



Who's Who in One Health

COHEART KVASU

<http://coheart.ac.in/>



CENTER for ONE HEALTH EDUCATION ADVOCACY RESEARCH and TRAINING

Kerala Veterinary and Animal Sciences University
Pookode, Wayanad Kerala - 673576

1. Organization/ Group Name and website url:

COHEART KVASU

Centre for one Health Education, Advocacy, Research and Training

Kerala Veterinary and Animal Sciences University

<http://coheart.ac.in/>

Email: coheart@kvasu.ac.in, onehealthindia@gmail.com

2. Description and Scope of One Health Activities

COHEART was established by Kerala Veterinary and Animal Sciences University, INDIA in February 2014. The Centre has emerged as a need for Institutional responsibility and global networking by bringing together various health professionals. The Center is currently running 2 courses (see below) and aims on cutting edge research using One health tool in collaboration with varied Departments both nationally and globally.

3. Key Collaborators / Participants and contact information (Email address, Telephone, and if they agree to share contact information on this posting in case One Health stakeholders want to contact them)

Nambiar Prejit, MVSc, PhD

Officer in Charge and One Health Course Director

prejit@kvasu.ac.in

Mobile: +91-9497679630

4. Type of Organization

Academic Institution

5. Address of Organization/ Group:

Centre for One Health Education, Advocacy, Research and Training
Kerala Veterinary and Animal Sciences University
Pookode, Wayanad
Kerala, India 673576

6. Sources of funding for Organization/Group:

Kerala Veterinary and Animal Sciences University- Plan and Non Plan Fund and EAP's

7. One Health Course/Certificate/Training Offered by Organization or Group

Title of Course/Certificate/Training: The Center is currently running 2 courses:

- a. PG Certificate in One Health
- b. PG Diploma in One Health.

Contact person's name and email: Dr. Prejit, Officer- In charge, COHEART

E-mail: prejit@kvasu.ac.in

Link to informational web page: <http://www.coheart.ac.in>

8. Other One Health Activities/Initiatives

A. Title/description of program: **FOOD SAFETY**

- a) **Food Safety awareness in school children:** This involves hand hygiene, clean food handling, other hygiene and safety aspects. In this context COHEART conducted training programmes at different schools in Kerala. Each of the training sessions is associated with quiz and 10 students from each school were awarded certificate as One Health Angels and prizes were distributed.
- b) **Training for selected councillors of Grama panchayat and Block panchayat representatives of Kerala:** This involves training on the importance of food safety and quality meat and milk production. The programmes are aimed to impart practical knowledge on measures to assure food safety and to deduct actions that are to be implemented to help Wayanad emerge as a safe food destination.
- c) **Training for animal Handlers in slaughter house:** Meat handlers/processors were trained in the topic of hygienic meat production and meat borne zoonoses. COHEART trains meat handlers and processors at the Meat Factory. The topics concentrated on humane and hygienic slaughter to ensure quality meat production were discussed during the session.
- d) **Food Quality assurance training** of laboratory officers, meat products certifiers/veterinarians in charge of slaughter house, food safety officers. COHEART conducted technical training sessions to enlighten the participants on the current trends on the safety and quality management of foods of animal origin and clean meat production.

- e) The Centre conducts series of awareness programmes for the personnel working at different food business establishments of the state with the objective of improving quality of food being served at such institutions to ensure consumer safety and prevent the occurrence of foodborne diseases.

B. Title/description of program: ZONOSSES

- a) Awareness programmes on Avian influenza: During the Avian influenza outbreak in the three districts of Kerala the Centre conducted a series of awareness programmes for the public throughout the state and with regard to this released a documentary film entitled “ Pakshi Pani Bheedhi Venda” which is showcased in youtube.
- b) Epidemiological Surveillance in KFD affected tribal colony: Cheyambam tribal colony of Wayanad district recorded the maximum number of cases of KFD during the 2015 outbreak. In this context the officials of COHEART conducted post surveillance study at the colony in order to understand the risk factors for the widespread occurrence of the disease and to assimilate the level of knowledge that the inhabitants have regarding the disease and its control measures. The data so generated could be used for implementation of steps to prevent the future occurrence of the disease.
- c) Stakeholder’s workshop on “Development of strategies for the control of Kyasanur Forest Disease in Wayanad”. The main objective of the workshop was to formulate integrated guidelines to be followed in the wake of the KFD outbreak in the district by adopting one health approach. This led to collaborated activities of the state health services along with the forest department, tribal development department, State animal husbandry department and the Veterinary university.

C. Title/description of program: FOOD SECURITY

COHEART organized one day seminar on “prospects of homeopathy in veterinary practice for assuring food security” as an initiative to bring collaborative research in the field of veterinary medicine by adopting the principles of homeopathy. The recommendations of the seminar which included the introduction of a course on the application of homeopathic practices in veterinary service.

D. Title/description of program: ONE HEALTH COURSES

COHEART offers PG Diploma and PG Certificate courses in One Health and is suitable for health related professionals interested in integrating the knowledge and application of human medicine, veterinary medicine and public health. The exploration of interconnectedness helps us to realise various factors and conditions of healthy existence. The course is designed to provide in depth training on One Health in a modular flexible format, ideal for health related professionals who wish to achieve a world- class award while maintaining busy professional and personal commitments.

9. Brief History of Your Organization's One Health Involvement:

COHEART was established on February, 2014 with the objectives of development of closer professional interactions, collaboration, and educational opportunities across the veterinary and medical professions, together with their allied sciences, in order to improve the life of all species. The centre upholding its mandate played a pivotal role in addressing the issue of food security and safety and control or surveillance of zoonotic diseases. The centre pioneered the One Health approach in the state which was practiced by State government departments to control zoonotic disease outbreaks such as avian influenza and Kyasanur forest disease. The meticulous water testing and screening programmes conducted by the Centre have helped to curb the occurrence of Cholera in many parts of the state.

10. Additional Information

(Include whatever else you would like to have posted about your Institution's / Organization's One Health efforts)

- Centre acts as a resource centre for food safety, zoonoses, public health and environmental health.
- The centre's official website acts as a resource point with regard to developments in the field of science and also provides information with regard to health issues at Man- Animal and Environment interface in India.
- In order to assure food safety in the state the centre is pioneering the development of a food safety software which would aid the food establishments to provide the consumers with quality food without causing any economical liability.
- By screening the One Health activities conducted by professionals from various sectors the Centre presents the One Health award to professionals every year.