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Position
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Lecture title
"Implementing the One Health Approach to Solve Complex Problems"
Lecture abstract (400-500 words)
<p>The COVID-19 pandemic is a strong example of how changes in the environment and in animals affects human health. In the wake of the COVID-19 pandemic there has been a lot of interest and discussion in implementation of the One Health approach to protect public health at the highest levels, and we now see One Health incorporated into many documents including in the WHO Pandemic Treaty and G7 and G20 policy papers. At the same time we also see there is a lack of understanding of what it means to implement the OH approach and how to illustrate benefits to improve health in animals, people and communities.</p> <p>One Health is not a unique discipline, but rather an approach recognizing the connection between human, animal, and environmental health and lends itself to addressing complex problems at the interface of animals, people, plants. Successful One Health implementation requires the cooperation of experts from many disciplines, including but not limited to human medicine, veterinary medicine, public health, environmental science, social science, engineering and others.</p> <p>The message is clear, the key to modern health problem-solving is the fostering of effective partnerships and collaborations at local, national, regional, and global levels to identify solutions to complex global problems including to address issues such as global landuse change, climate change, food security and challenges linked to infectious disease. This is a critical moment for One Health and for institutes to lead the way and show how implementation of the One Health approach has tangible benefits to improve health of animals, people and communities.</p>