

INTEGRATED “ONE HEALTH” APPROACH IN THE COOPERATION OF HUMAN AND VETERINARY MEDICINE IN SERBIA FOR THE PREVENTION, MONITORING, AND CONTROL OF ZOOSES

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The “One Health” concept represents an integrated approach that emphasizes the necessity of multisectoral cooperation to achieve optimal health outcomes by recognizing the interconnection between human, animal, and environmental health. In the context of zoonoses, this approach involves the joint efforts of human and veterinary medicine, as well as other relevant sectors, in the prevention, monitoring, and control of these diseases. The cooperation between the human and veterinary sectors in Serbia is demonstrated through the coordinated activities of the Veterinary Directorate and the Institute of Public Health of Serbia “*Dr Milan Jovanović Batut*.” These institutions work together on monitoring, preventing, and controlling zoonoses through regular data exchange, joint risk analysis, and coordinated interventions. Their collaboration ensures effective and timely measures to control zoonoses, thereby minimizing the risk of these diseases spreading in the population. Zoonoses represent a crucial aspect of the collaboration between human and veterinary medicine to safeguard the health of people and animals. These diseases can cause public health crises, highlighting the need for coordinated efforts and information exchange between the two sectors. Legal regulations define the obligations and roles of human and veterinary medicine in the prevention, detection, and eradication of zoonoses. The possibility of zoonoses, whether from known or unknown agents, accelerated migration of animals, people, and goods, as well as crisis situations and accidents, create the risk of disease outbreaks and spread. An integrated approach and close cooperation between human and veterinary medicine within the framework of “One Health” are essential for the effective prevention, detection, and control of these diseases. Prevention of zoonoses involves implementing biosecurity measures and health surveillance on farms and in the environment, as well as educating the public about hygiene and food safety. Monitoring the spread of zoonoses requires continuous data exchange and coordinated activities at all levels, while control requires preparedness and an adequate response in the event of outbreaks. Joint efforts of human and veterinary medicine form the basis for successful management of zoonoses in line with the “One Health” concept, thereby ensuring better protection of human and animal health and maintaining a healthy environment.

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