



# MED • VET • NET NEWS

Volume 2, Issue 5

May 2005

This month, MVN News provides information about Workpackage 5 - Molecular Epidemiology of European Bat Lyssaviruses and a Biography from Workpackage 5 leader, Dr Tony Fooks.

We have an update about online Workpackage commissioning for the next Joint Programme of Activities from our project leader and progress on the forthcoming General Scientific Meeting is reported by Claire Cassar.

We also have a new vice president of the Governing Board, Professor Andreas Hensel who will introduce himself.

Med-Vet-Net Communications Unit

## Bat Lyssaviruses Overview

### Workpackage 5: Molecular Epidemiology of Bat Lyssaviruses

#### Bat variants of rabies virus: European Bat Lyssavirus

European Bat Lyssaviruses (EBLVs) are RNA viruses and are members of the lyssavirus genus of the family *Rhabdoviridae*. EBLVs are host-adapted to European species of insectivorous bat and are genetically different to the 'classical rabies virus' strains, historically isolated from dogs, cats and foxes.

European Bat Lyssavirus type-1 has been isolated principally from Serotine (*Eptesicus serotinus*) bats and EBLV type-2 from Myotis species (*Myotis daubentonii* and *M. dasycneme*) bats throughout Europe. Currently, there have been over 700 reported cases of EBLV in European bats; 95% of these have been EBLV-1 isolates from Serotine bats and the remainder have been EBLV-2. On rare occasions, these strains have been known to spillover between bats and other animals. On two occasions sheep have been infected with EBLV-1 in Denmark and the same strain was detected in a stone marten in Germany. The risk of EBLV exposure to humans is low, especially in individuals who do not handle bats, however, since 1977 there have been four (three confirmed; one suspect) human deaths from rabies in Europe attributed to EBLV infections. The latest human case was a bat conservationist from Scotland who was infected with EBLV-2 and later died of rabies. These cases all occurred in humans who had been exposed to bats, usually through a biting incident and exposure to an infected bat's saliva. In all cases the infected individual had not received rabies vaccination either before or after being bitten. Bat handlers are advised to be immunised against rabies and even if they are not, post-exposure vaccination is known to be effective, if administered soon after exposure. Daubentons' bats rarely roost in houses and so are unlikely to cause widespread problems in man. The public are advised to avoid handling bats and if bitten or scratched by a bat should immediately wash the affected area with soap and water and seek medical attention.

#### Where EBLVs are found

There are two types of EBLV: type 1 (geno-

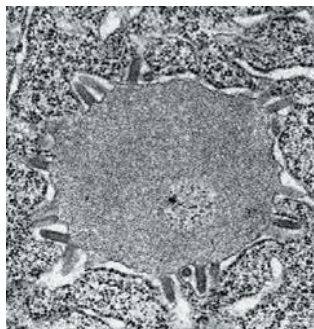
type 5) which has subtypes a and b. Type 1a is the most common and has been found across northern and central Europe to Russia. Type 1b has been isolated in some Western countries down to Spain. EBLV type-2 (genotype 6) also has subtypes a and b but has rarely been identified, with one case of EBLV-2a found in The Netherlands and some cases found in the UK and Switzerland. Both types of EBLV cause similar rabies-like encephalitis (inflammation of the brain) in man, however it is possible that differences in their glycoprotein content may influence the origin and development of the disease.

#### How the virus replicates

The incubation period of lyssavirus is typically 20-90 days, although periods ranging from a few days to more than a year have been documented. The virus replicates in local muscle fibres and binds to receptors in the neuromuscular junction. It then travels rapidly to the central nervous system, replicates in the neurones of the spinal cord and dorsal root ganglia, infects brain neurones and then spreads along nerves to the major exit portals, the salivary glands. The first rabies-related viruses were isolated in Africa and Europe in 1956. Continuing developments in molecular biology allowed the identification of the lyssavirus genus and the classification of seven genotypes, six of which have caused rabies encephalomyelitis (inflammation of the brain and spinal chord) in humans and/or animal deaths in nature.

