

**Memorandum of Understanding  
Association of Avian Veterinarians (AAV)  
and the  
European College of Zoological Medicine (ECZM)**

**1 Introduction**

- 1.1 The AAV and the avian specialty of ECZM have a number of common goals and concerns.
  - 1.1.1 AAV is a globally recognized association promoting scientifically based knowledge of the health and diseases of birds in relation to their biology and conservation. It is an independent professional organization of practitioners advancing and promoting avian medicine, stewardship, and conservation through education of its members, the veterinary community and those they serve.
  - 1.1.2 ECZM's mission is to promote excellence in zoological medicine internationally through education, science, and the certification of veterinary specialists.
- 1.2 Both organizations have a commitment to excellence in avian medicine. Many members of both organizations have similar backgrounds and veterinary training as well as professional and philosophical interests and commitments. For those reasons, the officers of AAV and ECZM are committing their respective organizations to the following memorandum of understanding (MOU).
- 1.3 For six years, beginning 2022 and renewable in 3year increments thereafter, AAV and ECZM will jointly support a formal relationship outlined by this memorandum of understanding.

**2 Goal**

The aim of this MOU is to optimize the impact of both ECZM and AAV on their common aim of promoting excellence in avian and zoological medicine.

**3 Cooperation**

- 3.1 ECZM recognizes AAV's role in providing a forum for the exchange of information on avian diseases and their management. Through the provision of opportunities for networking, collaborative research and training AAV seeks to raise the profile of research and management in birds. It also recognizes that the AAV represents a wide range of veterinarians with a core focus on avian medicine including among others clinicians and researchers.
  - 3.2 ECZM will actively promote and support AAVs events and work in improving standards of avian and zoological medicine across this wide range of countries and disciplines. ECZM will encourage membership of AAV.
  - 3.3 AAV recognizes the avian specialty of ECZM as the European specialist body for avian medicine, setting standards of training and provision of certification.
  - 3.4 AAV will actively promote and support the ECZM accredited residencies through advertisement and provision of training opportunities. AAV will encourage employers to recruit ECZM diplomates so as to improve overall standards of avian and zoological medicine within the veterinary profession.
  - 3.5 AAV will provide opportunities for ECZM diplomates and residents to present research at its scientific meetings in accordance with its general policies for selection of manuscripts and peer review so as to meet ECZM's accreditation requirements.
  - 3.6 AAV and ECZM will invite the president or designated representative of the other organization to their Annual Business Meeting and annual scientific conference.
  - 3.7 The president/ designated representative of the other organization will also be invited to attend business meetings (board meeting /steering committee / annual general meeting) associated with the scientific conferences that each organization is involved in.
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3.8 Each organization will make every effort to consult the other in good time on decisions or position statements that are likely to have significant impact on the other.

3.9 Each organization will share events, job postings and newsletters and where mutually agreeable will forward to their respective memberships other information of relevance.

#### 4 Further agreements

4.1 AAV and ECZM will continue to work together within other allied organizations in which they have mutual interests.

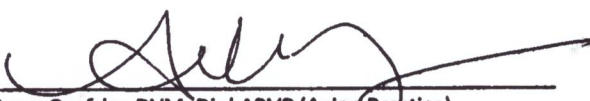
4.2 Both organizations commit to the open and mutually supportive exchange of ideas as outlined above and to work together to resolve any conflicts that may arise.


4.3 This Agreement is intended to further the mutual professional and philosophical interests of the AAV and ECZM. However, both organizations are and continue to be separate and independent legal entities. Neither organization, their servants, agents, and employees shall act or represent themselves as an agent for the other. Both organizations agree to hold each other harmless. This Agreement does not establish or imply any duty or responsibility to the other pertaining to the internal operation of the other; neither party can enter into contracts for the other or oversee the finances of the other. Neither party is liable to third parties for acts or omissions of the other organization. Neither party can formally use the name of the other- except as agreed herein.

4.4 The liability shall be interpreted according to each party's constitution and the law under which that constitution is enabled.

4.5 This agreement can be ended by either party by providing 60 days advance written notice to the other.

#### 5 Signatories

  
Anna Osofsky, DVM, Dipl ABVP (Avian Practice)  
AAV President  
In FRISCO, TX on Nov 10 2022  
USA

  
Andrei Mihalca, PhD, MSc, DVM, Dipl ECZM (WPH)  
ECZM President  
In San Jose, CA on Nov 14 2022  
RO