



# WEBSITE

WILDLIFE AND EXOTIC VETERINARY SPECIAL INTEREST GROUP

## A FEW WORDS BY THE EDITOR

DR. CHARISHA FRASER

Hello Everyone !

Still not too late to wish a Happy New Year as we are still in the first month of 2024. Our little fraternity has grown so much in just over 2 years. We have also had the privilege to coordinate and organise some valuable and knowledgeable scientific meetings and programs related to exotic and wildlife medicine.

We are standing by our vision of *“To bring the veterinary community together to promote wildlife, aquarium and exotic animal’s healthcare, welfare and conservation”*, hence the many programs that have been steadfastly organised to give the best to our members.

The WEVSITE 2024, Issue 1, brings a few insights on managing big cat cases through the importance of observation and medical approach. Thank you to our amazing and dedicated zoo vets Dr. Kavitha and Dr. Zahidah for sharing these important cases to the community. Thank you Dr. Anwar for putting together year 2023’s exciting events that took place.

Last but not least we are pleased to announce the appointment of Associate Professor Dato Dr. Vellayan a/l Subramaniam as a Life Honorary Member of WEVSIG. This charismatic and determined individual has so much of experience in the field of exotic and zoo medicine and we are more than happy to have him on board with us to share his valuable knowledge in helping us to care for the beautiful animals that we are privileged to work with. I hope that this issue inspires each one of us as we take on our daily responsibilities of being a veterinarian. Cheers !

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# CONSTIPATION IN A WHITE BENGAL TIGER

BY  
DR. KAVITHA JAYASEELAN

Observation! Observation! Observation!

I was told when I was a veterinary student many years ago that it is crucial to have good observational skills for anyone working with animals.

Vaani and Veena are siblings. These two 14 year old female White Bengal Tigers are housed together in Zoo Negara Malaysia. They will only defecate in their exhibits daily, almost never in their night dens. Interestingly, they also have a routine whereby both of them will defecate at specific spots – one by the very edge of the moat and the other in the moat. Sometimes we use the binoculars to observe them.



One day while doing rounds, we noticed that both of them were straining to defecate and there was no faecal output. When we reviewed their diet, we discovered that there was a slight change to their diet. They were both fed raw chicken drumettes instead of their usual whole carcass of chicken. This is apart from the beef they get daily. We immediately stopped feeding them these drumettes.

That evening lactulose was added to their drinking water. The next day the same thing happened and more lactulose was added in the drinking water. Veena defecated very hard faeces the third day. By day four, she was not straining anymore and her faecal consistency had improved.

"Study  
nature, love  
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FRANK LLOYD WRIGHT



That evening lactulose was added to their drinking water. The next day the same thing happened and more lactulose was added in the drinking water. Veena defecated very hard faeces the third day. By day four, she was not straining anymore and her faecal consistency had improved.

Vaani however was still straining and had only defecated a small amount of extremely hard faeces. Lactulose was not doing the trick! Her appetite reduced and she was observed straining more often than usual.

We decided to radiograph her abdomen and discovered then that she had impacted faeces in the last quarter of her large intestine/ colon. We performed retention enema and attempted digital fragmentation but it was not successful because the impaction was too cranial and the stools were too hardened. We finally modified some tools and was able to achieve dis-impaction and fragmentation was done manually. This was made possible only with guided gastrointestinal endoscopy. A couple of days later, thankfully Vaani was back to her normal self and her appetite improved and she was defecating well formed faeces without straining.



See why observation is so important, perhaps if we had observed Vaani sooner, the lactulose would have worked for her as it did for Veena. Also had we not observed these tigers in the exhibit, we would not have been able to even diagnose them until it may have been too late. The continuous straining could have led to obstipation, megacolon or could have even caused the walls of the colon to rupture. We could have lost these tigers!

Having said that, this constipation could have been prevented if the animals were not fed the drumettes to begin with. Some may say that tigers in the wild will chew on bones of various prey so why would feeding them these drumettes be an issue then? Probably because they were fed the drumettes daily in large quantities over a period of time. The ratio of bone to meat was too high.



Good observational skills and good husbandry will save you a lot of trouble! Never take them for granted!

Vaani weighed 162kgs and was induced with with 2.5mg/kg Ketamine and 0.5mg/kg Xylazine. She was maintained with both injectables throughout the colonoscopy and was reversed with yohimbine 0.1mg/kg at the end of procedure.

