

## Getting ahead of the risks: Strategies to avoid known and unknown hazards

ECVPH Annual Conference and AGM  
11-13th September 2024 (Liverpool, UK)

All sessions will be hybrid unless stated otherwise

### Tuesday Sept. 10<sup>th</sup> – Preconference workshops

All day                      **Introduction to veterinary qualitative research workshop** (not hybrid)  
(*Waterhouse Block J – Vet School*) – Tickets additional to registration  
Dr Becky Smith & Dr Tamzin Furtado

### Wednesday Sept. 11<sup>th</sup>

09:00 – 13:00              **Introduction to veterinary qualitative research workshop** (not hybrid)  
(*Waterhouse Block J – Vet School*) – Tickets additional to registration  
Dr Becky Smith & Dr Tamzin Furtado

11:00 – 13:00              **Council Workshop** (Council members only)  
(*Waterhouse Block J – Vet School*)

15:00 – 18:30              **Council meeting** (Council members only)  
(*Waterhouse Block J – Vet School*)

16:30 – 18:00              Guided campus walk (optional)

17:00 – 18:30              **Residency meeting**  
(*Waterhouse Block J – Vet School*)

18:30 – 21:00              **Informal reception w/drinks and finger foods** (Location to be confirmed)

**Thursday Sept 12<sup>th</sup>**

08:00 – 08:45 Arrival at venue, registration

08:45 – 09:00 Opening of the conference

**09:00 – 10:30** **Session 1** (Chair: Dr John Tulloch) – *Sherrington Lecture Theatres*

- **Prof Lucy Easthope** (1 hr)
  - Professor in Practice of Risk and Hazard, University of Durham
  - Considering animals in international disaster planning
- **Dr David Edwards** (30min)
  - Health Protection Consultant, East of England, UK Health Security Agency
  - Case studies in human public health to zoonotic outbreaks and risk

10:30 – 11:00 Coffee break & poster viewing

**11:00 – 12:30** **Session 2** (Chair: Prof Gina Pinchbeck) – *Sherrington Lecture Theatres*

- **Dr Charlotte Robin** (30min)
  - Emerging Infections and Zoonoses, Clinical & Public Health, UKHSA
  - Understanding human behaviour to mitigate zoonotic risks
- **Dr Genever Morgan** (30min)
  - Lecturer in Small Animal Clinical Skills, University of Liverpool
  - Tackling the public health risks associated with raw meat diets for dogs
- **Prof Chris Jewell** (30min)
  - Professor in Statistics, Lancaster University
  - Translating uncertainty and risk to policy makers

**12.30 – 13:30** **Lunch break & poster viewing**

**13:30 – 15:30** **Parallel Workshops - Waterhouse Block J – Vet School**  
(Hybrid status will dependent on nature of the workshops)

A

B

C

15:30 – 16:00 Coffee break & poster viewing

**16:00 – 17:30** **Annual General Meeting (Chair: Prof Len Lipman) – Sherrington Lecture Theatre**

**7.15pm** **Mersey Ferry (Pier Head, Georges Parade, Liverpool, L3 1DP) – Please be on time, otherwise the Ferry will sail without you.**

**Friday Sept 13<sup>th</sup>**

- 08:30 – 09:30      **Council meeting** (Council members only) - *Waterhouse Block J*
- 09:00 – 09:30      Arrival at venue, poster viewing, online log-in
- 09:00 – 10:30      **Session 3 – Resident short presentations** – *Sherrington Lecture Theatre*  
(Chairs: Liverpool Residents)
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- 10:30 – 11:00      Coffee break & poster viewing
- 11:00 – 12:30      **Session 4** (Chair: Dr Dragan Antic) - *Sherrington Lecture Theatre*
- **Prof Kurt Houf** (30 min)
    - Professor at Ghent University
    - Emerging and neglected foodborne hazards
  - **Dr Chloe Thomas** (30 mins)
    - Exposure Assessment and Trade Team, Food Standards Agency
    - Development of the Oyster Risk Profile
  - **Prof Gulbanu Kaptan** (30 mins)
    - Associate Professor in Behavioural Decision Making, University of Leeds
    - Consumer risk perception and risk taking: Presentation of the Kitchen Life Project
- 12:30 – 13:00      Closing session
- 13:15 – 14:00      Lunch

## Speaker Profiles

### Pre-conference workshop - Introduction to veterinary qualitative research

**Dr Rebecca Smith** - Research Associate, University of Liverpool

Rebecca is a veterinarian and social scientist. Her interdisciplinary research explores decision-making by animal owners and veterinarians to understand how these relationships impact animal health and welfare. Rebecca's current postdoctoral research uses ethnographic methods and is focussed on chronic pain management in horses. Alongside her research, Rebecca is undertaking specialist training in animal welfare science, ethics and law with the European College of Animal Welfare and Behavioural Medicine.



