



<http://www.onehealthinitiative.com/>

***“One Health is the collaborative efforts of multiple disciplines working locally, nationally, and globally to attain optimal health for people, animals, plants and our environment.”***

*“One Health implementation will help protect and/or save untold millions of lives in our generation and for those to come.”*

*“Between animal and human medicine there are no dividing lines--nor should there be.”*

Rudolf Virchow, MD (the father of cellular pathology)

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## ***One Health Sweden***

*The Swedish One Health network is an example of an informal but successful network for physicians, veterinarians, ecologists, biologists, philosophers and others with an interest in human and animal health, with a focus on zoonotic infections and antibiotic resistance.*

### **Building the network**

Combating emerging infections requires an approach whereby researchers take into account the One Health perspective. In the spring of 2010 a meeting of researchers from across Sweden with a primary focus on zoonotic infections convened. The aim of the meeting was to finally tear down the walls that existed between institutions, between government agencies and independent researchers, and instead build bridges of collaboration. The meeting resulted in the creation of the One Health Sweden network. The network was initiated to stimulate interdisciplinary collaborations with the potential to increase knowledge of the emergence, spread, and effects of infectious disease in humans, domestic animals, and wildlife. This was done by providing a platform upon which researchers from multiple medical and ecological disciplines can interact and create synergies.

### **Activities of the network**

Since then, the network has arranged annual scientific conferences with invited national and international speakers, informal researcher pubs with short presentations – often given by junior scientists – and a number of seminars targeted at policy makers, politicians and other stakeholders outside the academic world. The overall aim is to increase the awareness of emerging and reemerging zoonotic diseases, the importance of proper disease surveillance, the threats linked to irresponsible use of antimicrobial drugs, and the need for cooperation across disciplines for researchers, clinicians and public health staff. Teaching materials for secondary schools and colleges has been produced and distributed. As part of this new movement we also launched a new multidisciplinary journal - *Infection Ecology & Epidemiology*.

## **The Infection Ecology and Epidemiology Journal**

<http://www.infectionecologyandepidemiology.net/index.php/iee>

*Infection Ecology & Epidemiology* aims at being a truly international forum to stimulate inter-disciplinary collaborations dealing with a range of subjects from the plethora of infections in humans and domestic animals, over diseases that have implications for wildlife ecology, to advanced virology and bacteriology. The journal specifically welcomes studies from the developing world, and studies in which researchers from multiple medical and ecological disciplines collaborate to increase our knowledge of the emergence, spread, and effect of new and re-emerging infectious diseases in humans, domestic animals, and wildlife. The journal's main areas of interest include, but are not limited to, zoonotic microorganisms, vector-borne infections, gastrointestinal pathogens, antimicrobial resistance, and microorganisms in a changing environment.

With the launch of *Infection Ecology & Epidemiology* it is our ambition to do away with the boundaries between fields. We have created a journal whose scope specifically encompasses interdisciplinary studies, which seeks to publish 'under the same roof' research results from the fields of human medicine, veterinary medicine, and ecology. In addition, for maximum global dissemination we also decided to make the journal freely available online so as not to lock up this important research and reserve it for only those who can afford to pay a subscription.

*Infection Ecology & Epidemiology* is affiliated with One Health Sweden in Uppsala, Sweden and is published by Co-Action Publishing. As one of the first Open Access journals in this multidisciplinary field, it aspires to become a first-option source of information on infectious disease ecology and epidemiology. The journal has already become Medline indexed. We will process any manuscripts swiftly and, if they hold the required quality, publish them online for the world to read.

During 2013, papers will be published free of charge - please submit your manuscript now!

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**Dr. Olsen** is a recognized One Health leader and longstanding One Health supporter/advocate. He also serves on the One Health Initiative Autonomous *pro bono* team's Honorary Advisory Board  
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