#### Re-emergence of the virus

It is possible that healthy bats may be infected and infectious before clinical signs appear. Some bats in Europe have been shown to recover from exposure, become seropositive and survive suggesting that an 'atypical infection' has occurred. Viral RNA has been detected in the brain of Spanish bats without evidence of viral replication. This suggests



Rabies virus

that re-emergence of the virus is possible.

#### Objectives

The overall objective of Workpackage 5 is to provide accurate information on the risk of bat-associated rabies in Europe to animal and human health. This is to be achieved by forging collaborations among rabies laboratories. Initially, the goal is to capture all of the genetic information we have from the various collaborating institutes across Europe and to store this information on a common database for use by all members of Med-Vet-Net and access by others outside of the network. Rabies is a notifiable disease throughout Europe and it is possible that under-reporting of bat rabies cases is common. The principal aim is to assess the risks that EBLVs pose and the risk of spillover to domestic livestock, which ultimately affects the food chain. This occurrence of events is common in Latin American countries where a genotype 1 bat variant of classical rabies virus will commonly spillover from the vampire bat host (*Desmodus rotundus*) to both cattle, horses and on rare occasions to man. This causes both economic losses and a risk to public health. Our working hypothesis is to question whether EBLVs are less virulent than other bat variants of rabies virus and whether the risk of spillover is therefore smaller. Evidence from North America has shown that genotype 1 bat variants that have spilled over from bats to terrestrial mammals have caused minor epizootics of rabies. With the reduction of vaccination of foxes against rabies throughout Europe and the subsequent increase in fox numbers, the possibility exists that a rabies epizootic in wildlife could occur.

The objectives of Workpackage 5 will be achieved by:

1. Collection of sequence data and archived material from EBLV isolates detected by Med-Vet-Net partner institutes
2. Setting up a database of sequence data for the EBLV isolates
3. Dissemination of the necessary information electronically via the internet

#### Workplan

##### Task 1. Agree optimum approaches.

An initial meeting in The Netherlands was held in September 2004 between key scientists to determine methods for collation of data and exchange of expertise. A second meeting will be held in the latter part of the project (Summer 2005) in Poland to review progress and present findings.

## Task 2. Set up database

The minimum data set for the submission of information will be established.

## Task 3. Incorporate historical data

Sequences from available EBLV isolates will be incorporated. Where necessary, analysis of previously unsequenced isolates will be undertaken by the VLA or another network laboratory.

## Task 4. Database made available on web site

This will provide external access to information and will be regularly updated as further information becomes available. Agreement will be sought from the partners for access to the database on the public website pages.

## First Workpackage 5 meeting, Amsterdam

The first workpackage 5 meeting was held in September 2004 at the Arena Hotel in Amsterdam. The topics of discussion are highlighted here.

## Passive Surveillance

The responses to a recent questionnaire on EBLV surveillance highlighted many problems. One major problem is that the species of bat sampled is often not recorded. It was proposed that more cooperation between bat conservation organisations throughout Europe is required. An example of the sorts of problems encountered with surveillance of EBLVs is the fact that in Germany, the 16 states have different submission policies. The importance of highlighting the specific bat species when publicising rabies rather than implicating all bats was also discussed. It was proposed that national data about bat species be centralised in a WHO designated laboratory for Europe and that Med-Vet-Net establishes a harmonised approach for passive surveillance and bat identification.

The first action of the meeting was to submit a recommendation from Med-Vet-Net Workpackage 5 to the EUROBATs consortium. EUROBATs is a European group of bat workers, conservationists, wildlife officers and ecologists who work together to ensure the continued protection of bats across Europe. They also recommend ways of working with bats, furthering our understanding of bat species and their behaviour. In addition, the consortium will liaise with national bat groups when planning and implementing surveillance programmes, publicising this in the Rabies Bulletin Europe (RBE). Guidelines for Active and Passive surveillance will be drafted and circulated to all participants for comment prior to their publication in the RBE. It was proposed that the status of rabies as a notifiable disease should be re-emphasised and publicised within each country – this point was first proposed by the WHO Expert Committee on Rabies at a meeting held in Geneva in October 2004.