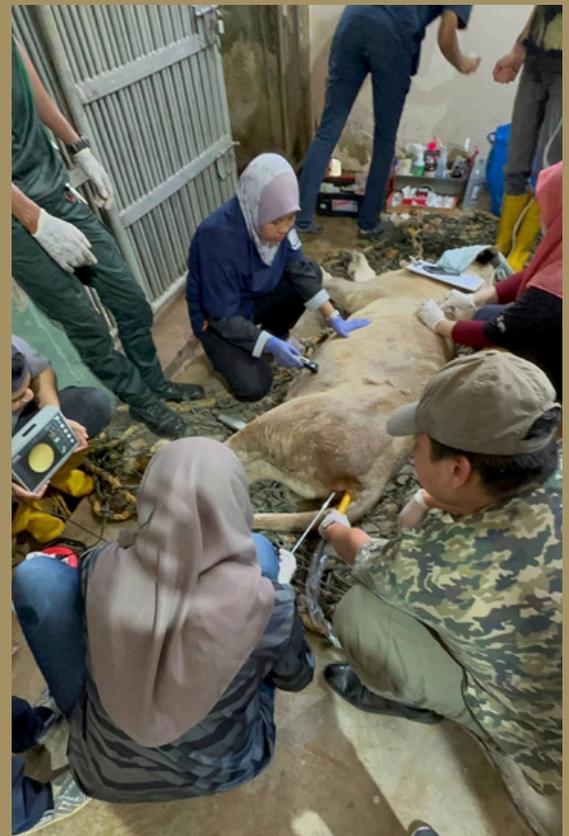
She was administered with 15mg/kg amoxicillin clavulanic acid, 0.2mg/kg meloxicam, 10ml of Catosal and 10ml of Ornipural. Fluids were given intravenously. She recovered uneventfully.

# Case Report: Uterine Lavage as A Treatment for Postpartum Endometritis in African Lion (*Panthera leo krugeri*)

By  
Dr. Zahidah Izzati

## Case History

In May 2023, Lala, a five-year-old female nulliparous African Lion (*Panthera leo krugeri*) in Zoo Melaka was showing signs of inappetence for three days prior to parturition and continued 8 days post-parturition. Lala gave birth to two live cubs within a 2-hour interval. Both cubs were active but suckling was only observed after 6 hours. During the next few days, Lala expelled four dead foetuses, had dark foul-smelling vaginal discharge and general condition deteriorated.



All observations and medications administered are summarized in the Table below:

DATE	OBSERVATION	MEDICATION
10.05.2023	Appetite -ve. Mucus plug found in night den. Clear yellowish discharge observed from vulva. Demeanour restless. 5.30 pm gave birth to Cub 01. 2 hours later, gave birth to Cub 02.	-
11.05.2023	1 am nursing cubs. During the day she was calm and one cub seems more vigorous than the other. Most of the nursing episode shows one cub nursing, however the other cub does not appear dehydrated and still active. 4.19 pm one dead Cub 03 expelled.	-
12.05.2023	Cub 02 appears passive and not mobile, not able to capture suckling on the cctv. Lioness moved to the next den to check on cub 02 and it was dead. Removed remains of cub 03 and found that lioness had eaten off the head and severed the limbs. Cub 01 was active, last feeding observed was around 5am. Lioness ignored calls of cub 01 and was observed straining to remove another dead cub 04. Cub 01 was removed after she continued to ignore. She was later more passive, appetite -ve. Discharge was observed from vulva and flies could be seen.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Oxytocin, 3mL, IM.</li> <li>• Marbofloxacin, 5mL, IM</li> </ul>
13.05.2023	More vocalisation observed today. Discharge and flies at vulva reduced. Rinsed vulva with tap water. Animal observed to try licking perineal area but unable to reach.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Marbofloxacin, 2.75mg/kg, 5mL, IM</li> <li>• Meloxicam 5 mL IM via dart gun.</li> </ul>
14.05.2023	Appetite improved. Observed another dead cub 05 stuck at vulva in the morning. Managed to remove manually. Animal vomited a few times after. Vomitus consisted of fluids and digested foetus remains.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Marbofloxacin, 2.75mg/kg, 5mL, IM</li> <li>• Meloxicam 5 mL, IM via dart gun.</li> </ul>
15.05.2023	Animal was less active compared to yesterday. Discharge from vulva persists. Did not respond to darting. Keeper observed drinking water but did not eat.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Betamox, 15 mL, IM,</li> <li>• Marbofloxacin, 2.75mg/kg, 5mL, IM</li> <li>• Meloxicam 5 mL, IM via dart gun.</li> </ul>
16.05.2023	Condition did not improve. Refused to leave night den. Spends most of time on lateral recumbency.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Marbofloxacin, 2.75mg/kg, 5mL, IM</li> <li>• Meloxicam 5 mL, IM and</li> <li>• Prostaglandin 1microgram/kg, 0.6mL, SC/IM via dart gun.</li> </ul>

