



COLLEGE OF PUBLIC HEALTH, EPIDEMIOLOGY AND HEALTH ECONOMICS

KVA ASSOCIATION ANNUAL SCIENTIFIC CONFERENCE

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Malindi

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Outline

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International practices and requirements (purposes of colleges)

- ▶ Internationally recognition of consultants/specialists college is a common practice
- ▶ Examples include European College of Veterinary Pharmacology and Toxicology, American College of Veterinary Pathology, American College of Veterinary Surgeons , Australia and New Zealand College of Veterinary Scientists, among others
- ▶ Guide the development of training, examination & accreditation of specialized disciplines in the veterinary profession

- ▶ In Kenya, the use of the title consultant or specialist implies skills, experience and knowledge up and beyond the basic degree of veterinary medicine
- ▶ A veterinarian may use the title consultant or specialist only after registration by KVB through a recognized college and in accordance with the VSVP Regulation, 2013.

Establishment of consultant colleges

- ▶ Established as per provisions of Section 14 of the VSVP Regulations 2013
- ▶ To improve the quality of training and standardization of competencies in the veterinary profession, the Regulations mandates KVB to develop guidelines for the establishment of Colleges of Veterinary Consultants in the various major areas of specialization.
- ▶ Three colleges have applied for establishment;
 - College of Veterinary Public Health, Epidemiology and Health Economics
 - College of Veterinary Surgeons
 - College of Pathobiology
- ▶ CVPHE&HE already established, others in process of establishment
- ▶ There is still room to establish others

Establishment of CVPHE&HE

- ▶ Established on 17th December 2019
- ▶ Inaugurated on 3rd March 2020
- ▶ With the following founder members
 - Prof. William Ogara
 - Prof. Jackson Ombui
 - Dr. Christopher Wanga
 - Dr. Francis Gakuya
 - Dr. Bernard Bett
 - Dr. Salome Wanyoike

Objectives of CPHE&HE

- ▶ The College is a non-profit organization answerable to the KVB and shall not pursue political interests.
- ▶ The main objective of the College shall be to advance the quality of Veterinary practice in Kenya by increasing the competence of those who are active in the specialized fields of Veterinary Public Health, Epidemiology and Health Economics.
- ▶ These objectives will be achieved by;
 - ▶ Developing guidelines for postgraduate education in the respective disciplines on behalf of the KVB.
 - ▶ Accrediting Consultants/Specialists/Experts in the specialized fields of Veterinary Public Health, Epidemiology and Health Economics.
 - ▶ Identify and in consultation with the CPD sub-committee develop and facilitate Continuing Professional Development programmes in these disciplines.
 - ▶ Encouraging research and other contributions including professional meetings, journal publications, workshops and conferences to improve expertise in the disciplines.

Membership Categories & Requirements

▶ **Categories**

- Founder members
- Members
- Honorary Members

➤ **Requirements;**

Founder member

- ▶ Registered as veterinary surgeon by KVB
- ▶ Qualifications exceeding those proposed as necessary for appointment of ordinary member
- ▶ Be recognized as qualified specialists by peers and;
- ▶ At least 10 years experience in the speciality and by teaching, research or practice have contributed significantly to the development of the specialty
- ▶ Have advanced training (PhD) or equivalent in the specialty; have demonstrated competency through teaching, research or practice in the speciality to which the individual most of his/her professional time
- ▶ Be author of at least 10 significant publications in peer-reviewed journals resulting from research or practise in the specialty or 5 consultancy reports in relevant speciality

- ▶ Spend at least 60% of their time in the specialty based on a normal working week of 40 hours
- ▶ Be practicing or licensed to practice in Kenya
- ▶ Practice scientific evidence-based veterinary medicine which complies with animal welfare legislation

Member

- ▶ Veterinarians registered by the Kenya Veterinary Board (KVB).
- ▶ In addition, the member should have;
- ▶ At least fifteen (15) years of proven defined working experience, as demonstrated by research and scientific publication, attendance of seminars, workshops, conferences, and CPD courses in the specialized fields of Veterinary Public Health, Epidemiology and Health Economics;
Or
- ▶ Masters degree or equivalent qualification from an institution recognised by the KVB and the CUE and at least ten (10) years of proven experience, through publication or seminar/workshop attendances in continuing education in the area in the specialized fields of Veterinary Public Health, Epidemiology and Health Economics; **Or**

