

EAVLD 2026 8th

CONGRESS OF THE

European Association of Veterinary Laboratory Diagnosticians

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Royal Olympic Hotel
Athens, Greece

ABSTRACT BOOK

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Welcome Message

Dear Colleagues and Friends,

It is a great pleasure to welcome you to the EAVLD Congress 2026, taking place in the vibrant and historic city of Athens, Greece. The Organising Committee looks forward to welcoming you to this important scientific event, set against the inspiring backdrop of the Acropolis.

The Congress features a rich scientific programme covering key developments in veterinary diagnostics, including new technologies, emerging diseases, and practical applications in the field. Highlights include keynote lectures by leading experts, oral and poster presentations, and opportunities for discussion and collaboration. An exhibition of laboratory equipment will also run alongside the sessions, offering a chance to explore the latest innovations from industry partners.

Our centrally located venue offers modern facilities and stunning views of one of the world's most iconic landmarks. Athens, birthplace of philosophy, science, and democracy, seamlessly blends ancient history with contemporary energy, offering a unique setting for learning and connection.

Outside the sessions, enjoy Athens' rich cultural heritage, warm hospitality, and world-renowned cuisine. From archaeological wonders to lively neighborhoods and coastal escapes, the city offers something for everyone.

We are excited to host you for what promises to be a rewarding and memorable experience.

Looking forward to meeting you in Athens.

Prof. Labrini V. Athanasiou
On behalf of the EAVLD Congress 2026 Organising Committee
Athens, Greece

Organising Committee

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03. Zoonoses and the One Health Approach Bridging Animal, Human, and Environmental Health

P036. THE INTEGRATED WNV SURVEILLANCE PROGRAM IN SERBIA: CHANGES IN THE METHODOLOGY OVER TIME

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The integrated WNV surveillance program in Serbia established by the Veterinary Directorate was active since 2014. The main aim of the program was an early detection of WNV presence in the environment and the timely information of local and public health authorities - to control the mosquitoes and to prevent the epidemics in humans and animals WNV surveillance was done by serological testing of sentinel animals and it was changed during the time (testing by ELISA of WNV IgG antibodies in horses and poultry in 2014; only WNV IgM antibodies in horses from 2015 to 2021; and from 2022 IgM Ab in horses and IgG Ab in calves), and by testing of virus presence by RT-qPCR in vector mosquitoes (*Culex pipiens*), and in samples of found dead / live captured susceptible wild birds as virus natural hosts. By surveillance all municipalities in Serbia were covered, and the distribution of sampling points were determined based on risk assessment.
The changes in WNV surveillance system overtime and the outcome on the obtained data are presented and discussed. The results of the established integrated WNV surveillance system from the last 12 years shows that the veterinary service together with ornithologist and entomologist successfully managed to implement highly sensitive WNV surveillance system, and to inform the public health authorities on time.
It can be reasonably assumed that WNV, now endemic infection, will continually present a significant problem for the veterinary and public health in Serbia. Consequently, it is necessary to establish an effective surveillance system for WNV, but also for the other flaviviruses (TBEV and USUV) of public health concern. However, the establishment of the sensitive and effective surveillance system is never finished job - has to be changed accordingly due to the new situations, changing environment and influences, new needs and expectations etc.

Key words
WNV, integrated WNV surveillance system, sentinel animals, changing in methodology

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