PROGRAM

5th Regional One Health Conference

Balkan One Health Network (BOHN)

ONE HEALTH • ONE REGION • ONE FUTURE

Date and Time: November 19, 2026, 09:00

Venue: Grand Hotel Sofia, 'Triaditsa' Hall, 1 Gurko St., Sofia

Organizers: Balkan One Health Network (BOHN) and One Health Bulgarian Association (OHBA)

Institutional Support: Ministry of Agriculture and Food

Format: In-person attendance with an online broadcast:
https://us06web.zoom.us/j/89969146191?pwd=qHrJCxHLH7h9H7Ja3MtrzI9Z9fHa6A.1

Bulgarian and English with simultaneous interpretation

The event is held within the framework of the EU-JAMRAI 2 collaboration and in support of the implementation of the National Action Programme on Antimicrobial Resistance (AMR) 2026-2029.

Registration

08:00–09:00 **Conference Registration**
Grand Hotel Sofia – Foyer in front of the 'Triaditsa' Hall

I. Official Opening | 09:00–10:00

09:00–09:07	**Official Opening of the Conference** Prof. Dr. Krum Nedelkov, Deputy Minister of Agriculture and Food
09:07–09:12	**Welcome Address - Balkan One Health Network** Dr. Rusmir Goletić, Chairman, Balkan One Health Network (BOHN)
09:12–09:19	**Welcome Address - Bulgarian Food Safety Agency** Prof. Dr. Svetla Yancheva, Executive Director, BFSA
09:19–09:24	**Welcome Address - Bulgarian Academy of Sciences** Academician Prof. Hristo Najdenski, DVM, DSc., Member of the Bulgarian Academy of Sciences; 'Stefan Angelov' Institute of Microbiology – BAS
09:24–09:29	**Welcome Address - Bulgarian Veterinary Union** Dr. Dimitar Tsankov, President of the BVU
09:29–09:34	**Welcome Address by the Chief Veterinary Officer of Bulgaria** Assoc. Prof. Dr. Koycho Koev, PhD, Chief Veterinary Officer of the Republic of Bulgaria
09:34–09:39	**Welcome Address** Assoc. Prof. Dr. Todorka Yankovska-Stefanova, Director NDRVMI, Bulgaria
09:39–09:43	**Welcome Address** Prof. Dr. Nikolay Masalski, NDRVMI, Bulgaria
09:43–09:48	**Welcome Address - National Center of Infectious and Parasitic Diseases, Bulgaria** Prof. Dr. Iva Hristova, Director, NCIPD
09:48–09:52	**Welcome Address - Bulgarian 'One Health' Association** Dr. Dragomir Ivanov, PhD, One Health Bulgarian Association (OHBA); Liaison Officer – EU-JAMRAI 2
09:52–10:00	**Introduction to the Scientific Programme and Practical Information - moderators** Dr. Dragomir Ivanov, PhD; Assoc. Prof. Dr. Gergana Krumova-Valcheva; Dr. Milena Krastanova, PhD; Dr. Desislava Zhekova

