EUROPEAN MEDICINES AGENCY
SCIENCE MEDICINES HEALTH

EMA Veterinary Innovation Day

13 – 14 March 2025
Hybrid meeting, EMA, Amsterdam

Innovation is a key driver in providing and improving safe and effective treatments for animals. Veterinary novel therapies and other innovative veterinary medicines benefit from optimised regulatory processes under Regulation (EU) 2019/6, and support measures to ease the way from development to market.

The European Medicines Agency (EMA) organised the first Veterinary Innovation Day in 2018. Designed for the veterinary pharmaceutical industry and smaller innovators, the event provided an overview of the legislative framework and the Agency's available support measures.

With Regulation (EU) 2019/6, the EU reinforced its support for the development of innovative veterinary medicines. Now, three years after the Regulation became applicable, EMA is hosting the second edition of Veterinary Innovation Day to present an overview of the current status of innovation in the EU. The event will also provide a recap of the available regulatory support for innovation and opportunities for interaction.

Join us to discuss what drives innovation and how we can work together to support a safer, healthier, and sustainable future for animals, humans, and the environment.

EMA Veterinary Innovation Day agenda

Chaired by Ivo Claassen (EMA)

Day 1 - 13 March 2025, 14:00 – 17:30 (CET)

13:30 Registration, joining and technical checks

14:00 Welcome and opening speech

Opening *Ivo Claassen (EMA)*	**5 min**

14:05 Session 1: Veterinary innovation agenda – in the EU & beyond

Reflection on innovation in veterinary medicines *Ivo Claassen (EMA)*	**10 min**
A national perspective on innovation *Franck Fourès (ANSES, France)*	**20 min**
EU-Innovation Network for human medicines *Valentina Cordò (EMA)*	**10 min**
Q&A	**15 min**

15:00 Session 2: Support to innovative veterinary medicines

Overview of the tools available from EMA *Noemi Garcia del Blanco (EMA)*	**15 min**
Guidance developed by the Novel Therapies and Technologies Working Party *Jacqueline Poot (NTWP Chair)*	**20 min**
EMA/FDA parallel scientific advice *Vladimír Pucovský (EMA)*	**10 min**
Q&A	**30 min**

16:15 Networking break

16:45 Session 3: Panel discussion on the availability of medicines

Panel discussion **30 min**
Jordi Torren Edo (EMA)
Jobke van-Hout (FVE)
Rory Breathnach (University College Dublin)

Day 2 - 14 March 2025, 09:30 – 12:30 (CET)

09:00 Joining and technical checks

09:30 Session 4: Deep dive into three support structures

SME office **15 min**
Thomas Ballotti (EMA)

Innovation Task Force **15 min**
Oriane Blanquie (EMA)

Academia liaison **15 min**
Ralf Herold (EMA)

Q&A **15 min**

10:30 Session 5: Industry experience

Experience with VAMF/vPTMF **30 min**
Klaas Medendorp (MSD Animal Health)

11:00 Networking break

11:30 Session 6: Global innovation: what will the future bring?

Panel discussion **45 min**
Ivo Claassen (EMA)
Carel du Marchie Sarvaas (Health for Animals)

12:15 Closing remarks

Wrap up **10 min**
Ivo Claassen (EMA)

List of speakers

Carel du Marchie Sarvaas	Health for Animals
Franck Fourès	French Agency for Veterinary Medicinal Products (ANSES)
Ivo Claassen	European Medicines Agency
Jacqueline Poot	CVMP Novel Therapies and Technologies Working Party
Jobke van Hout	Federation of Veterinarians of Europe (FVE)
Jordi Torren Edo	European Medicines Agency
Klaas Medendorp	MSD Animal Health
Noemi Garcia del Blanco	European Medicines Agency
Oriane Blanquie	European Medicines Agency
Ralf Herold	European Medicines Agency
Rory Breathnach	University College Dublin
Thomas Ballotti	European Medicines Agency
Valentina Cordò	European Medicines Agency
Vladimír Pucovský	European Medicines Agency

About the speakers

Carel du Marchie Sarvaas

Executive Director, HealthforAnimals

Carel du Marchie Sarvaas is Executive Director of HealthforAnimals, a global animal health association representing the top 10 animal health companies developing veterinary parasiticides, vaccines, pharmaceuticals, diagnostics, and digital products. Carel joined HealthforAnimals from EuropaBio, the EU Biotechnology Association. Prior, he worked at consultancies/think tanks in Washington DC and Brussels, advising on policies related to food, agriculture, chemicals, climate, and biotech. He is a Dutch national and holds degrees from the University of Leiden and the Johns Hopkins University (SAIS).