17.05.2023	Overnight, keeper observed that she spends most of the time on lateral recumbency. Brownish discharge was observed from vagina in large amounts. During cleaning, keeper observed 3 areas with discharges. No appetite yet and generally dull. Managed to deliver fluids and supplements. Appeared brighter after fluid administration. Planned to anaesthetise for uterine lavage and ultrasound tomorrow with PERHILITAN & UPM team.	In the morning darted with Betamox 10mL, SC/IM. and coaxed her to go to the raceway. Finally obliged and was able to deliver 3L Lactated Ringers + Catosal SC. In the evening, she appears brighter and administered Meloxicam, 5mL, SC
18.05.2023	Animal appear brighter after fluid administration. Food was not offered since general anaesthesia was planned for today. Animal was sedated and uterine lavage was carried out successfully. Recovery was smooth. To offer food today and monitor for return of appetite and general health.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Betamox 10mL,</li> <li>• Meloxicam 6mL, Catosal 2mL,</li> <li>• Vitavet 15mL.</li> </ul>
19.05.2023	Ate 4/5 beef offered yesterday. Animal appeared brighter. no discharge observed. Administered meloxicam 5mL via dart gun. to continue monitor for improvement.	-

Due to the deteriorating condition and fear of retained foetus, we contacted PERHILITAN and UPM to assist us with the general anaesthesia of this lioness aiming to perform a uterine lavage. In 2006, Hildebrandt et al, described the use of uterine lavage as treatment of uterine infection-induced infertility. Using this publication as our guide, the veterinary team in Zoo Melaka, UPM theriogenology team and PERHILITAN veterinarians had an early morning discussion and briefing to plan out the treatment plans and roles.

Once everyone was agreeable to the anaesthesia and treatment plan, our team started the procedure. Lioness was anaesthetised with 2mg/kg Xylazine (Chanazine 10%, Chanelle), 3ml and 5.5mg/kg Ketamine (Ketamil 100mg/ml, Ilium), 8.25ml IM route via dart gun. Animal was carried out of the night den after the optimum plane of anaesthesia was achieved.

Animal was then placed on right lateral recumbency. A sterile swab was used to collect discharge from vagina for cytology and bacterial culture. Blood sample was collected via venipuncture for complete blood count and serum biochemistry analysis.

Ventral abdomen and inguinal region were cleaned with diluted chlorhexidine and clean water to remove debris and discharge. Cellulitis was observed around the inguinal area probably due to prolonged urine and discharge coming into contact with skin. A dog catheter, size 10FR was inserted into the vulva and extended into the uterus without resistance. Copious amounts of foul smelling, dark reddish-brown fluid was dripping out of the catheter and fluid was collected.

Transrectal ultrasound was done to guide the hysteroscope through the cervix. The cervix was not visualised using the ultrasound suggesting a fully dilated cervix. Throughout the vagina until the uterine body which is the limit of the rectal probe ~45cm, the lumen of the reproductive tract appeared deflated and void of any significant amount of fluid.

A hysteroscope was placed to view the internal structure of the reproductive tract. Vaginal and uterine wall was observed to be filled with copious amounts of debris and dark reddish fluid.

