

# PROGRAMME & ABSTRACTS



Epi Africa

## 21st Annual SASVEPM CONGRESS



21 – 23  
AUGUST 2024



LAGOON BEACH  
HOTEL, CAPE TOWN

misunderstanding about epidemiology persists, and then close with suggestions of helpful approaches to epidemiologic training, primarily for non-epidemiologists working in the discipline.

## Bibliography

Kenneth J. Rothman (2002) Epidemiology: An Introduction. Oxford University Press

**WEDNESDAY 21 AUGUST: 08:30**

## One Health: Is Conceptualisation a Barrier to its Operationalisation?

**Dr. Anne Conan**

*CIRAD: Southern Africa, Harare, Zimbabwe*



**Biography:** Dr. Anne Conan is a researcher in epidemiology at the French Agricultural Research and International Cooperation Organization (CIRAD, France) and is attached to the Research Platform - Production and Conservation in Partnership ([RP-PCP](#)) based at the University of Zimbabwe. She specializes in infectious diseases and zoonoses in low-income areas.

Her main research topics include the surveillance of infectious diseases at the wildlife interface, the consequences of intensification of chicken farming in Asia ([One Health Poultry Hub](#)), the epidemiology of African swine fever in pigs, the epidemiology of *Coxiella burnetii* in humans and livestock, and the control of rabies in humans and dogs. She is a research fellow at the [One Health](#)

[Research Foundation](#).

Dr. Conan completed her DVM and MSc in epidemiological surveillance in 2008. She worked at the Public Health and Epidemiology Department in Pasteur Institute in Cambodia for five years. After completing her PhD in Epidemiology in 2013, Dr Conan started a post-doctorate fellowship at the Department of Veterinary Tropical Diseases at the University of Pretoria (South Africa). She then joined Ross University School of Veterinary Medicine (St. Kitts and Nevi, West Indies) in 2015 as a post-doctorate fellow before becoming an Assistant Professor in Epidemiology. After spending three years at City University of Hong Kong as research assistant professor and then research associate professor, she joined CIRAD in November 2022.

**Abstract:** Emerging from the concept of & One Medicine & developed by Dr. Calvin Schwabe, the term & One Health & began its conceptualization more than 20 years ago with the SARS and H5N1 epidemics and the formulation of the 12 Manhattan Principles. Since then, numerous researchers and organizations have developed opinions and created diagrams to define One Health. The Tripartite, later expanding to the Quadripartite, followed this trend and established the OHHLEP (One Health High Level Expert Panel), which officially defined One Health in 2023. They also developed the Theory of Change for One Health, which is used in the Quadripartite OH Joint Plan of Action. Unfortunately, despite these definitions and guidelines, the operationalization of One Health still faces various challenges. The focus on zoonotic diseases shows the misunderstandings and misinterpretation of the concept among funders, governments, and researchers. Thus, One Health actors still report two main barriers to operationalisation: the work in silos, often excluding ecosystem health, and the lack of institutionalisation. In Africa, however, some countries, such as Kenya, Senegal, Rwanda, and Cameroon, have already institutionalized One Health, while others have begun the process with the assistance of projects like COHESA (Capacitating One Health in Eastern and Southern

Africa) and/or the Quadripartite. As the institutional barriers have been gradually overcome, the conceptualization and operationalization of ecosystem health within the One Health approach remain the next challenge.

**THURSDAY 22 AUGUST: 08:00**

## Antimicrobial Stewardship: understanding the African context

### Dr. Nenene Qekwana

*Department of Paraclinical Sciences, Faculty of Veterinary Science, University of Pretoria, South Africa*



**Biography:** Dr. Daniel Nenene Qekwana is a recognized specialist in veterinary public health and an associated professor in the Department of Paraclinical Sciences at the Faculty of Veterinary Science, University of Pretoria where he is involved in teaching and training of undergraduate and postgraduate students in epidemiology, food safety, zoonotic diseases, and public health. After completing his PhD in epidemiology, he has conducted research on various topics including spatio-temporal changes in disease outbreaks, drivers of antimicrobial resistance in humans and animals, and the impact of policy decision/formulation from a justice perspective.

Dr. Qekwana is currently the Head of the Department of Paraclinical Sciences and a member of the Faculty of Veterinary Sciences research ethics committee. He has served as part of the Ministerial Advisory Committee on Antimicrobial Resistance (MAC-AMR) until the end of 2023 and continues to

serve as a member of the Gauteng Provincial Antimicrobial Stewardship Committee.

**FRIDAY 23 AUGUST: 08:00**

## Lifetime Achievement Award

The Southern African Society for Veterinary Epidemiology and Preventive Medicine would like to honour **Dr. Sewellyn Davey** for her dedication to the South African Veterinary Services and the invaluable contribution she made to veterinary disease control and public health throughout her career.

### **Dr. Sewellyn Davey**



After majoring in Microbiology and Zoology for a Bachelor of Science degree in 1975, Dr. Davey graduated with a Bachelor of Veterinary Science in 1980 from the Onderstepoort Veterinary Faculty of the University of Pretoria. Early in her career, she was stationed at first at Ermelo, Mpumalanga, and later in Kroonstad, Free State. As a laboratory vet in these regional laboratories, she concentrated on disease investigation and diagnosis and in 1982 headed up the serology section in the Kroonstad Laboratory. In 1987 Sewellyn was appointed State Veterinarian for Animal Health in Malmesbury in the Western Cape. Disease control was her mandate. Sewellyn has consulted in South Africa and abroad. She served on the OIE ad hoc committee tasked with the rewriting of the Terrestrial