European Veterinary Congress of Behavioural Medicine and Animal Welfare

“Spotlight on animal behaviour problems: focus on welfare, ethical and legal aspects”

26th-28th of September 2019
Eindhoven, The Netherlands

Abstract submission instructions

Abstracts must be submitted electronically using Microsoft MS Word file. The abstract must be submitted by e-mail to abstractsubmission.EVCBMAW@gmail.com. Place your email in CC for verification of delivery. In the subject line indicate your name, abstract submission, and the number of the submission (if submitting more than one). For example John Smith Abstract 2.

Abstracts must be submitted on or before the first of March 2019. Authors will be notified by the EVCBMAW Academic Committee by the first of April 2019. Authors are required to confirm their acceptance and attendance by the 7th of April 2019.

There are three categories for abstract submission:

1. Long spoken presentations (25 minutes, plus 5 minutes discussion) – e.g. data-based, original finished scientific research or reviews ready for publication;
2. Spoken presentations (10 minutes, plus 5 minutes discussion) – e.g. case reports, treatment regimes, data-based content or other material about ongoing research;
3. Poster presentations – e.g. case reports, treatment regimes, data-based content or other material. Authors may be asked to give a brief presentation (1-2 minutes) on their poster;
A maximum of 2 abstracts may be submitted by each person for presentation in each stream, that is Animal Welfare Science, Ethics and Law (AWSEL) and Behavioural Medicine (BM). In addition, up to 2 posters can be submitted by any person in each stream. Delegates presenting posters must be present for each day of the Congress when the poster is presented.

All submissions will be reviewed by the EVCBMAW Academic Committee. Abstracts will be assessed based on the importance of the research, the academic merit and quality of the work, and the clarity of the abstract. Based on the analysis of the EVCBMAW Academic Committee it is possible that abstract will be accepted to a different category than the one requested. (e.g. a spoken presentation may be accepted for a poster, and a poster abstract submission might be requested to be present as a presentation).
The following types of submissions will be considered.

Research abstracts

These should include the following components:

1. Introduction — introduction of the study and its objectives
2. Methodology — including a description of participants (both human and animal), such as number (n), type, age, gender, and species, and a description of the study design, data collection, data analysis and apparatus used. This may include qualitative research, papers on ethical analysis, and law reports
3. Results - including, where appropriate, statistical tests, significance level and actual test value (e.g., F(df) = ?, p < 0.05)
4. Principal conclusions and implications for the field

Critical review abstracts

These should include the following components:

1. Introduction (a clear statement of the purpose of the review)
2. Key literature references to theory, concepts, evidence or methodology that have been reviewed or re-evaluated
3. Main findings
4. Principal conclusions and implications for the field

Ethical abstracts

These should include the following components:

1. Introduction
2. Literature review or an indication of the absence of literature in the area examined. Discussion of choice of framework/ethical construct and motivation e.g. deontological, utilitarian, value-based etc. (A lot of ethical material in the veterinary sphere has not been properly considered)
3. Principal conclusions and implications for the field

Law-based abstracts

These should include the following components:

1. Introduction - considering national or international legislation
2. Current legislation and its application / Jurisdictional direction (e.g. UK Case Law set precedent, in Napoleonic code less important?)
3. Principal conclusions and implications for the legislature

Case series, case reports or descriptions of aspects of clinical practice abstracts

These should include the following components:

1. An introduction (anamnesis, aetiology)
2. Key literature references to theory, concepts, evidence or methodology
3. Diagnosis, case management, and evidence base
4. Principal conclusions and implications for the field.
Abstract formatting instructions

(Abstracts submitted not according to these guidelines will not be accepted.)

1. All abstracts should be written in British English;
2. Use Times New Roman font size 12;
3. Abstracts should not be longer than 250 words (excluding title, names, affiliations and references);
4. First line: indicate presentation category in capital letters (e.g. SPOKEN PRESENTATION or POSTER);
5. Second line: indicate which session the abstract is submitted (e.g., BEHAVIOURAL MEDICINE, or ANIMAL WELFARE SCIENCE, ETHICS AND LAW);
6. Third line: indicate the type of abstract submitted (e.g., RESEARCH, REVIEW, CASE SERIES or CASE STUDY);
7. Fourth line: Title of the abstract in bold;
8. Fifth line: name of author(s). Please underline the presenting author.
9. Sixth line: e-mail address of presenting author.
10. All abstracts should include a statement of any conflict of interest after the author details. This should include information about affiliations, research funders, memberships for all authors that may be taken into account by readers when evaluating the research;
11. Then leave two blank lines;
12. On the next line, the text of the abstract;
13. Indent first line in each paragraph and leave a one-line gap between paragraphs
14. When using uncommon abbreviations, spell out in full when first mentioned, followed by the abbreviation in parentheses. Do not abbreviate in the title of the abstract
15. Do not include tables or diagrams in the abstract
16. References: All references should be provided in Harvard format.
17. They should be listed in alphabetical author order in the reference list and should be cited in the text by author name and publication year in parentheses. Please note references that are not made available in the correct format with ALL details present, including page references, will be removed.
18. Send a second copy of the abstract that is blinded:
   a. Use the above guidelines for format;
   b. Indicated, as above, category, session, and type of abstract;
   c. Do not include authors name(s);
   d. The blinded abstract should not include any country or institution name (e.g., University of Bristol, or Italy). Instead use the word “[REMOVED]” (e.g., University of [REMOVED], survey of dogs in [REMOVED]);
   e. Do not use names of authors in the abstract, for example: “subjects were recruited by the first author”.

The Academic Committee will contact the first author to inform him/her if their abstract has been accepted. The decisions of the Academic Committee are final.
Responsibility for the programme lies with the Academic Committee. The abstracts will be published as a scientific proceedings. The authors are responsible for the quality of English. Please ensure the abstract checked by a native English speaking person prior to submission. All abstracts will be reviewed and if necessary edited for clarity by a native English speaking person prior to publication.

Accepted abstracts will be published in the official proceedings of the Congress. In addition, authors may on occasion have their abstract published following the meeting in the Journal of Veterinary Behaviour: Clinical Applications and Research or in the AWSELVA Journal. The proceedings will also be published on the ECAWBM website.

The EVCBMAW Academic Committee reserves the right to reject submissions where the research has not been submitted for independant ethical review or where the Committee feels that the research or cases do not meet current ethical guidelines. The decision of the EVCBMAW Academic Committee is final.

For questions regarding the submission of abstracts please contact abstractsubmission.EVCBMAW@gmail.com. Please indicate “question about submission” in the subject line.

For more information on the conference, please see https://www.awselva.org.uk/conferences/2019/09/european-veterinary-congress-behavioural-medicine-and-animal-welfare. For any other questions about the conference, please see info.evcbmaw@gmail.com.