- ▶ PhD degree or similar qualification from an institution recognised by the KVB and the CUE and five (5) years of proven experience, through publication or seminar/workshop attendances in continuing education in the in the specialized fields of Veterinary Public Health, Epidemiology and Health Economics”

Honorary membership

- ▶ The CVPHE\$HE may confer Honorary Membership status on persons who have made exceptional contributions to the specific discipline of the College.
- ▶ Honorary members shall have all the rights and privileges of members of the College, except the right to vote or hold office in the College.
- ▶ Nomination for honorary membership shall be made through the sponsorship of two members.
- ▶ The sponsors shall furnish the Executive Secretary with such information concerning the nominee, as is required by the Executive Committee, including updated curriculum vitae.

Scope and Significance

- ▶ CVPHE&HE will focus on specific thematic areas in its specialized fields (Public health, Epidemiology, Animal Health Economics) **and**,
- ▶ Emerging challenges in subject areas which includes;
 - Zoonotic and infectious diseases
 - Epidemics, pandemics and emerging & re-emerging diseases
 - Diagnostics
- ▶ It will have foundational strategic goals which will include;
 - **Capacity building** - education & training
 - **Applied research**
 - **Outreach**
- ▶ These will be aligned to KVB priorities

► **It will also;**

- Bring partners together focused on topics and specific subjects within the its scope.
- ✓ Come up with **models for improved surveillance, laboratory work and workforce capacity**
- Qualitatively and quantitatively identify where capacities lies with an aim of measuring impacts in health, economics, food security, wildlife conservation etc through the OH approach (human, animal & environmental health)
- Build capacity to **handle the pathogen aspects by creating deeper knowledge of pathogen dynamics** including laboratory diagnostic capacity

- Enhance transdisciplinarity with other specialties i.e. **connect with other disciplines for problem solving**
- Have a primary plan to catalyze activities with a focus **on knowledge and skill set** for training and future generations of scientists, institutional and individual capacities

What is the college we want to achieve?

- ▶ To mobilize investment in science and expertise aligned with resources
- ▶ To increase collaboration across networks & partners for engaged scholarships
- ▶ Seek to deepen and expand health sector's academic strength and promote research and policies

Governance

- ▶ CVPHE&HE will have a constitution and a steering committee with a Chairman, Secretary and Treasurer as provided for in the KVB guidelines on establishment of Kenya Colleges of Veterinary Consultants
- ▶ It will also have program committees and project teams that will lead operational design and subject matter development
- ▶ The program committees and project teams will be led by senior researchers/academicians from steering committee and membership
- ▶ This will provide **opportunity for scientists to showcase research and to contribute to the complex challenges facing us with the veracity** required.

Progress made so far

- ▶ College established and inaugurated
- ▶ Constitution drafted
- ▶ Founder members in place
- ▶ Members identified to lead specific thematic areas
- ▶ Invitation of additional members ongoing

Reference documents

- ▶ VSVP Act, 2011
- ▶ VSVP Regulations, 2013
- ▶ VSVP (Code of Ethics) Regulations 2015
- ▶ Guidelines for the Establishment of Kenya Colleges of Veterinary Consultants
- ▶ Draft Constitution of CPHE&HE

Closing remarks

- ▶ The KVB and KVA are organisations/entities for the promotion, growth and establishment of the profession
- ▶ However, the profession is one that cannot be divided in terms of areas of deployment, practice or affiliations in our discourse.
- ▶ Significant is the image of the veterinarian in the bigger picture in Kenya as it occupies a niche in the socio-economic development of the country
- ▶ The profession is a game and we are players in the game, we score when each of us play his/her role appropriately and correctly.
- ▶ Our commitment is our collective future

- ▶ Covid-19 has exposed **clear challenges and vulnerability** to zoonosis, infectious diseases and pandemics that have caused economic disruption and slump.
- ▶ This underpins the significance and timeliness of the college

Acknowledgement and Thank You

- Kenya Veterinary Board
- College of Public Health, Epidemiology and Health Economics
- Kenya Veterinary Association