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to deal with missing data.

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## "ONE HEALTH" INITIATIVE AND ASPH

In April 2007, the Association of Schools of Public Health (ASPH) and the Association of American Veterinary Medical Colleges (AAVMC) hosted a joint symposium on veterinary public health. This seminal meeting was attended by more than 240 participants and represented an important step in collaboration between academic public health and veterinary medicine. Presentations from this symposium laid the foundation for this issue, which is being published collaboratively by the Journals of both organizations—Public Health Reports and the Journal of Veterinary Medical Education.

At the symposium, the theme of "one health, one medicine" was heard repeatedly. Representatives from both health professions affirmed the need to work together more closely to more effectively address both human and animal health issues, which are now understood to be inextricably linked.

We are pleased to report that AAVMC and ASPH enthusiastically endorse the One Health Initiative, newly launched by the American Veterinary Medical Association (AVMA) and the American Medical Association (AMA), with the aim of promoting collaboration across the human, animal, agricultural, and environmental health sectors to improve human, animal, and environmental health at local, national, and international levels. ASPH and AAVMC are joining forces to inform and educate political leaders and the public about the need for this initiative in both the short and long term, to achieve important human, animal, and environmental health goals and objectives.

Support for this initiative has also been expressed by industry, other professional and educational associations, and individual practitioners and government officials. To date, more than 200 individuals in agencies and organizations across the human, animal, and environmental health spectrum have expressed commitment and support for the One Health Initiative. Among them are AVMA, AMA, the American Public Health Association, the American Society of Tropical Medicine and Hygiene, and the Association of Veterinary Laboratory Diagnosticians, with more joining in support each day.

Both ASPH and AAVMC proudly support the One Health Initiative and we encourage our respective members to vocalize their support as well.

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