

Scotland's Veterinary Surveillance Intelligence Unit



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What is the Veterinary Surveillance Intelligence Unit?

An innovative Scottish System that generates and communicates information to improve animal health, production and welfare; reduce zoonotic disease, and create innovative One Health solutions to complex health challenges.

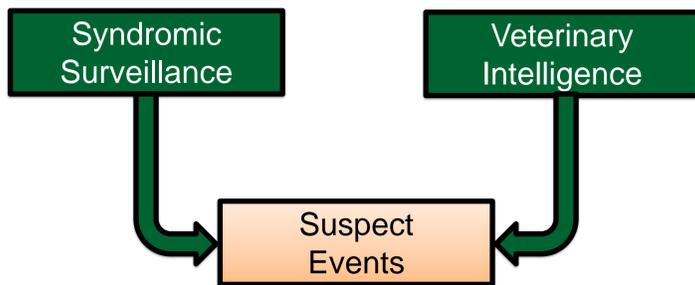
A Collaboration Between Two SRUC Teams.

1. Veterinary Services. Consisting of:
a. Veterinary diagnostic laboratory network
b. Veterinary Intelligence: veterinary investigation officers (VIOs) and veterinary pathologists operating through a network of veterinary surveillance necropsy centres (4) and surveillance hubs (3) supporting the private veterinary practitioners of Scottish livestock keepers

2. Epidemiology Research Unit
 Epidemiologists, database specialists, statisticians, disease modellers, and social scientists

Creating an Early Warning System with High Se and Sp.

Maximise System Sensitivity



Maximise sensitivity

The system will detect emerging livestock health/disease issues and zoonotic diseases with high sensitivity (early in the course of an epidemic) as “suspect events”

Syndromic surveillance

All Scottish animal health, and other data that have potential for identifying important disease events will be evaluated and included in the syndromic surveillance system.

Veterinary Intelligence

The VIOs speak frequently with PVPs across Scotland (and beyond) and are often among the first to be made aware of emerging animal health issues.

Maximise System Specificity

Maximising Specificity is essential
 Highly sensitive surveillance systems generate false positive signals
Suspect Event Investigation
 All suspect events are thoroughly investigated to confirm their status
 VIOs, many who are livestock sector specialists will conduct farm investigations with the support of the Veterinary Diagnostic laboratory Network

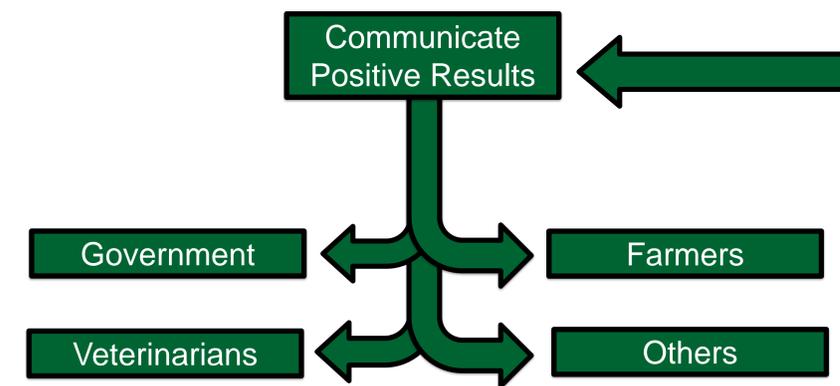
Suspect Event Investigation

Confirmed Positive
 It is an:
 Emerging disease
 Foreign disease
 Public health risk

Confirmed Negative
 It is not an:
 Emerging disease
 Foreign disease
 Public health risk

Both confirmed positive and confirmed negative health events will provide valuable information.

Communication



Confirmed Positive Events
 Rapid communication to practicing veterinarians, farmers and government through the veterinary intelligence networks
Confirmed Negative Results
 Will be compiled with other data to produce veterinary intelligence
 Communication products will be tailored to each stakeholder group's needs