II. Session I: 10:00–12:25

'One Health' Policies, Regional Cooperation and Antimicrobial Resistance

10:00–10:12	***Approaches Developed in Georgia Based on the One Health Principles*** Mr. Mikheil Dolaberidze – Vice Executive Director of the National Food Agency of Georgia
10:12–10:25	**Veterinary Medical Activities in Bulgaria: A One Health Perspective** Dr Ivan Shikov Deputy Executive Director, Bulgarian Food Safety Agency (BFSA), Sofia, Bulgaria
10:25–10:37	**Advancing One Health in the Balkans: Strengthening Prevention, Preparedness, Response, and Regional Action** Dr Rusmir Goletić, Balkan One Health Network
10:37–10:49	**Current Trends in Antibiotic Use and Resistance in Bulgaria** Assoc. Prof. Dr. Ivan Ivanov, National Center of Infectious and Parasitic Diseases, Bulgaria
10:49–11:00	**National Action Programme on AMR 2026–2029 and Intersectoral Coordination** Assoc. Prof. Koycho Koev, PhD, Ministry of Agriculture and Food
11:00–11:15	**Tackling AMR through Infection Prevention and Stewardship: development of the EU-JAMRAI 2 IPC-AMS Framework for animal healthcare** Dr Anne AMJ Becker, DVM, MSc, PhD, Scientific Officer – EU-JAMRAI 2
11:15–11:30	**ZOONOSES DON'T WAIT FOR GRADUATION: Professional Risks from the Veterinary School Bench to Clinical Practice** Corresponding Member of the Bulgarian Academy of Sciences, Prof. Dr. Iliya Tsachev - Medical University, Pleven, Bulgaria, Assoc. Prof. Dr. Petia Genova-Kalou - NCIPD, Sofia, Bulgaria, Dr. Magdalena Baymakova, PhD - Medical University, Pleven, Dr. Dragomir Ivanov, PhD - Medical University Prof. Dr. Paraskev Stoyanov, Varna
11:30–11:42	**Monitoring of zoonotic and vector-borne animal diseases in Montenegro in 2025** Bojan Adžić, DVM, MSc, PhD, BOHN Steering Committee; Diagnostic Veterinary Laboratory, Podgorica, Montenegro
11:42–11:54	**Strengthening preparedness for zoonotic diseases, emerging infections and antimicrobial resistance** Donjeta Pllana - Hajdari – National Institute of Public Health of Kosova, Hajrullah Fejza – Ministry of Health, Republic of Kosova
11:54–12:10	**The European Regulatory Framework for One Health and Veterinary Practice: From the Animal Health Law to an Integrated One Health Approach – People • Animals • Food • Environment** Dr Miroslav Parvanov, President of BAVFA; Vice-President of the National Council of the Bulgarian Veterinary Union
12:10–12:25	**Antimicrobial Resistance and Antimicrobial Stewardship in Modern Veterinary Medical Deontology** Assoc. Prof. Dr. Iliyan Kostov, Faculty of Veterinary Medicine, Medical University - Pleven, Bulgaria

12:25–13:15 | Lunch break, discussions, and poster session

III. Session II: 13:15–15:00

SPECIAL ANNIVERSARY SCIENTIFIC SESSION

125 YEARS OF THE NATIONAL DIAGNOSTIC AND RESEARCH VETERINARY MEDICAL INSTITUTE 'PROF. DR. GEORGI PAVLOV' (1901 – 2026)

Scientific Heritage, Emerging Health Threats and Diagnostic Innovations

13:15–13:30	**NDRVMI – 125 years of science dedicated to protecting animal health, the safety of food and feed, and the agri-food chain in Bulgaria** Assoc. Prof. Dr. Todorka Yankovska-Stefanova – Director, NDRVMI, Bulgaria
13:30–13:45	**The 'Shamonda' Virus: A New Animal Virus in Europe** Prof. Dr. Rayko Peshev, NDRVMI, Bulgaria
13:45–13:57	**ECHINOCOCCOSIS – GLOBAL AND REGIONAL EPIDEMIOLOGICAL TRENDS** Assoc. Prof. Dr. Kalina Stoyanova, Dr. Jaklina Cvetkova, Dr. Desislava Zhekova, Medical University Prof. Dr. Paraskev Stoyanov, Varna
13:57–14:09	**One Health. Past, Present, and Strategic Horizons.** Assoc. Prof. Dr. Borislava Chakarova, Faculty of Medicine, Trakia University – Stara Zagora
14:09–14:21	**Innovative Approaches to Combating Antibiotic Resistance: From Bacteriophages to Artificial Intelligence** Prof. Radostina Alexandrova, MSc, PhD, Silvia Mancheva, Elia Stoilova – *Institute of Experimental Morphology, Pathology and Anthropology with Museum, Bulgarian Academy of Sciences*
14:21–14:33	**Cats as a host and potential source of SARS-CoV-2 in the Republic of Bulgaria** Assist. Prof. Dr. Ivo Sirakov, PhD, Medical Microbiology Dpt., Faculty of Medicine, Medical University of Sofia
14:33–14:47	**Metagenomic analysis of the resistome and mobilome in wastewater from a poultry slaughterhouse and an urban WWTP: genetic determinants, mobile elements, and the potential for co-selection of antimicrobial resistance** Assist. Prof. Deyan Donchev, PhD – NCIPD, Bulgaria, Assoc. Prof. Ivan Ivanov, PhD – NCIPD, Prof. Georgi Beev
14:47–15:00	**Modern Diagnostic Methods and Technologies –** Dr. Halina Pater, ELTA 90

