal health practitioners

and policymakers, including about the nature and scale of barriers to effective OH

collaboration and the need for further work to explore their potential impacts. This

338 suggests that implementation of an OH strategy, based on inter-sectoral co-operation,

is eminently feasible.

340

341 *Strengths and Limitations* 

342 The initial response to participant invitations was moderate, which was gratifying,

343 given that our invitation was unsolicited. Retention of participants over successive

344	rounds was also moderate and the balance between members of different sectors
345	remained constant. Because participation across different sectoral roles and
346	jurisdictions remained relatively heterogeneous throughout the survey (Table 1), we
347	believe the risk of selection bias due to participant withdrawal is minimal. Moreover,
348	allowing participants to express their views and comment on each other's
349	interpretation, via open-ended free text questions, over multiple survey rounds
350	increased the reliability of the study and improved the validity of the results. A
351	limitation was the lack of a clearly identifiable environmental sector, which is likely
352	to be an artefact of how the management of infectious disease risk in Australia is
353	currently organised.
354	
355	Word count

356 3,859

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442

443

 Table 1: Professional/employment characteristics and geographic locations of panel

 participants

	Round 1	Round 2	Round 3	Round 4
	n=52	n=40	n=34	n=24
Response rate	62%	77%	85%	71%
Employment setting				
Federal government	7 (0.135)*	6 (0.15)	5 (0.147)	4 (0.167)
Provincial governments	17 (0.323)	14 (0.35)	11 (0.323)	9 (0.375)
Regional / Local health authorities	7 (0.135)	4 (0.1)	4 (0.117)	2 (0.083)
NGO / Industry	6 (0.115)	5 (0.125)	4 (0.117)	1 (0.042)
University	15 (0.288)	11 (0.275)	10 (0.294)	8 (0.333)
Communities and				
Geographic area				
Federal / National	12 (0.231)	11 (0.275)	8 (0.235)	5 (0.208)
NSW	13 (0.25)	10 (0.25)	9 (0.265)	7 (0.292)
Victoria	8 (0.154)	5 (0.125)	5 (0.147)	4 (0.167)
Queensland	6 (0.115)	3 (0.075)	3 (0.088)	3 (0.125)
Western Australia	5 (0. 096)	4 (0.1)	3 (0.088)	0
Northern Territory	3 (0.057)	3 (0.075)	2 (0.059)	2 (0.083)
South Australia	2 (0.038)	2 (0.05)	2 (0.059)	1 (0.042)
АСТ	2 (0.038)	1 (0.025)	1 (0.029)	1 (0.042)
Tasmania	1 (0.019)	1 (0.025)	1 (0.029)	1 (0.042)
Primary role / responsibility				
Chief Medical / Veterinary Officers	6 (0.115)	4 (0.01)	3 (0.088)	2 (0.083)
Directors of Health / Biosecurity agencies	11 (0.212)	10 (0.25)	9 (0.265)	7 (0.292)
Public Health / Veterinary Officers	9 (0.173)	5 (0.125)	4 (0.117)	3 (0.125)

Senior Policy Officer / Research Scientist	12 (0.231)	10 (0.25)	8 (0.235)	5 (0.208)
Academic Clinician / Researcher	14 (0.269)	11 (0.275)	10 (0.294)	7 (0.292)
Dissiplinary (sectoral background				
Disciplinary / sectoral background				
Human Health	24 (0.462)	20 (0.50)	17 (0.5)	11 (0.458)
Animal Health	28 (0.538)	20 (0.50)	17 (0.5)	13 (0.542)

445 \* Data in brackets are proportions of total in each category

**Table 2:** Level of support for different definitions of One Health.

448 Data from rounds 3 & 4

Statement	Delphi Round 3			Delphi Round 4			
	Human Animal		Round 3	Human	Animal	Round 4	
	health health		Total	health	health	Total	
	sector sector		(n=34)	sector	sector	(n=24)	
	(n=17)	(n=17)		(n=11)	(n=13)		
1 [A]	9 (0.52)	8 (0.46)	17 (0.50)	5 (0.45)	7 (0.54)	12 (0.50)	
2 [B]	4 (0.24)	3 (0.18)	7 (0.21)	0	3 (0.23)	3 (0.13)	
3 [D]	4 (0.24)	6 (0.36)	10 (0.29)	6 (0.55)	3 (0.23)	9 (0.37)	

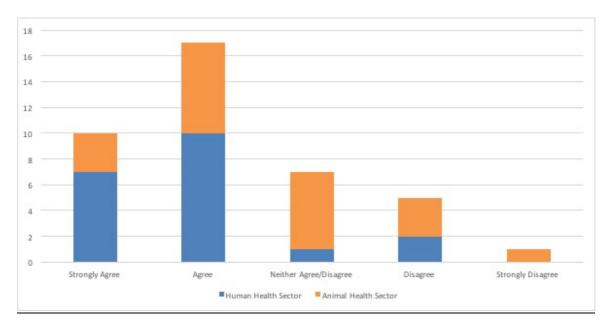
0 \* Data in brackets are proportions of total in each category

<b>Table 3:</b> Key priorities when developing a plan of action ranked from	Overall	Rating	Rankings	Rankings	Rankings	Rankings
most to least important. Data collected in round 2 (n=40).		•	in 1st	in 2nd	in 3rd	in 4th
	ranking	score	Quartile	Quartile	Quartile	Quartile
Impacts on human health	1	718	97.5%	0.0%	0.0%	2.5%
Availability of human and health resources for plan implementation	2	602	65.0%	27.5%	2.5%	5.0%
Continuity of food supply and maintenance of essential services	3	571	57.5%	30.0%	5.0%	7.5%
Public education about the risks faced by individuals and communities	4	545	50.0%	30.0%	17.5%	2.5%
Economic impacts on individuals, businesses and governments	5	521	42.5%	37.5%	17.5%	2.5%
The financial cost of implementing the plan	6	493	40.0%	30.0%	20.0%	10.0%
Potential public reaction - including concerns about stigmatisation	7	428	10.0%	57.0%	30.0%	3.0%
Ease of tracking exposed persons	8	419	27.5%	27.5%	30.0%	12.5%
Welfare and health of animals	9	405	27.5%	27.5%	22.5%	12.5%
Emotional/psychological stress on individuals	10	376	10.0%	37.5%	42.5%	10.0%
The interests of other jurisdictions – [WHO, neighbouring states etc.]	11	373	27.5%	35.0%	10.0%	27.5%

Confidentiality of those who are ill, being traced, or involved in decision making	12	355	10.0%	40.0%	32.5%	7.5%
Impacts on the environment	13	313	12.5%	17.5%	37.5%	42.5%
Australia's reputation	14	311	12.5%	22.5%	37.5%	32.5%
The potential for research to generate valuable new knowledge	15	302	10.0%	25.0%	30.0%	35.0%
Impacts on the freedom of individuals	16	284	0.0%	25.0%	50.0%	25.0%
Impacts on tourism and travel	17	215	0.0%	12.5%	45.0%	47.5%
Impacts on family cohesion	18	209	2.5%	10.0%	37.5%	50.0%
Impacts on public transport	19	158	0.0%	10.0%	32.5%	37.5%

# <u>Figures</u>

<u>Fig 1.</u>



<u>Fig 2.</u>