Obtaining data from non bite/scratch cases was noted as a problem in all countries and active surveillance was recognised as the one way to stop this bias. There has been some progress with obtaining assistance from museums although there have been some difficulties when institutes want the negative bats returned.

At present, there is no information on the impact of social behaviour on the transmission of

## PEOPLE

Dr Tony Fooks is Leader of Workpackage 5

Dr Fooks leads the Rabies and Wildlife Zoonoses Group at the Veterinary Laboratories Agency (National Reference Laboratory for Rabies). In addition, he acts as a scientific advisor to The UK Department for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs (Defra) and to the UK Department of Health (DoH) on all issues relating to rabies and other zoonotic viral pathogens. Since 2001, he was appointed director of a World Health Organisation Communicable Disease Surveillance and Response Collaborating Centre for the characterisation of rabies and rabies-related viruses.



Dr Tony Fooks

His research is focused in three multidisciplinary areas: (i) epidemiology of viruses; (ii) pathogenesis and animal-animal / animal-human transmission of viruses (iii) innate / adaptive immunity. Throughout his research career, he has focused on the interaction between RNA viruses that invade the central nervous system and host immunity. He recently joined the editorial board of *Epidemiology and Infection* in 2004 and of *BMC Veterinary Research* in March 2005 and acted as a co-editor for a book entitled 'The Historical Perspective of Rabies in Europe and The Mediterranean Basin', published in 2004.

EBLV or the mating behaviour of the European long eared bat. Therefore, further information about different environments / habitats and how they effect EBLV transmission is needed.

## Problems with EBLV Reverse Transcription Polymerase Chain Reaction (RT-PCR) and Sequencing Methods

Currently RT-PCR is used to identify and sequence isolates, and the importance of using primers which will pick up ALL strains of EBLV was discussed. Currently the 'N' gene is targeted but it was suggested that this gene is too conserved so isolates within genotypes are not necessarily distinguished. Some suggestions to target the 'G' gene were mentioned and this was also discussed in Geneva. In the meantime a 400 base pair region of the N gene is to be used by everyone and use of the G gene will be discussed later.

## Isolate and Sequence Collections

The number of isolates held by each institute is as follows:

Group	EBLV-1	EBLV-2
VLA (UK)	46	12
AFSSA (France)	18	1
ISCIII (Spain)	20+	0
SVA (Sweden)	0	0
FRC (Germany)	160	2
DfVf (Denmark)	200	0
PZH (Poland)	13+	0
RIVM (Netherlands)	50+	6

## Database design and training initiatives

Information technology support provided through Med-Vet-Net has been used to set up a database of surveillance information and EBLV isolate sequences. The database requirements of Workpackage 5 have been agreed with the IT team from Uppsala and a prototype database is operative (from April 2005). We intend to go live before the end of May 2005 and begin accepting rabies sequences from each partner institute. Additional training opportunities and criteria are to be sourced as part of a possible application for workpackage 5.

Cases of Rabies in humans occurred in people previously exposed to bats



## ADMIN BUREAU UPDATE

### Meetings

#### Governing Board forum of discussion

The first electronic Governing Board meeting was closed on the 13 April after 10 days of discussions. The minutes have been drafted and sent to the Chairman of the Governing Board, the Co-ordinator's Representative and the Project Manager for the first review. They will then be disseminated to participants for review and validation.

#### Co-ordinating Forum at HPA

Minutes of the Co-ordinating Forum at HPA and its annexes have been drafted, reviewed and are now validated. They have been published on the private website.

#### Date of Upcoming Meeting

The next Governing Board meeting has been agreed as Friday 14 October. This and the Co-ordinating Forum and Advisory Panel meetings will take place at AFSSA Headquarters.