15:00–15:30 | Coffee break, discussions, and poster session

IV. Session III: 15:30–16:55

Zoonoses, Biosecurity and Integrated 'One Health' Practices

15:30–15:42	**PREVENTION, SURVEILLANCE AND CONTROL OF ANIMAL RABIES IN BULGARIA: CHALLENGES AND PERSPECTIVES WITHIN THE ONE HEALTH APPROACH** Assist. Prof. Dr. Petar Slavev, Assist. Prof. Dr. Reneta Petrova
15:42–15:54	**Infections Caused by *Aeromonas hydrophila* and *Aeromonas veronii* in Sturgeons: Pathogenesis, Diagnosis, and Antimicrobial Susceptibility** Dr. Dimitar Ivanov, Assoc. Prof. Dr. Petya Orozova
15:54–16:06	**Prevalence and molecular characterization of Hepatitis E virus in pigs: Studies in farms and slaughterhouses, and the role of on-farm biosecurity measures** Assoc. Prof. Dr. Gergana Krumova-Valcheva, Assist. Prof. Dr. Eva Gyurova, Assist. Prof. Dr. Mihail Milanov, PhD, Assist. Prof. Dr. Gergana Mateva, Prof. Dr. Albena Dimitrova, Prof. Dr. Hristo Daskalov; NDRVMI, Bulgaria

16:06–16:18	**Antimicrobial Resistance in the Food Chain: The One Health Approach in Poultry Production -** Dr. Petya Petkova, DVM, Union of Poultry Breeders in Bulgaria
16:18–16:30	**BUILDING SAFER VETERINARY CLINICAL PRACTICE: A ONE HEALTH IPC MODEL ACROSS SURGICAL AND CONVENTIONAL SETTINGS;** Dr. Dragomir Ivanov, PhD, Dr. Vladislav Zlatinov, Dr. Desislava Zhekova, Dr. Vladimir Yordanov
16:30–16:42	**Assessment of the prevalence of *Coxiella burnetii* among freelance veterinarians an active surveillance and control program of Q fever in Bulgaria and in the context of the 'One Health' approach;** Dr Miroslav Parvanov – President of BAVFA; Vice-President of the National Council of the Bulgarian Veterinary Union, Assoc. Prof. Petia Genova-Kalou, PhD – NCIPD; Assoc. Prof. Dr Chavdar Filipov – Faculty of Veterinary Medicine, University of Forestry – Sofia; Dr. Bozhidar Ivanov - CEVA Bulgaria
16:42–16:50	**CARBAPENEMASES FROM ANIMALS AND THE ENVIRONMENT** – Dr. Dragomir Ivanov, PhD, OHBA, EU-JAMRAI 2 Liaison Officer, Prof. Dr. Emma Keuleyan, University Hospital 'Lozenetz', EU-JAMRAI 2, Ministry of Health
16:50–16:55	**Discussion and questions.**

16:55–17:00 | Closing of the Fifth Regional 'One Health' Conference BOHN

19:30–23:30 | Dinner, 'Triaditsa' Hall, Grand Hotel Sofia (confirmation required)

V. Poster session

The posters are available for viewing throughout the day; a specific time is allocated within this period for the authors, discussion, and brief presentations, in accordance with the conference program.

1.	**The 'Return' of Bovine Tuberculosis in Bulgaria in 2026: Pathological, Molecular Biological and Bacteriological Diagnosis** Assoc. Prof. Dr. Tanya Savova-Lalkovska; Prof. Dr. Albena Dimitrova; Assist. Prof. Sofia Ivanova, Galya Vasileva
2.	**Prevalence of Riemerellosis in Ducks. Susceptibility of *Riemerella anatipestifer* to Antimicrobial Agents** Prof. Dr. Albena Dimitrova; Assoc. Prof. Dr. Tanya Savova-Lalkovska; Assist. Prof. Dr. Reneta Petrova; Assoc. Prof. Dr. Gergana Krumova-Valcheva
3.	**Dynamics in Antimicrobial Resistance in *Salmonella Infantis* Isolates from the Food Chain in 2024–2025** Assist. Prof. Dr. Gergana Mateva; Assoc. Prof. Dr. Gergana Krumova-Valcheva; Assist. Prof. Dr. Eva Gyurova-Mehmedova; Assist. Prof. Dr. Mihail Milanov
4.	***Tropilaelaps* spp. – The New Challenge in Apiculture** Assist. Prof. Dr. Mariya Ganeva; Assoc. Prof. Dr. Delka Salkova; Prof. Dr. Kalinka Gurgulova
5.	**Species Identification and Geographical Distribution of *Trichinella* Infection in Wild Boars in Bulgaria** Assoc. Prof. Dr. Nikolay Lalkovski; Ivelina Katerinova; Assist. Prof. Sofia Ivanova, DVM
6.	**The Emerging Threat of Tetrodotoxins in the Black Sea: A One Health Integrated Approach for Environmental and Public Health** Graciela Gavrilova; Petya Vaskova; Assoc. Prof. Dr. Todorka Yankovska-Stefanova; Assoc. Prof. Dr. Gergana Krumova-Valcheva