Abdominal ultrasound was carried out concurrently to locate remnants of foetuses in the reproductive tract and no foetuses were detected. Povidone iodine was diluted with normal saline to the concentration of 1% and was used to flush out debris and discharge from the uterus. Approximately 900ml of this dilution was used. Uterus was then further flushed with saline approximately 2 litres until mucosa can be seen clearly. Lastly, 200ml of Metronidazole (Metrogyl 5mg/mL, Unique) was infused into the uterus to help with termination of infection. During anaesthesia, Amoxicillin (Betamox LA, Norbrook 150) 10ml, Meloxicam (Melonex 5mg/mL, INTAS) 6ml, Multivitamin (Vitavet, Nova) 15ml were administered. Fluids were administered subcutaneously and intravenously to a total of 3 litres. Anaesthesia was reversed with Yohimbine, 6ml, half IV and half IM. Recovery was smooth and uneventful. Lala regained her appetite immediately after food was offered and returned to estrus the following month.



Uterine lavage is a technique commonly used in large animal medicine as treatment for uterine diseases. Similarly, for this case, uterine lavage was done to remove the remaining toxic degradation products of degraded foetal membranes with the goal to accelerate the healing of uterine mucosa. We were careful to use a low concentration of Povidone Iodine as disinfectant to avoid degeneration of cells at the uterine mucosa and to ensure that the disinfecting fluid was flushed out to avoid disinfectant to cause damage to the oviducts. Lala was classified as class 3 under American Society of Anesthesiologist (ASA) Physical Status Classification System and the procedure was completed in less than 2 hours without supplementary anaesthetic drugs. The procedure achieved our goals to accelerate Lala's recovery and we couldn't have done it without the assistance of PERHILITAN (Dr Zubaidah, Dr Suzana and team) and UPM team (Dr Fitri).



**EACH SPECIES IS A  
MASTERPIECE, A CREATION  
ASSEMBLED WITH EXTREME  
CARE AND GENIUS  
- E.O. WILSON**

# EXCITING EVENTS OF 2023

by  
Dr. Ali Anwar

2023 has gone by in the blink of an eye. I believe my sentiment is shared by many. I never recalled how time really passed so quickly when I am younger. However, being a family man, a veterinarian, and a member of WEVSIG, time is ticking away in a terrifying speed!

In the perspective of a young association such as WEVSIG, 2023 has been another year that we are paving our way in the veterinary community in the country and slowly in the region. We have adopted the Japanese concept of Kaizen (改善) or continuous improvement. Hence, we are proud to say that 2023 is another year that we saw ourselves progress steadily toward our vision of “Bringing Community Together to Promote Wildlife and Exotic Animals’ Healthcare, Welfare, and Conservation.”

It is also another year that we complete a few numbers of our mission to bring ourselves closer to achieve our vision. Following are some of pivotal mission that we achieved last year.

## Gibbon Health Check



In 2022, Gibbon Conservation Society (GCS) approached WEVSIG to request to organise a health assessment for all of their gibbons. This is part of their rehabilitation process of the gibbons in which it is based on the International Union of Conservation of Nature (IUCN) guide; comprehensive health assessment is a large portion of rehabilitation process. As GCS is located off grid and many miles away from nearest

human settlement, the health assessment proves to be a challenging adventure for those who were involved.

Major cooperation with universities, supplier companies, and zoological institution makes what seemingly an impossible task possible. Veterinarians and technicians from Universiti Putra Malaysia (UPM), Universiti Teknologi Mara (UiTM), Sunway Lagoon, Zoo Melaka, Medical Plus, and TransAid Solution working out of their comfort zone to do the impossible task of full health assessment on 11 white handed gibbons at GCS in 1 day! All the gibbons were anaesthetised for full physical examination, radiographed, ultrasound, a barrage of blood test, screening for infectious diseases, and TB test.

At the end of the day, the greatest news of all was one of the gibbons was diagnosed to be pregnant. This was a great news as success of gibbon rehabilitation is the release of family group and this diagnosis warms the cockles of everyone heart. Despite the challenging logistic and tight schedules, the ability of human to overcome many barriers and made sacrifices for noble course was the greatest moment of that day!

## Hoofstock Field Anaesthesia Workshop



This program was organised by Melaka Zoo team in collaboration with PERHILITAN, Farm in the City, Universiti Malaysia Kelantan (UMK), and WEVSIG. The program was directed to recently graduated Zoo veterinarians in Malaysia. The participants were given many opportunities on hands on experience in hoof stock species including preparation of dart, monitoring, and field anaesthesia. Overall, the feedback was a great success and many more programs such as this would be planned in the coming years!