Franck Fourès

Director of the French Agency for Veterinary Medicinal Products

Franck Fourès graduated from the French National Veterinary School (Toulouse) and holds a doctorate in sociology from the Paris Institute of Political Science with a thesis on the determinants of the emergence of health crises in the human and veterinary fields. As Inspector General in Veterinary Public Health, Franck has held various roles related to veterinary public health issues, both in France and internationally. In particular, he has served as Deputy Director of Risk Assessment at the French Agency for Food, Environmental and Occupational Health and Safety (ANSES), Deputy Director of Agriculture and Forestry in French Guyana, and Health and Phytosanitary Counsellor at the French Embassy in Brasilia. Since November 2022, he has been serving as the Director of the French Agency for Veterinary Medicinal Products (ANSES-ANMV).

Dr Ivo Claassen

Head of Veterinary Medicines, European Medicines Agency

Dr Ivo Claassen is head of the Veterinary Medicines Division and Deputy Executive Director at the European Medicines Agency. Since he joined the Agency in 2018, he has been responsible for the implementation of Veterinary medicinal products regulation. Furthermore, he was involved in the development of the Veterinary Regulatory Science Strategy and the EMA Veterinary Big Data strategy. He has also over 30 years of experience in vaccine production, QC/QA, R&D and regulatory affairs, both for human and veterinary vaccines. He has been a member of the Committee for Medicinal Products for Veterinary Use (CVMP).

Dr Jacqueline Poot

Chair of the Novel Therapies and Technologies Working Party

Jacqueline graduated as a farm animal vet from Utrecht University and has worked in farm animal and companion animal practice. Her PhD work was focused on Canine Leishmaniasis disease models and vaccination. Jacqueline was a project leader in the biological R&D of a large pharmaceutical company for 12 years. In 2013 Jacqueline joined the veterinary department of the Dutch regulatory authority as an assessor and in 2017, a member of the CVMP Scientific Advice Working Party.

Since 2020, Jacqueline has been the CVMP member for the Netherlands, and chair of the Novel Therapies and Technologies Working Party (NTWP) since 2021.

Dr Jobke van Hout

Chair of the FVE Medicines Working Group

Jobke van Hout graduated as a veterinarian at the Faculty of Veterinary Medicine in Utrecht, Netherlands. In 2008, she obtained her PhD at the Department of Veterinary Pharmacology, Pharmacy and Toxicology. Since then, she has been a researcher at the Swine Health Department of Royal GD, conducting applied research. Her specific areas of interest are antimicrobial drugs & resistance and pig(let) welfare, and she's experienced in GCP field trials. Additionally, Jobke is a member of the Internal Welfare body of Royal GD, the chair of FVE's Medicines Working Group and a member of the Expert Panel on antibiotics from the Netherlands Veterinary Medicines Institute (SDa).

Dr Jordi Torren Edo

Head of Evaluation and Innovation Support Department, European Medicines Agency

Jordi Torren Edo graduated as a veterinarian in 1989, from the University Autonomous of Barcelona. He joined the Veterinary Division of the EMA in 2000, previously he worked for 7 years in the veterinary pharmaceutical industry. Jordi has led EMA's Evaluation and Innovation Support Department in the Veterinary Medicines Division since 2019, responsible for coordinating the assessment of applications for the authorisation of veterinary medicinal products through the centralised procedure in the EU. Before his current position, Jordi focused on the area of antibiotic resistance, and in particular on the use of antibiotics in animals and its impact on public health.

Dr Klaas Medendorp

Global Regulatory Affairs Biologicals Director

Klaas Medendorp is a seasoned professional with 15 years of experience in regulatory affairs within the pharmaceutical industry. Klaas has a strong track record of navigating complex regulatory landscapes and driving successful product approvals. He holds a PhD degree in Medical Sciences and is currently serving as a Director in the Global Regulatory Affairs Biologicals department at MSD Animal Health.

