



VCNZ update – 7 November 2016

In this issue

- [Responsible use of antibiotics](#)
- [Please vote in the VCNZ elections](#)
- [Meet the Council in Auckland](#)
- [Your stories for the AVBC Education Forum](#)
- [Drug dilemmas](#)

Responsible use of antibiotics poster

The veterinary profession has a lead role in product stewardship. All vets' prescribing behaviours contribute to the global issues around antimicrobial resistance.

We've created this [poster](#) to make it easy for vets to check that they're prescribing with AMR principles in mind. Two different versions have been provided. We hope it will go up in clinics around New Zealand to help make it easy for all vets to contribute to responsible product stewardship.

To complement NZVA's 2030 vision, we're also reviewing the Veterinary Medicines part of the Code and our Dry Cow Therapy statement. Further information on this will follow in the New Year.

Please vote

Voting for Council elections is still open.

Council makes decisions that affect you as a vet. If you want to have a say in who's making these decisions, you need to vote.

In the last election in 2013 only 34% of vets voted. That was lower than previous elections. Other professions have lost their right to vote for Council members after consistently low voting turn outs. If this happened to the veterinary profession 6 of the 7 Council members would be ministerial appointees.

So far nearly 550 of you have voted. For those who haven't yet, look at the [candidate profiles](#) and vote before 5pm on Thursday 1 December.

The login details you'll need to vote are in an email from Electionz.com, sent on 25 October. You'll have two emails from them that day – the correct details are in the second email.

If you have any queries about voting online or if you can't find the email, please contact electionznz.com on 0800 666 033 or iro@electionz.com

Q and A session with Council members

On 30 November, Council will be hosting a Q and A session in Auckland. Council holds these sessions each year as a way to keep in touch with vets around the country. We had a great session with vets in Invercargill last year.

We'll have drinks and nibbles from 7.30pm, then there'll be a chance to discuss issues and ask questions.

If you find the session useful, you can claim CPD points.

When: Wednesday 30 November. Drinks and nibbles from 7.30pm, question time from 8–9.30pm

Where: NZ Dental Association, Building 1, 195 Main Highway, Ellerslie

For planning and catering purposes, please RSVP to Kelly at [vet@vetcouncil.org.nz](mailto:veter@vetcouncil.org.nz) or (04) 473 9600 by **Wednesday 16 November 2016**.

Please let us know if you have any dietary requirements.

AVBC Education Forum

AVBC's Education Forum will be held 1–2 December 2016. The forum aims to identify emerging issues and trends in veterinary education and will focus on the year 2031.

AVBC is looking for stories from 'the future of vets in 2031'. This could be either a short written story or a video.

The vets who submit the three best stories will be given the opportunity to participate in the forum (including flights).

AVBC need any stories by **17 November**. Click [here](#) for more information. The winners will be notified on 20 November.

Drug dilemmas

In the October issue of Vetscript, Wayne Ricketts talks about drug dilemmas and prescribing. You can read the article [here](#).