#### Preparation of the 2nd Joint Programme of Activities (JPA)

The recent Co-ordinating Forum and Governing Board meetings focussed on the preparation and organisation of the next round of Workpackages which will begin in March 2006 and will each last for 18 months. The Administration Bureau is involved with the commissioning of new workpackages and the definition of financial regulations to ensure better implementation and use of the budget among partners. We are also in negotiation with the EC to make adjustments to the way the budgets for the second grant are allocated. Procedures relating to training course organisation and budget reallocation were validated by the Co-ordinating Forum and actioned by the Governing Board. The Administration Bureau is now at the final stage of implementing these procedures. Rules for the use of budget reallocation are being defined and will soon be published on the website. Also, training request forms have been drafted in collaboration with Henrik Wegener of Workpackage 2a (training). These will ensure skilled management of training courses and short term exchange visits of scientists among the consortium. These training request forms will also ensure that allocated funds are set and followed-up accurately.

Admin Bureau

## PROJECT MANAGEMENT

### Workpackage Commissioning

Over the last few weeks many network scientists have been busy discussing and planning proposals for the new Workpackage programme. The system was primarily online and was initiated by the publication of a list of 24 requirements of calls for topics as varied as "Prioritisation of zoonoses" to "Microarrays for host-pathogen interaction". These topics were defined by the Thematic Representatives and agreed by the Co-ordinating Forum. The website also allowed scientists to register an interest in any proposal and to contact other interested parties to develop brief proposals. Over 350 registrations of interest were made on the website.

The deadline for delivery of the brief proposals was 8 May 2005. The response has been extremely pleasing with over 20 proposals received. The lack of overlap and the extended partnerships quoted, indicate that there was extensive communication throughout the network to generate and to deliver these brief proposals. This clearly indicates that our overall goal of scientific integration is beginning to become successful.

The proposals will now be considered by the Commissioning Subcommittee of the Co-ordinating Forum. It is intended that the list of selected proposals will be submitted to the Co-ordinating Forum by the end of May. It is hoped that more than 12 proposals will be funded in the next Joint Programme of Activity.

### MedVetNet 1st General Scientific Meeting Winchester England 29 June to 1 July 2005

Registration for the meeting via the private members site within the Med-Vet-Net website was very successful. Med-Vet-Net members used the online facilities via the website to submit 90 abstracts for prospective poster and oral presentations with very good representation from the different partners across all the

## PEOPLE

Andreas Hensel is the new Vice president of the Governing Board for Med-Vet-Net.

Andreas graduated in 1988 with a degree in Veterinary Medicine, specialising in Microbiology, from the School of Veterinary Medicine in Hannover, Germany. In 1994 he graduated with a PhD from the University of Utrecht after which time he worked as a Senior Scientist in the Biocenter, Institute for Microbiology and Genetics, University of Vienna.

In 1997 he transferred to a different department of University of Vienna - the Institute for Bacteriology, Mycology and Hygiene - to work again as a senior scientist at the same time taking up a lectureship in Microbiology at the University of Hannover, and becoming a Full Professor for Animal Hygiene and Veterinary Health.

Between 2001 and 2003, Andreas was the director and held the Chair of the Institute for Animal Hygiene and Veterinary Public Health at the University of Leipzig and in 2003 he became President and Professor of the Federal Institute for Risk Assessment, Berlin.

Between 1990 and 2004 Andreas obtained further qualification as a veterinary specialist in: Microbiology, Animal Hygiene, Clinical Laboratory Medicine, Epidemiology and Food Hygiene.



Professor Andreas Hensel

thematic areas.

Once the organisers have finalised the numbers of delegates attending the meeting all registered delegates will be notified of registration acceptance. Joining instructions will be sent to each registered delegate and will also be available through the private members site. Selected representatives from the thematic areas will review the abstracts submitted for consideration and selection for oral and / or poster presentations. Delegates who have submitted abstracts will be notified of their successful application by the end of May 2005.

