



WAVD Publication Endorsement, Dissemination and Funding Policy

The goal of the World Association for Veterinary Dermatology (WAVD) is to foster and encourage the development of the specialty on a global basis. To help accomplish this goal, WAVD may endorse clinical practice guidelines, review articles and other scientific papers of interest to the specialty. The Association may also help disseminate publications it has endorsed by inclusion on or linkage to the WAVD website. Additionally, financial assistance may be provided to establish Free Access or Open Access for publications which the Association determines to be of universal importance to the specialty. These policy guidelines will be followed to ensure a fair and consistent review process.

1. Clinical practice guidelines and review articles developed and/or formally approved by a Member Organization (MO) or an Affiliate Organization (AO) may receive WAVD endorsement with the ability to use the WAVD logo on the publication after review and approval of the WAVD Administrative Committee (AC). Endorsement may be formally requested by the MO or AO, or the WAVD AC may initiate the endorsement process if it believes the publication is of sufficient value to veterinary dermatology. Eighty-percent (80%) or greater approval of a quorum of the voting AC Members is required for endorsement. AC members with conflicts of interest associated with a publication will recuse themselves from the approval process. The AC will be given no more than 28 days for review, discussion and approval. Less than 80% approval will result in rejection of endorsement by WAVD.
2. Publication endorsement may be formally requested by an author(s) or a non-affiliated organization, or the WAVD AC may initiate the endorsement process if it believes a publication is of sufficient value to veterinary dermatology. Clinical practice guidelines and review articles from such non-affiliated organizations will first be reviewed by the WAVD Publications Subcommittee (PS) to identify any issues or questions and make a recommendation to the AC. If significant issues or questions are identified by the PS then the paper would likely be rejected for endorsement. However, if the PS feels it appropriate then the subcommittee may seek input from individuals with expertise external to the AC. AC members with conflicts of interest associated with a publication will recuse themselves from the approval process. Approval of at least 80% of the voting AC Members is required for endorsement. The AC will be given no more than 28 days for review, discussion and approval after a recommendation is made by the PS.

3. The WAVD review process is based upon two sets of criteria:
 - (i) The paper must be acceptable based upon standards adopted for high quality refereed scientific journals, and
 - (ii) The paper contains material that is likely to be of interest and value to a high proportion of practicing dermatologists world-wide at either the generalist and/or the specialist level. Alternatively, the paper may contain information of interest and value to veterinarians at the general practitioner level.

As stated above, special consideration is given to clinical practice guidelines and review articles of clinical importance to the specialty. The decision from the AC is simply approval or rejection for endorsement of the manuscript. The AC does not suggest material changes in content nor does it edit manuscripts.

4. The following or similar statement will be added to any publication endorsed by WAVD: *WAVD cannot be held responsible for errors or any consequences arising from the use of information contained in this article. Readers need to bear this in mind and be aware of the prescribing laws pertaining to their own countries.*
5. Funding for Free Access or Open Access to publications will be considered. The organization requesting funding will make a formal application using the approved WAVD Financial Support Application Form which can be accessed from www.wavd.org. Endorsement must be approved using one of the processes described above. Following endorsement, funding may be granted based on a majority vote of the WAVD AC.

Please contact Dr. Catherine Outerbridge, WAVD Secretary, at caouterbridge@vmth.ucdavis.edu with questions or for additional information.

Approved and implemented: 11 September 2017