## Matang Wildlife Health Assessment

As part of WEVSIG to promote greater wildlife and exotic animal healthcare through capacity building and wet labs, working together with Sarawak Forestry Cooperation, Wildlife Asia Veterinary Services (WAVES) and AnyPets Veterinary Clinic, a comprehensive health check and treatment was conducted on a number of animals in Matang Wildlife Centre, Matang, Kuching, Sarawak.

In the 3 days of intense health assessment, an orangutan, 2 sun bears, and gibbons were anaesthetised for full health assessment. The team also could find time to conduct quick assessment of a juvenile pangolin and basic health check training for reptiles and birds.

Most importantly, this wet lab offered opportunities for those that attended to learn basic and advance medical procedures as the animals were checked and treated. Wet labs would certainly be a key tool in the coming years for WEVSIG to create capacity for veterinarian in Malaysian rescue centre and zoological institution.



# Pre-Workshop Webinar



The poster features a large image of a turtle at the top. Logos for WEVSIG, TransAid Solutions (ART OF IMAGING), and ZOO & TAMAN BURUNG MELAKA are at the top left. The main title is 'REPTILE MEDICINE WORKSHOP' in large green letters. Below it, a green banner reads 'Pre-Workshop Webinars'. The poster is divided into two columns: 'LIZARD MEDICINE' and 'CHELONIAN MEDICINE'. Each column lists two trainers with their photos and affiliations, and provides the date, time, and platform for the webinar.

LIZARD MEDICINE	CHELONIAN MEDICINE
<b>TRAINERS:</b>	<b>TRAINERS:</b>
 <b>DR. TRENT VAN ZANTEN</b> (MANDAI WILDLIFE GROUP)	 <b>DR. AZLAN CHE' AMAT</b> (UNIVERSITI PUTRA MALAYSIA)
 <b>DR. ABRAHAM GABRIEL</b> (EL'S VETERINARY CENTRE)	 <b>DR. CHOY FOON SENG</b> (GLADRON CHEMICALS)
<b>DATE: 4 SEPTEMBER 2023</b> <b>TIME: 8.30PM - 10.00 PM</b> <b>PLATFORM: ZOOM</b>	<b>DATE: 6 SEPTEMBER 2023</b> <b>TIME: 8.30PM - 10.00 PM</b> <b>PLATFORM: ZOOM</b>

Two pre-workshop webinars were held a week prior to the Reptile Medicine Workshop. The aim of these webinars is to reduce the lecture or theory component of the workshop. This allows the actual day of the workshop to focus on its practical component.

WEVSIG took the opportunity to open the webinar to all members of WEVSIG as the scope of the webinar was to focus on basic biology, husbandry, common diseases, and treatment of chelonians and lizards. The webinar was conducted by the trainers of the workshops and topics given by them are related to the upcoming workshop. Overall, the webinar was a good learning session for all the members of WEVSIG including those that join the workshop.

# Reptile Medicine Workshop

This workshop is a 1-day workshop that focuses on reptile medicine. It was held in Melaka Zoo with the support of TransAid Solutions, Melaka Zoo and Zoo Negara veterinary team. The workshop was conducted after the Reptile Medicine Pre-Workshop Webinar and the 1st Scientific Meeting. The workshop focuses on practical aspect of chelonian and lizard medicine. Each participant was given ample of opportunity for hands on experience by experienced and knowledgeable trainers from Malaysia and Singapore.

Safety briefing was conducted prior to the workshop to ensure all the participants were aware of the risk and mitigation measures working with live monitor lizard and red eared sliders.

Feedback from participants were positive despite the time constraint due to many of the procedures were schedule to be taught. The organising team will look into the future to have the program to be a 2- or 3-days event to allow participants to have more time and opportunity for hands on.



# 1st Scientific Meeting

In September 2023, we held our First Scientific Meeting for our young association. This is a huge step for WEVSIG to step up its initiative to lead a scientific driven community. After months of planning, hard work, and setbacks, our First Scientific Meeting was held with great style and spirit at the Amverton Heritage Resort in Ayer Keroh. Due to the constraints of the venue, the size of the first scientific meeting has to be capped at 60 plus participants and speakers. Many apologies to those who wished to join the program but could not do so due to this reason.