We are delighted to announce that our invited keynote speakers have agreed to participate at this Med-Vet-Net meeting. The Keynote Speakers have been invited to talk about zoonotic diseases and lessons to be learnt from the past, the current global responses and future international challenges in zoonotic diseases. Prof Corrie Brown, Professor and Coordinator of International Activities at the College of Veterinary Medicine, University of Georgia will talk about Zoonotic diseases

- lessons from the past. Prof. Nina Marano, the Associate Director for Veterinary Medicine & Public Health at CDC, Atlanta, USA will talk about Future international challenges in Zoonotic diseases.

Diane Newell and Claire Cassar

### GENERAL SCIENTIFIC MEETING

## JOB VACANCY: RISK ANALYSTS

### Two Band D Risk Analysts in the Centre for Epidemiology and Risk Analysis, Veterinary Laboratories Agency - Weybridge, Addlestone, Surrey

There are two positions available for Risk Analysts to work as part of a team undertaking work in all aspects of risk analysis with a focus on development of risk assessments in the fields of national and international veterinary and public health, but also to include varying amounts of research, methodological development and advice on hazard identification, risk communication and risk management. The main duties include:

- Developing and using risk analysis techniques and/or risk assessment models applied to current and international veterinary and public health.
- Undertaking methodological research for development of all aspects of risk analysis
- Presenting results by writing project reports, and papers, and giving oral presentations and advice
- Liaising with all those providing information and data for risk analysis work, including specialists, collaborators, policy makers and other stakeholders
- Writing project proposals to obtain funding, managing projects, line managing and supervising Pay Band E risk analysts
- Keeping up to date with developments in selected areas of the risk analysis discipline

The successful applicants should have a degree in a quantitative subject or which includes a substantive quantitative element and a demonstrated track record of experience and success in an aspect or aspects of risk analysis or mathematical modelling. Applicants should either have appropriate risk analysis experience or a higher degree. Other necessary attributes include a motivated, enthusiastic and flexible self-starter with the ability to work as part of a multi-disciplinary team, an organised methodological approach to data collection and recording and presentation of results; a confident and clear oral communicator with a strong interest in veterinary and/or public health. In addition, knowledge of, or experience in an aspect of agriculture, veterinary or public health, or biology would be an advantage, as would experience of project or staff management.

These posts are in Pay Band D - £22,300 to £32,100 per annum. These are full-time posts, although both could be undertaken by two part time staff on a job-share basis.

If interested, please contact the VLA Personnel Department on +44 (0)1932 357257 an application form to be sent to you (quoting reference ADP 3373). Alternatively, go to the Job Opportunities link on the VLA website [www.vla.gov.uk](http://www.vla.gov.uk). The closing date for application forms is 31 May 2005.

## EXTERNAL CONGRESSES

### **Institute of Biology course on Intellectual Property, London, UK. 9 June 2005.**

The course is designed to help scientists understand and use the law to protect their research, discoveries, designs and inventions. Two top city lawyers who specialise in intellectual property, will give a practical guide to intellectual property in relation to scientists. Including what scientists should and should not do, the legal framework to intellectual property and how to protect your interests.

Call Rebecca Bradbury on 0207 581 8333 ext. 237 for more information

### **2nd European Conference Functional Genomics and Disease Oslo, Norway. 6 - 10 September, 2005**

The conference will focus on the impact of functional genomics on disease-related research. The programme will include symposia and workshops on specific disease areas and functional genomics technologies.

