



# PETCARE INNOVATION EUROPE

3-4 May | Berlin

Q&A with Dr. Danny Holmes,  
President, FECAVA

## Could you tell us more about yourself and your vision for the small animal veterinary profession in Europe?

FECAVA stands for the Federation of Companion Animal Veterinary Associations. We have 37 country members; some countries share membership between 2 National Associations. We aim to offer leadership on issues facing the profession across Europe. We provide a forum for exchange of ideas with veterinarians in different countries. We directly, as a partner, and indirectly as lobbyists aim to influence the EU Institutions and laws. We support education and standards within the profession. We believe having high animal welfare standards is key to producing successful veterinarians. Our vision is unity of purpose: to support veterinarians across Europe to develop their skills and tools so they can offer the highest standards of care. In the future, animal owners can expect an equal standard of care in all corners of Europe.

## What are the biggest challenges facing the veterinary industry this year?

The biggest challenges are brachycephalic breed abnormalities, antimicrobial resistance, animal welfare and pet travel, mental health of veterinarians, and the availability of veterinarians in Europe.

## What can we as an industry do to help veterinarians?

Pet innovation will bring many changes to the profession. In a general sense, veterinarians are open and enthusiastic to innovators that can

enhance the Vet-Client-Patient-Relationship (VCPR).



## We're introducing the FECAVA prize this year in Berlin, could you tell us a bit more about what you are looking for from start-ups who are looking to improve pet health industry?

We feel FECAVA need to be active in this space. It is very common to find innovators poorly understand the VCPR and the dynamics of veterinary practice. Our prize hopefully will encourage innovations to engage with the profession in a positive manner. We are important gate keepers who have the ear of the average pet owner. This can be utilised to develop a symbiotic relationship with innovators.

## What are you most looking forward to at Petcare Innovation Europe?

The Vet Tech track sessions look very interesting. I am also looking forward to networking with colleagues and innovators using the Swapcard platform. I definitely will not miss the Best in Show Spotlight!

*Want to hear more from FECAVA? Connect with them in Berlin as they discuss how you can improve practice efficiency and technology integration whilst reducing adoption time and workload for veterinarians.*