7.	**The Small Hive Beetle (*Aethina tumida*): Risks and Biosecurity Challenges for Apiculture in Bulgaria** Pavel Kolev; Assoc. Prof. Dr. Delka Salkova; Assoc. Prof. Dr. Nikolay Lalkovski
8.	**Presence of the Causative Agents of American and European Foulbrood in Bulgarian Bee Products during the Period 2019–2024** Dr. Rosen Aleksandrov; Prof. Dr. Teodora Popova; Assoc. Prof. Dr. Chavdar Filipov
9.	**Assessment of Health Risks Associated with Physicochemical Discrepancies in Frozen Fish Products within the One Health Concept** Emiliya Grigorova; Djeylyanka Mladenova; Zheni Gadzheva; Assoc. Prof. Dr. Gergana Krumova-Valcheva
10.	**Rice-Derived Functional Components and Gut Microbiota in Companion Animals: Microbial Fermentation and Veterinary Perspectives** Assist. Prof. Dr. Simeon Dimitrov; Rositsa Dimitrova-Benevska; Assist. Prof. Mila Kaleva; Petya Boikova; Subhajit Banerjee; Arijit Pal
11.	**Laboratory Confirmation of Fipronil in a Toxic Bait via LC-MS/MS** Assist. Prof. Dr. B. Peev; Assoc. Prof. Dr. Y. Tasheva
12.	**Laboratory Confirmation of *Trichosporon asahii* as a Secondary Pathogen in Cattle Mange** Assist. Prof. Dr. B. Peev; Assoc. Prof. Dr. Y. Tasheva
13.	**NOTIFIABLE FISH DISEASES IN THE BALKAN COUNTRIES OF THE MIDDLE AND LOWER DANUBE WATERSHED – RISK AND SNAPSHOT OF THE CURRENT HEALTH STATE FOR THE PERIOD 2008-2025** Assist. Prof. Dr. Ekaterina Mileva, PhD, MVM; Svetina Kirova, MVM, NDRVI 'Prof. G. Pavlov, DVM' – Sofia, Bulgaria
14.	**Use of Hand Disinfectants and Medical Gloves in an Orthopaedic Healthcare Facility: Analysis of Consumption in Relation to Hospital Activity** Bisera Yakova, Assoc. Prof. Dr. Vanya Rangelova, Prof. Dr. Ani Kevorkyan, Prof. Dr. Rositsa Dimova, Dr. Dragomir Ivanov, PhD
15.	**Antimicrobial resistance of anaerobic bacteria with cellulolytic activity in the concept One Health** Assist. Prof. Lyudmila Dimitrova, PhD; Assist. Prof. Yana Ilieva, PhD; Assoc. Prof. Maya Zaharieva, PhD; Assist. Prof. Mila Kaleva, PhD, DVM; Tanya Chan Kim; Neli Petrova; Assoc. Prof. Petya Orozova, PhD; Academician Hristo Najdenski, DVM, DSc
16.	**ANTIMICROBIAL RESISTANCE PROFILES OF BACTERIAL ISOLATES OBTAINED FROM RABBITS EXPOSED TO PSEUDOTYPED VIRAL PARTICLES EXPRESSING THE SARS-CoV-2 SPIKE PROTEIN** Assist. Prof. Mila Kaleva, PhD, DVM; Assoc. Prof. Maya Zaharieva, PhD; Assist. Prof. Yana Ilieva, PhD; Pelagia Foka, Senior Researcher; Eirini Karamichali, Postdoctoral Fellow; Eftimia Koufogeorgou; Urania Georgopoulou; Tanya Chan Kim; Acad. Hristo Najdenski, DVM, DSc

Organising Committee / Organisational Coordination

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Institutional, professional, and academic partners

Ministry of Agriculture and Food • Bulgarian Veterinary Union • Ministry of Health • Bulgarian Food Safety Agency (BFSA) • National Center of Infectious and Parasitic Diseases (NCIPD) • National Diagnostic and Research Veterinary Medical Institute (NDRVMI) • Risk Assessment Center on Food Chain (RACFC) • Medical University – Varna • Medical University – Pleven • Trakia University – Stara Zagora • University of Forestry – Sofia • Medical University – Sofia • Medical University – Plovdiv