Topics include: • Neurogenomics and Disease • Ageing • Oncogenomics • Inflammation and Immunity • Diabetes and Metabolic Diseases • Emerging Infections and Poverty-Related Diseases • Cardiovascular Disease and Angiogenesis • Predictive, Preventive and Personalized Medicine • Molecular Phenotyping and Model Systems • Epigenomics and Genomic Landscape • Comparative Genomics • Systems Biology • Cell Signalling • Stem Cells  
• Expression of the Genome • Bioinformatics • RNAi • Molecular Tools • Free papers  
Early registration deadline 15 May 2005.  
Bursaries available for younger researchers.  
E-mail: [mailto:esffg2005@congregx.no](mailto:mailto:esffg2005@congregx.no)  
Visit <http://www.esffg2005.org>

### **7th International Symposium on Cytokines and Chemokines, Montreal, Quebec, Canada. 8 - 9 September 2005**

The symposium will evaluate the role of cytokines in diseases that occur in gastrointestinal tract, and inflammation signalling for malignancies. This CIHR-Institute of Infection and Immunity sponsored symposium focuses on new technologies and strategies in diagnostic markers and therapies. Members of the clinical, pharmaceutical, and biotechnology community are invited to present their work in a poster session. You are encouraged to submit abstracts on a range of subjects including: Cytokines & Chemokines Basic and Translation Research; Alcohol and Drug-induced Toxicities; Cytokine-chemokine therapies; Bio-technology; In vivo and in vitro models of inflammation and repair; Inflammatory Bowel Diseases and Cytokine therapy; and many more. For details of all the subject areas covered and more information about the meeting visit [http://www.wcog2005.org/s2\\_postgcourses10.html#a1](http://www.wcog2005.org/s2_postgcourses10.html#a1)

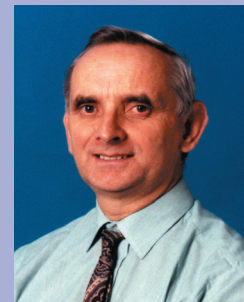
### **Animal Circoviruses and Associated Diseases - European Society for Veterinary Virology (ESVV) Conference, Queens University, Belfast. 11 - 13 September 2005**

This conference will provide an opportunity for scientists, veterinarians and other end-users to meet, debate and discuss important aspects of circovirus research with particular focus on pathogenesis, epidemiology and

## OBITUARY

### **Henry Riddell Smith MA, PhD**

Henry Smith received his early education at Harrogate Grammar School in Yorkshire, followed by undergraduate training at Gonville and Caius College, Cambridge. After graduating from Cambridge in 1968 with MA in Natural Sciences, he joined the Health Protection Agency, at that time the Public Health Laboratory Service. Here he worked in the Enteric Reference Laboratory at Colindale under Professor E. S. Anderson. At this time Henry registered for a PhD entitled 'Studies in non-autotransferring plasmids in *Escherichia coli* and salmonellae', under the jurisdiction of the University of London, and was awarded his PhD in 1975. Whilst with Anderson, Henry published several notable papers, particularly in relation to his PhD subject and also in the field of infectious drug resistance in salmonellae in general.



Henry Riddell Smith

From the late 1970s Henry developed a major interest in research into the pathogenicity of *E. coli*, which soon became his lifelong interest. He rapidly gained an international reputation in this field, with numerous publications and presentations in areas ranging from colonisation factor characterization to the genetics of Vero cytotoxin production in *E. coli* O157 and related strains. He has served on numerous professional committees and in 1998 became a joint project leader of the European Union-funded EnterNet project. He has also acted as a co-organiser of several international scientific meetings, including Food Safety Y2K and VTEC 2003. Throughout his career he worked in the Laboratory of Enteric Pathogens (LEP) of the HPA. Under the Directorship Dr Bernard Rowe he became Head of the Molecular Genetics Unit in 1978, and was appointed Deputy Director of the LEP in 1996 and Acting Director in 1998. His appointment as Director was confirmed in 2002. Henry has always taken a major interest in the welfare and development of his staff. In particular his encouragement of junior scientific staff has resulted in many young scientists leaving Colindale with a thorough grounding, not only in the subject but also in the ethos of scientific research. His integrity was widely appreciated by staff throughout the HPA and internationally.

