

Combating H5N1 Influenza: Emergency Consultation

Speaker/Panelist Bios

Event Hosts

Dean Mark Stetter

Dr. Mark Stetter serves as dean of the top-ranked University of California, Davis, School of Veterinary Medicine. He oversees all aspects of the school, including education, research, the veterinary teaching hospital, centers and institutes. The school's programs support over 2,500 faculty, staff and students making an impact not only in California but across the world. Since Dr. Stetter arrived in 2021, the school has had its best year for research funding and philanthropic support. He is leading a strategic-planning effort that is advancing the school's research enterprise; facilities planning; diversity, equity and inclusion; and faculty and staff engagement. Previously, Dr. Stetter served as dean and professor at the College of Veterinary Medicine and Biomedical Sciences at Colorado State University. He also served as director of animal operations, director of animal health, and clinical veterinarian with Disney's Animal Program at Disney World.

A Diplomate of the American College of Zoological Medicine, Dr. Stetter's research interests have included advancing minimally invasive surgery in non-domestic species and work on a variety of animals including fish, reptiles, birds, and mammals. His work has resulted in more than a hundred scientific publications and conference presentations. Dr. Stetter has been very active in a variety of professional organizations, including service as President of the American College of Zoological Medicine.

Currently, Dr. Stetter serves as Treasurer for the American Association of Veterinary Medical Colleges and on the Board of Directors for PetSmart Charities.

Vice Provost Jonna Mazet

Jonna Mazet, DVM, MPVM, PhD, is the Vice Provost – Grand Challenges and Chancellor's Leadership Distinguished Professor of Epidemiology and Disease Ecology at the University of California, Davis, where she founded the One Health Institute. Prof. Mazet is active in global health problem solving, especially for emerging infectious disease and conservation challenges. She was the Global Director of >\$200 million viral emergence early warning project, PREDICT, developed with the US Agency for International Development's (USAID) Emerging Pandemic Threats Program. An elected member of the US National Academy of Medicine, she also has served on the National Academies of Science, Engineering, and Medicine's Forum on Microbial Threats, One Health Action Collaborative (founding chair), and Standing Committee on Emerging Infectious Diseases and 21st Century Health Threats.

On the Frontlines: Keynote

Dr. Marcy Uhart

Dr. Marcela Uhart, is an Argentinian veterinarian. She is Director of the [Latin America Program](#) at the Karen C. Drayer Wildlife Health Center. Her focus is on free-ranging wildlife health research and conservation, especially in marine wildlife. Dr. Uhart is currently responding to wildlife die-offs due to avian influenza in South America. In addition to conducting on-site research, she currently serves on the steering committee for OFFLU, the Network of Expertise on Animal Influenza from the World Organization for Animal Health (WOAH) and FAO. She is also an appointed member of the WOAH Working Group on Wildlife since 2018.

Panel 1: One Health Approach

Moderator: Dr. Christine Johnson

Christine K. Johnson is Professor of Epidemiology and Ecosystem Health at the University of California, Davis, where her work is committed to transdisciplinary research to characterize impacts of environmental change on animal and human health and guide public policy to mitigate pandemic threats and conserve biodiversity. She has developed new approaches to characterizing emerging health threats at the animal-human interface in rapidly changing landscapes that constitute “fault lines” for disease emergence, spillover, and subsequent spread. She currently leads the EpiCenter for Emerging Infectious Disease Intelligence, one of NIAID’s Centers for Emerging Infectious Disease, together with an international team of scientists investigating drivers for spillover and spread of emerging viruses. She served as US Science Envoy for the Department of State, traveling to four continents to advance science diplomacy and international collaboration. She is a member of the National Academy of Medicine and a Fellow of the American Association for the Advancement of Science.

Dr. Jonathan M. Sleeman

Dr. Jonathan Sleeman is currently a Science Advisor for Wildlife Health for the US Geological Survey. Previous positions include Center Director for the USGS National Wildlife Health Center where he led a team of scientists and support staff to investigate and research wildlife diseases that threaten wildlife populations, public health, and the economy. He received his master's degree in zoology and his veterinary degree from the University of Cambridge, and completed an internship and residency in zoological medicine at the University of Tennessee. He is a Diplomate of the American College of Zoological Medicine. He has published widely on topics related to wildlife anesthesia, emerging diseases of wildlife, wildlife epidemiology, risk assessment, One Health, and Ecohealth. He holds a variety of leadership positions including a member of the World

Organisation of Animal Health's Working Group on Wildlife and the National Academy of Sciences Forum on Microbial Threats. Current interests include development of national wildlife health programs, broad-scale wildlife disease risk assessments, and leadership skills in wildlife health.

