

## Poster topic 09

## Poster 1

### **Introducing SERVAL: a new generic framework for the evaluation of animal health surveillance**

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Animal health surveillance programmes tend to evolve but are rarely evaluated to ensure that they provide valuable information in an efficient manner. The evaluations that are conducted are often unstructured and therefore incomplete. To address this gap, we have developed SERVAL, a Surveillance EVALuation framework, which is novel and generic and so suitable to evaluate any animal health surveillance system. SERVAL has been designed to assist in the comprehensive evaluation of single surveillance components (activities) or entire surveillance programmes. It is intended to be very flexible so it may be used to evaluate surveillance for any health condition in any species (or group of species). It is anticipated that its main use will be in the evaluation of existing surveillance systems but we believe that it will also prove useful in the design phase of new surveillance programmes. The SERVAL framework was developed following a technical workshop of international experts and a consultation process involving providers and user of surveillance and evaluation data. It has been applied in several case studies encompassing varying surveillance and evaluation objectives. Anyone familiar with epidemiological concepts and with a reasonable knowledge of a disease under surveillance should be able to use the SERVAL framework to conduct an evaluation. In this presentation, we will give an overview of the structure of the framework and illustrate how to use it. We will show its flexibility at facilitating comprehensive evaluations of animal health surveillance systems with a range of surveillance and evaluation objectives. Users' experiences of the framework will be discussed. This project is funded by Defra.