Apart from microbiology his passion in life was his family and his interests in cricket and the local community in Bushey, Hertfordshire, where he has lived for the last twenty years. His untimely and tragic death, on April 10th 2005, in a traffic accident, came as a devastating blow to friends and colleagues throughout the world. He leaves a wife, Geraldine, and a son, Thomas, who is currently in his second year at the University of Bristol.

'The perfect gentleman, his contribution to science and to the community will always be remembered'

Dr John Threlfall

control of circovirus diseases of economic importance to the global pig and poultry industry. The deadline for Abstract submission is now 27 May 2005. The abstract form and guidelines on the format of the abstract are available to download from the website <http://www.happen.co.uk/esvv2005/> You can also register on-line and if you book before 04/07/05 you'll be eligible for the Early Booking Rate.

### **Health Protection Agency Annual Conference, Warwick University, UK. 12-14 September 2005**

The main themes for this year are Health Inequalities, Patient and Public Safety. The conference will bring together over 900 health protection professionals from a variety of disciplines to meet, learn and share knowledge and expertise. The main themes - Health Inequalities and Patient and Public Safety - will be analysed and discussed by experts from the HPA and our national and international partner organisations. Alongside this, a full programme of parallel sessions and poster exhibition will showcase new research and developments in health protection, providing an opportunity to gain knowledge and insight into work on a wide range of health protection issues. Visit the conference website for updates on the programme: <http://www.hpaconference.org.uk/> Email: [hpaconference@hpa.org.uk](mailto:hpaconference@hpa.org.uk)



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Visit <http://www.medvetnet.org>



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# ARE YOU INTERESTED IN COMMUNICATING SCIENCE?

## SCIENCE COMMUNICATION INTERNSHIP

### OVERVIEW

As part of its overarching 'Spreading Excellence' Workpackage 3, Med-Vet-Net is offering four positions for a Science Communication Internship.

The Internship is open to any current student, researcher or staff member of the Med-Vet-Net partner institutes. The Internship will consist of a 3-month period of full-time training / tutorials in various aspects of science communication including:

- Communicating with government and industry
- Communicating with the media
- Presentation skills
- Internet and website design
- Writing skills and publications
- Communicating with the public and children
- Organising events and exhibitions

Following completion of the 3-month period, it is expected that participants will return to their Institute and apply the skills learnt by communicating the work of Med-Vet-Net in their country, as well as assisting the Med-Vet-Net Communications Unit with the dissemination of information throughout Europe.

During the Internship, the candidates will be mainly located for 12 weeks at the offices of the Society for Applied Microbiology in Bedford, UK, with some additional travel throughout Europe to other partner institutes and Brussels. Accommodation, travel and associated expenses will be provided.

The first 3-month Internship will run from September - November 2005.

### TO APPLY:

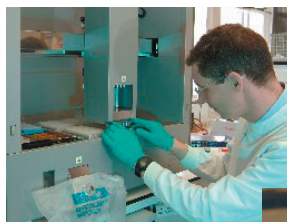
To apply, you will need:

- Good written and spoken English
- Degree in science (preferably biology, microbiology, clinical or veterinary science-related field), or relevant work experience in one of these fields
- Desire to become more involved in the communication of science
- Willingness to move from research into communication
- A flair for communication

In addition you will need to submit:

- Your Curriculum Vitae (CV)
- A one-page summary outlining why you want to learn about communicating science.
- A press release (250 words) describing some aspect of your (or your colleagues') research Note: this must be written for a non-scientific audience (eg. media and public)

Before you apply, it is important that you have the full support of your Institute in this endeavour. They must support your 3-month secondment to the UK (while continuing to pay your salary), and also agree that for the first 3-months upon your return to your institute, at least 50% of your time is spent working on communications. The details of these arrangements are flexible, and will be agreed for each individual candidate and their circumstances.



**APPLICATIONS  
DUE BY  
FRIDAY 17 JUNE 2005**

Email to [teresa@sfam.org.uk](mailto:teresa@sfam.org.uk)  
or post to:

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