Dr. Deana Clifford

Deana is a senior non-game veterinarian at the California Department of Fish and Wildlife (CDFW) and a research scientist at the UC Davis Wildlife Health Center. She has expertise in epidemiologic study design, disease risk analysis and disease management of wildlife species. Deana has worked on the individual and population health of a range of non-game species including fishers, mountain lions, island foxes, and endangered Amargosa voles and riparian brush rabbits. She regularly works in the field participating in trapping, veterinary assessment, and performing epidemiologic studies. Additionally, she has considerable experience managing large projects with multiple collaborators in interfacing research, such as Envirovet and the Health for Animals and Livelihood Improvement Project in Tanzania.

Dr. Julie Paré

Dr. Julie Paré works as Senior Veterinarian Science Specialist for the Canadian Food Inspection Agency (CFIA). She is the WOAHA Animal Disease Notification Focal Point for Canada and in that role has been at the forefront of the current HPAI outbreak since its first detection in Canada at the end of 2021. Dr. Paré is also an Adjunct Professor at the Faculté de médecine Vétérinaire at the Université de Montréal and a member of GREZOSP, a Research Group in Epidemiology, Zoonosis and Public Health. A MPVM and PhD graduate from the University of California, Davis, her expertise concerns the application of epidemiology in the areas of diagnosis and surveillance of regulated and infectious diseases.

Dr. Richard Van Vleck Pereira

Dr Richard Van Vleck Pereira is an Associate Professor of Clinical Livestock and Herd Health at the University of California Davis. His research focuses on gaining a deeper understanding of the emergence, persistence, and transmission of antimicrobial-resistant and zoonotic bacteria in livestock with the aim of developing interventions to reduce and/or prevent the spread of disease and drug resistance, supporting animal, human, and environmental health. Dr. Pereira is board-certified in the American College of Veterinary Preventive Medicine (ACVPM).

Dr. Angel Desai

Dr. Angel Desai is an adult infectious disease specialist at UC Davis Medical Center with clinical interest and expertise in emerging infectious diseases, outbreaks, special pathogens, infection prevention and control, and tropical medicine. Dr. Desai also works in health communication, and serves on the IDSA Publications Committee, is a former Fishbein Medical Editorial Fellow for the Journal of the American Medical Association, and a current associate editor for JAMA Network Open. Dr. Desai's

research focuses on the epidemiology of emerging infectious diseases using innovative surveillance tools, biosecurity and policy surrounding epidemics, and communicable disease risk communication, particularly in the setting of large-scale disease outbreaks. Dr. Desai also studies global migration health and communicable disease epidemiology, with a particular focus on refugees and internally displaced persons.

Dr. Christine Szablewski

Dr. Christine M Szablewski, DVM, MPH, currently serves as the acting chief veterinary officer in CDC's Influenza Division. She is an expert on animal, zoonotic, and novel influenza viruses. Her work focuses on preventing the spread of influenza viruses between animals and people, and these efforts help prepare and protect against future pandemics. Dr. Szablewski works across centers at CDC, providing technical support on contracts, cooperative agreements and interagency agreements for work done with zoonotic influenza at the human animal interface. She received both her master's degree in veterinary public health and her veterinary medical degree from The Ohio State University.

Panel 2: Multi-Sectoral Integration

Moderator: Dr. Gigi Gronvall

Dr. Gronvall is a Senior Scholar at the Johns Hopkins Center for Health Security and an Associate Professor in the Department of Environmental Health and Engineering at the Johns Hopkins Bloomberg School of Public Health. Dr. Gronvall received a PhD from Johns Hopkins University for work on T-cell receptor/MHC I interactions and worked as a protein chemist at the Memorial Sloan-Kettering Cancer Center. She received a BS in biology from Indiana University, Bloomington.

Dr. Rick Bright

Dr. Rick Bright is the chief executive of Bright Global Health and former deputy assistant secretary for preparedness and response and director of the Biomedical Advanced Research and Development Authority (BARDA) in the US Department of Health and Human Services. In this role, he directed public-private partnerships that led to the FDA approval of over 60 new vaccines, drugs and diagnostics for public health and national security threats. He is an international expert in biodefense, emergency preparedness and response, pharmaceutical innovation, vaccine, drug and diagnostics development. He is a member of the Council on Foreign Relations a senior fellow of the Foreign Policy Association and serves on advisory boards for CEPI, FIND, the 100 Days Mission, the New York Academy of Sciences' International Science Reserve, and a member of the National Academy of Science's Forum on Microbial Threats. Dr. Bright received a PhD in immunology and molecular pathogenesis from Emory University and

a BS, magna cum laude, in biology and physical Sciences from Auburn University at Montgomery.