**Dr Tamzin Furtado** – Lecturer, University of Liverpool

Tamzin is a social scientist with a background in global health, and has a specific interest in the interconnections between human and animal health and wellbeing. She completed a PhD at the University of Liverpool studying how we can improve the management of obesity in horses, particularly focusing on horse-human relationships and human behaviour change. She now works on projects covering a wide range of aspects of understanding human behaviour in order to improve companion animal welfare, and in using social sciences to find out more about how we can help people to change



## Session One

**Prof Lucy Easthope** - Professor in Practice of Risk and Hazard at the University of Durham

Lucy is a leading authority on recovering from disaster. She has been an advisor for nearly every major disaster of the past two decades, including the 2004 tsunami, 9/11, the Salisbury poisonings, Grenfell, the Covid-19 pandemic and most recently the war in Ukraine. She challenges others to think differently about what comes next after tragic events, and how to plan for future ones. Lucy grew up in Liverpool and has a degree in law, a PhD in medicine and a Masters in risk, crisis and disaster management. She is a Professor in Practice of Risk and Hazard at the University of Durham where she Co-Founded the After Disaster Network, is a Fellow in Mass Fatalities and Pandemics at the Centre for Death and Society, University of Bath and a Research Associate at the Joint Centre for Disaster Research, Massey University, New Zealand.



**Dr David Edwards** - Lead Consultant in Health Protection, UK Health Security Agency

After an academic career in Veterinary Public Health and Epidemiology he joined the National Health Service in 2005. He completed public health specialty training in 2015 and joined Public Health England as a Consultant in Health Protection. In 2016 becoming the lead East of England regional health protection team lead for emergency planning resilience and response (EPRR) and Zoonoses. He enjoys providing public health leadership for the wide range of incidents that occur regionally and nationally. Including for Avian Influenza, Lassa Fever, Diphtheria, tuberculosis and Monkeypox. He was a Regional Incident Director during the COVID pandemic.



## Session Two

**Dr Charlotte Robin** - Principal Scientist, Emerging Infections and Zoonoses, UK Health Security Agency

Charlotte is an epidemiologist and behavioural scientist with a background in infectious disease epidemiology and a specific interest in zoonotic infections. Charlotte is particularly interested in the interconnections between animals and humans in the context of health protection. She completed a PhD at the University of Liverpool studying how people understand, interpret and respond to the risk of zoonoses in the UK, specifically rodent-borne infections.

Charlotte is currently working as a Principal Scientist in the Emerging Infections and Zoonoses (EIZ) team at UKHSA. The EIZ team is responsible for the routine surveillance of zoonotic pathogens, incident response and the development of national policy and guidance in addition to supporting research and evaluation for zoonotic infections.



**Dr Genever Morgan** - Lecturer in Small Animal Clinical Skills, University of Liverpool

Genever graduated from the University of Liverpool with a Zoology degree in 2008, and went on to complete her veterinary degree at the Royal Veterinary College (RVC) in 2012. Gen worked in a variety of first opinion small animal practices, including at the University of Liverpool and working as a feline shelter vet at the RSPCA/RVC. She completed her PhD at the University of Liverpool in 2023 which investigated antimicrobial resistance and the public health impact of feeding raw meat diets to dogs, and now splits her time between teaching and research as a Lecturer at the University of Liverpool.



**Prof Chris Jewell** – Professor in Statistics, Lancaster University

Chris works at the interface between epidemiology, infectious disease modelling, statistics, and high performance computing. He originally trained as a veterinary surgeon, but became interested in epidemics through his experience working on the foot and mouth disease outbreak in the UK in 2001. He believes strongly in application-focused statistical research and in effective communication of scientific outputs.

As a trained vet, Chris' interests lie in decision support systems for disease outbreak response, public health and zoonotic diseases. He has applications in communicable diseases such as foot and mouth disease, vector-borne diseases such as theileriosis, and zoonoses such as campylobacteriosis. In computational statistics, he works on MCMC methods for inference on stochastic dynamical models. He has a particular interest in high performance computing techniques for applying modern statistical methods to real-time inference on large population datasets.



## Session Four

### **Prof Kurt Houf** - Professor, Ghent University

Kurt Houf is a veterinarian working as professor at Ghent University and as visiting professor at the University of Antwerp. He specialized with a master after master in veterinary public health, and as diplomate of the European College of Veterinary Public Health. He did internships at national and international research institutes, and his doctoral research was on the prevalence and transmission of *Campylobacteraceae*. He is a member of the Royal Academy of Medicine of Belgium, and of the scientific committee of the Belgian Federal Food Agency. His research is on the safety of food of animal origin throughout the food chain, with a focus on emerging and neglected bacterial pathogens and pathobionts. His expertise is within genomic characterization, and interactions within microbial communities. His research group is part of an interfaculty lab of microbiology, and is a multidisciplinary team of biotechnologists, biologists, biochemists, veterinarians, engineers, mathematicians, (bio)computer scientists and technicians. The lab is also the basis of the Belgian bacterial culture collection (BCCM-LMG).



### **Ms Chloe Thomas** - Senior Trade Risk Assessor - Exposure Assessment & Trade, Food Standards Agency

The oyster risk profile is the first of a number of potential risk profiles that the Food Standards Agency (FSA) may be commissioned to carry out on behalf of the UK Office for Sanitary and Phytosanitary Trade Assurance (UK SPS Office) at the Department for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs (DEFRA) to inform the potential risks associated with different products of animal origin (POAO) imported into GB from any trading partner. It considers the hazards that may be associated with imported oysters which may pose a risk to public health and potential mitigation strategies



### **Prof Gulbanu Kaptan** – Associate Professor in Behavioural Decision Making, Leeds University

My research interests focus on judgement and decision making with special interest in food-related decision making, designing risk (benefit) communications, and behavioural interventions related to food consumption and waste. I am a former expert member of the European Commission's Consumer Food Waste Forum that aimed to find solutions and develop tools to help reduce consumer food waste in Europe. I currently lead a joint project with the Food Standards Agency entitled; 'Understanding consumer food safety behaviour at home.'