Dr Noemi Garcia Del Blanco

Head of the Biologicals and Emerging Therapies, European Medicines Agency

Noemi Garcia del Blanco has been the Head of the Biologicals and Emerging Therapies Service since 2020. A highly skilled veterinarian with extensive post-graduate qualifications in microbiology and infectious diseases, Noemi made significant contributions to the development and regulation of vaccines and other biological veterinary medicinal products, both in industry and regulatory bodies.

During her tenure at the Veterinary Medicines Directorate in the UK, spanning more than a decade, Noemi served as a scientific assessor and later rose to the position of Head of Biologicals.

Dr Oriane Blanquie

Seconded national expert, E*uropean Medicines Agency*

Oriane Blanquie is a pharmacist by training and holds a PhD in developmental neuroscience. Since 2022, she has been working as seconded national expert in the Regulatory Science and Innovation Task Force of the EMA. Her focus activities are the EMA Innovation Task Force, a platform providing early support to developers of innovative products and methodologies, and EMA/HMA EU-Innovation Network where she co-chairs the Borderline and Classification group. Before that, she has been working as academic project leader in Mainz and Bonn, Germany.

Dr Ralf Herold

Senior Scientific Officer, European Medicines Agency

Ralf Herold MD PhD is the head of EMA's Regulatory Science and Academia Workstream, part of the Regulatory Science & Innovation Taskforce, coordinating research and engagement with researchers and developers from the academic sector and not-for-profit organisations. Previously, he worked on cancer and paediatric medicines as well as horizon scanning and foresight at the EMA. He was the Pediatric development leader of Bayer AG Regulatory affairs and an ICH E11A expert group member.

At Charité – Universitätsmedizin Berlin, he obtained an experimental research PhD, board certified in paediatric and adolescent medicine, trained in paediatric oncology and haematology, and managed a national research network.

Professor Rory Breathnach

Dean and Head of School of Veterinary Medicine, University College Dublin

Professor Breathnach graduated from the UCD School of Veterinary Medicine (SVM) in 1986. Following an internship in Small Animal Clinical Studies in UCD, he obtained an MSc in Drug Toxicology from the University of London. After 4 years in small animal practice, he returned to the UCD SVM as a lecturer in 1991 and subsequently obtained a PhD in Clinical Dermatology. He was appointed Clinical Director of the UCD Veterinary Hospital in 2015 and Dean & Head of School in September 2023.

In addition to his roles in UCD, Professor Breathnach is a CVMP member, former member of the Advisory Committee on Veterinary Medicines (Health Products Regulatory Authority) and former chair of the CVMP Scientific Advice Working Party. He is also a member of the Department of Agriculture, Food & the Marine's Advisory Committee on Companion Animal Welfare and the Scientific Committee of the Irish Greyhound Board.

Thomas Ballotti

Scientific officer, European Medicines Agency

Thomas Ballotti is a pharmacy graduate from the Faculty of Pharmacy in Marseille, France, with dedicated training in industrialisation and regulation of health products (MSc). Thomas joined EMA in 2023 as a scientific officer in the SME office, a dedicated structure providing regulatory, administrative and procedural support to SMEs developing medicines for human and veterinary use, as well as training through communication material and dedicated education events.

Previously, Thomas worked in the pharmaceutical industry as a regulatory affairs officer for several years, as lead for early access programs for innovative immune-oncology drugs.

Dr Valentina Cordò

Innovation and Development Accelerator, European Medicines Agency

Valentina Cordò is a biomedical scientist by training with a bachelor's degree in medical biotechnology (University of Milan, IT), a master's degree in biomedical sciences (Leiden University, NL) and a PhD in cancer biology (Utrecht University, NL). After working at the Princess Máxima Center for Pediatric Oncology in Utrecht, Valentina joined EMA in 2022 as a scientific specialist in the Regulatory Science and Innovation Task Force, where she coordinates the early support activities for innovative medicine and technology developers.

Dr Vladimír Pucovský

Scientific Administrator, Veterinary Biologicals and Emerging Therapies, European Medicines Agency

Vladimír Pucovský is a pharmacist with a PhD in pharmacology. His experience span of 30+ years includes academic research in intracellular signalling and electrophysiology, university teaching, clinical research work in

the veterinary pharmaceutical industry, and regulation of veterinary medicines. He joined EMA in 2018, and the focus of his activities is pre-authorisation procedures such as CVMP Scientific Advice (he serves as a secretary of the veterinary Scientific Advice Working Party), Innovation Task Force briefing meetings (one of the ITF coordinators on the veterinary side), and product classification.