As for the meeting itself, it was an extraordinary as presenters both local and international, young and old veterinarians and students proudly presented their cases, research, and experiences to our young community. The program was officiated by the deputy director general of Perhilitan Datuk Fakhrul Hatta Bin Musa with director for Perhilitan for state of Melaka Encik Petra Sulai, and the director of Zoo Melaka, Puan Zanariah Khamis

As part of the event, we organised a dinner for participants to join. The dinner was an informal event in which participants can mingle with sponsors and speakers. The dinner was also an event in which token of appreciation was given out to the committee members for 2022 to 2023 and committee members for various programs. The dinner was given the name “Jungle Mingle” by voting of participants. The participant who named the even won a prize of 1-year annual membership fee!

Overall, the first Scientific Meeting was a great success. The high participation rate and conducive atmosphere was the hallmark of the event. Let us hope next year program will have the similar spirit and vibes!



## 2nd Annual General Meeting



This is the 2nd Annual General Meeting for WEVSIG. The first was held on December 2021 in which 1st committee of 2022/2023 was elected and was done online. The second AGM is the first physical AGM and was held immediately after the 1st Scientific Meeting venue.

The participation among members for the event was commendable and important matters of the association were highlighted and address as an organisation.

The spirit throughout the meeting was joyous in which members nominating fellow acquaintances to be the new steward of this young association.

With blessings of the Almighty, the event was flawless and a new committee was elected. The new faces of stewards of the vision were elected and a meaningful journey had just begun!

## Pilot Project for Sun Bear Assessment

Based on the success of the wet lab conducted in May, a pilot project for a comprehensive health assessment was conducted on the sun bears in Matang Wildlife Centre. This pilot project was conducted to determine the feasibility to conduct large scale health assessment for sun bear in 2024. Four sun bears were anaesthetised during the health assessment and important data and knowledge were garnered for the health assessment next year.

The health assessment aimed to determine the health status of the sun bears in the rescue centre and also to establish reference for the

echocardiographic parameters, blood parameters, and dental charting. A new anaesthetic protocol for safe and effective anaesthesia on sun bear will be established. The health assessment will be conducted with Anypets Veterinary Clinic, UPM and Leong CardioVet Services. WEVSIG aims to invite students and veterinarians next year to experience and share their knowledge. We also hope that students can also use the data of the health assessment for their final year project. This health assessment will be part of WEVSIG's vision to establish a knowledge driven community in our small fraternity.



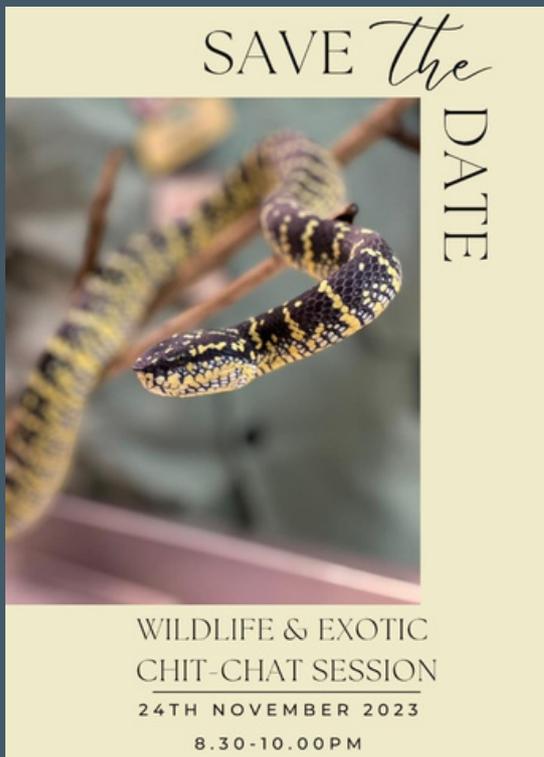
## MSAVA Affiliation

As clearly stated in our short-term vision, a young association such as WEVSIG cannot venture into the veterinary industry on its own for time being. WEVSIG needs a guiding hand to lead us into the many challenges our veterinary profession has to face in the country. We are stronger together and let us work towards our vision effectively in the many fields that we wish to pursue.

The matter of establishing affiliation with MSAVA was brought up during the 2nd AGM meeting in Melaka. The matter was unanimously supported by the attendee and by our advisor Associate Professor Dato Dr Vellayan.