Dr. Kimberly Dodd

Dr. Kim Dodd is a veterinarian and virologist with extensive expertise in outbreak response and emerging infectious diseases. Currently the director of the Michigan State University Veterinary Diagnostic Laboratory (MSU VDL), Kim works closely with state and federal animal and public health officials to prepare for and respond to emerging animal disease events. Her laboratory is the only laboratory approved to test animals for highly pathogenic avian influenza (HPAI) in Michigan, a state heavily impacted by the ongoing outbreak. Prior to her role at the MSU VDL, Kim served as director of the USDA Foreign Animal Disease Diagnostic Laboratory (FADDL), a national and international reference laboratory for high-consequence animal diseases. Before joining USDA, she supported laboratory capacity-strengthening efforts in West and Central Africa as Senior Scientist at Metabiota. Her passion for diagnostics started at the CDC Viral Special Pathogens Branch, where she studied hemorrhagic fever viruses and managed field diagnostic laboratories, most recently during the 2014-15 West Africa Ebola outbreak. Kim received her DVM and PhD from the University of California-Davis School of Veterinary Medicine and her BA in Psychology and MS in Disease Ecology from the University of Virginia.

Dr. François Elvinger

François Elvinger is a Professor of Veterinary Epidemiology, Associate Dean for Diagnostic Operations and Government Relations, and Executive Director of the Cornell University College of Veterinary Medicine Animal Health Diagnostic Center & New York State Veterinary Diagnostic Laboratory. Previously, he held a faculty position as veterinary epidemiologist at the University of Georgia Veterinary Diagnostic and Investigational Laboratory in Tifton, Georgia (1990-1997), then moved to the Large Animal Clinical Sciences Department, Production Management Medicine at the Virginia-Maryland College of Veterinary Medicine at Virginia Tech in Blacksburg, Virginia. He was the founding director of the Virginia Tech Public Health Program with the first veterinary college-based MPH degree program in 2010, and founding head the Population Health Sciences Department, before joining Cornell in 2015.

He is a Diplomate of the American College of Veterinary Preventive Medicine (1994) and European College of Veterinary Public Health (2005), recipient of the 2007 United States Animal Health Association USDA Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service Administrator's Award and the 2022 American Association of Veterinary Laboratory Diagnosticians Pope Award, with research, teaching and service interests in surveillance methodology and risk factors for high impact disease and validation of diagnostic tests in particular for infectious including zoonotic diseases. He obtained his veterinary and Doctor of Veterinary Medicine degrees at the Hannover Veterinary School in Germany (1981, 1983), his Ph.D. from the University of Florida (1990).

Dr. Sarah Tomlinson

Dr. Tomlinson is a Senior Leader for Science and Information Technology for Veterinary Services (VS) within the Animal and Plant Health Inspection Services (APHIS) of the USDA, where she serves in multiple cross-agency coordination leadership roles including currently supporting USDA's activities and response to the current Highly Pathogenic Avian Influenza (HPAI) event in dairy cattle, as well VS' routine activities related to One Health, AMR, SARS COV 2, and emerging diseases. Previously Dr. Tomlinson served as the Associate Deputy Administrator in VS' Strategy and Policy unit and was responsible for leading the development, evaluation and implementation of strategies and policies for safeguarding animal health with a wide range of programs including office of interagency coordination, national animal health programs, animal disease traceability, import and export policies, negotiations and agreements for live animals and animal products, national emergency preparedness and incident coordination; national veterinary accreditation, and the Center for Epidemiology and Animal Health. Since joining the USDA, she has worked in a variety of other programs across VS to include coordination of the National Animal Health Laboratory Network, Assistant Director of the National Surveillance Unit, and an epidemiology veterinary medical officer. Dr. Tomlinson received her Doctorate of Veterinary Medicine from Colorado State University, and practiced large animal medicine prior to joining the USDA.

Dr. Heather Bischel

Dr. Heather Bischel is an Associate Professor in the Department of Civil and Environmental Engineering at UC Davis. Her research towards safe water management includes developing new strategies to monitor viruses in wastewater and evaluate treatment efficiency. She collaborates with researchers and practitioners in public health, biostatistics, microbiology, and engineering to advance wastewater-based disease surveillance (WDS). From 2020 to 2022, Bischel led the WDS initiative of Healthy Davis Together, a public health collaboration between the City of Davis and UC Davis to combat COVID-19. Her laboratory continues wastewater monitoring at UC Davis. She also co-leads Healthy Central Valley Together (<https://healthycvtogether.org/>), a WDS partnership with public health and wastewater officials in 8 cities and 3 counties that aims to increase health equity in rural and underserved communities.

Dr. Julie Breher

Dr. Breher has over 35 years of experience in the veterinary world, and completed both her Doctor of Veterinary Medicine as well as her Master of Preventive Veterinary Medicine at the University of California Davis and immediately went into dairy cattle herd health. Her practice included hands-on bovine medicine, surgery, and obstetrics as well as consulting for nutrition, barn and parlor design, employee incentivizing, and database management. Dr. Breher then transitioned into small animal practice, eventually owning her own hospital for many years. Currently, Dr. Breher is the veterinarian at the County of San Diego Public Health Laboratory helping to further

enact its One Health initiatives including preparedness and response to the Avian Influenza crisis.