

February 26, 2009

Dear Drs. Kahn, Kaplan and Monath:

I am writing to offer the support of the American College of Veterinary Microbiologists (ACVM) to the One Health Initiative. The membership of the ACVM is comprised of individuals who are experts and leaders in the fields of Food Animal Diseases, Companion Animal Diseases, Comparative Medicine, Zoonotic Diseases, Emerging Disease (human and animal) and Public Health. As a group we feel compelled to share our knowledge and expertise with the One Health Initiative to support and advance the goals of this organization.

ACVM members have a firm understanding of the need for collaboration among veterinarians, physicians, public health scientists and other medical professionals as key to the promotion of health among people and animals. Because many of us study infectious diseases we also have a clear understanding of the risks that the human population faces in the future as we increase our dependence on domestic animals and continue to invade the habitat of wild animals to support our agricultural and housing needs. We acknowledge as a group that a "One Health" approach to mitigating these risks is the best means of assuring the future survival of mankind.

The ACVM can serve as a powerful resource and ally for the One Health Initiative in terms of expertise, leadership and vision. We ask that you call on our organization to lend support to your programs and to further the grand vision for a unified human-animal medical approach to combat disease. Please note that Dr. Chris Hayhow (buckeyeone@kc.rr.com), Secretary-Treasurer of ACVM can also serve as a contact person for ACVM.

Sincerely,

James R. Fahey, MS, PhD, DVM, DACVM

Vice President, American College of Veterinary Microbiologists

Chief of Diagnostic Services

The Jackson Laboratory

600 Main Street

Bar Harbor, Maine 04609

jim.fahey@jax.org

ph 207-288-6036