

Abi Collinson

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Biography:

I qualified as a veterinary surgeon from the Royal Veterinary College in 2009. After graduating I completed an internship with WSPA in their veterinary disaster management department. I then spent 6 months in India, researching the setting up of a community animal health-worker project in Rajasthan. Following this I worked in general practice in the UK for a number of years. In 2013 I was a member of the Veterinary team for Pacific Partnership, a U.S Navy led civil-military humanitarian mission to a number of nations in the South Pacific region. Since then I have combined working as a locum vet in the UK with working for various projects overseas, including further work developing the project in Rajasthan, working as an instructor at the World Vets Latin America training centre in Nicaragua and another mission with the U.S Navy to Latin America and the Caribbean. I started a PhD at the centre for Evidence-based Veterinary Medicine in January 2017.

Degree registration:

PhD, due for completion May 2020

School research theme:

Population Health and Welfare

Research topic:

The role of surgical sterilisation in rabies control programs

Summary of research:

Increasing emphasis is being put on canine-mediated rabies as a neglected disease which still kills tens of thousands of people every year. Often rabies control programs are carried out by organisations whose primary aim is improving animal welfare. Rabies control using canine vaccination has been well documented, however in practice many organisations carrying out these programs also perform surgical sterilisation. This project will investigate the role of sterilisation in rabies control, with the overall aim of developing evidence-based principles that will facilitate the planning, implementation and evaluation of dog population management and rabies control programs.

Research supervisors:

Dr Jenny Stavisky, Dr Rachel Dean, Dr Marnie Brennan, Prof Malcolm Bennett

Primary funding source:

Dogs Trust

Publications: None to date