MSAVA accepted our application and we are now affiliated with MSAVA. We immediately offered great discount for the exotic animal seminar in November organised by MSAVA. We were also offered to assist to organise and hold the exotic stream for the upcoming FASAVA 2024 in Kuala Lumpur next year. This is truly a testimony that affiliations with other association not only allow us to grow our association in the veterinary community but also to establish trust and cooperation with other association or bodies. We look forward to have more cooperation with MSAVA.

## Wildlife and Exotic Chit Chat Session



In 2022, we actually decided to stop the Wildlife and Exotic Chit Chat session as we were targeting to focus on physical program rather than online program. However, in August 2022, a WEVSIG member approached the committee and said that she wishes to see the chit chat session to be back again as she found the session useful for her skills development and learning. As we value every suggestion and comments to improve our program and move to achieve our vision, we reinitiate the chit chat session. A total of 10 chit chat sessions was organised in 2023. A number of interesting cases were shared and participants of members in the discussion was the highlight of the program!

The final chit chat session in 2023 is the Townhall for the association. We look forward to have more chit chat session for 2024! We have a new person to organise and make the magic set in for member to immerse in positive environment to learn and share their knowledge and experience!

As mentioned, the final session of the chit chat was the WEVSIG Townhall. Townhall is a session in which vision of the association is shared in details. Likewise, for mission statement are shared in the upcoming activities. More importantly, a dialogue session is open to allow the WEVSIG committee to answer any inquiries, criticism, and suggestion for members regarding the association. Even thorny issue regarding matter of the association was brought up during the dialogue and the committee members answered these questions immaculately.

The townhall session also shared the programs that we will conduct in next year. Members are free to ask for more details regarding the programs and suggesting how to improve the programs. We hope that many of you could save the date of the program and be part of our mission to move forward to our vision. We hope it has been a fruitful event for those that attended the session.

Overall, 2023 had been a wonderful experience for myself and the committee members of WEVSIG both the 2022/2023 and the newly elected committee. This wonderful year can only be achieved by the unwavering support by members and the community. We thank many for their support and we look forward to have this meaningful year repeated in the Kaizan spirit! May the vision of “Bringing Community Together to Promote Wildlife Healthcare, Welfare, and Conservation.” be the beacon of our association.

## HONORARY LIFE MEMBER

We are pleased to announce the appointment of Associate Professor Dato Dr Vellayan a/l Subramaniam as a Life Honorary Member of our esteemed Wildlife and Exotic Veterinarian Special Interest Group (WEVSIG).

With immense pleasure, we extend our warmest congratulations to Dr. Vellayan on this prestigious appointment. His exceptional contributions to the field of wildlife and exotic animal medicine has been invaluable, and his passion for the well-being of animals is truly inspiring.

Dr. Vellayan is widely recognized for his ground-breaking research, compassionate care, and unwavering commitment to the conservation of wildlife and exotic species. His expertise has not only advanced IN the field of veterinary medicine but has also played a significant role in raising awareness about the importance of preserving our planet's diverse fauna.

As a Life Honorary Member, Dr. Vellayan will continue to collaborate with our organization by sharing his wealth of knowledge and experience with fellow members. His insights will undoubtedly enhance the quality of our research, education, and advocacy initiatives, furthering our mission to protect and nurture the world's wildlife.



WEVSIG President, Dr Ali Anwar bin Ahmad handing over official appointment letter of life honorary member to Assoc. Prof Dato Dr Vellayan

# MENTAL HEALTH AND APPRECIATION

As veterinarians, our mental health is constantly in fight or flight mode with the daily work we face. It is completely okay to feel what you feel. Your feelings and emotions are valid. Always practise these 3 daily wins. A physical win which is associated with exercise, a mental win which includes reading, writing or creating an art or even learning something new and a spiritual win which are praying, meditating, and studying. These wins belongs to you and you ONLY.



*“You don’t have to be positive all the time. It’s perfectly okay to feel sad, angry, annoyed, frustrated, scared, and anxious. Having feelings doesn’t make you a negative person. It makes you human.”*

**-Lori Deschene**

**“THE GREATEST GLORY IN LIVING LIES NOT IN NEVER FAILING, BUT IN RISING EVERY TIME WE FAIL.” — NELSON MANDELA**

**“The Best way to find yourself is to lose yourself in the service of others.”**

**-MAHATMA GANDHI**

