

"One Health" in practice: is there a room for collaboration between general practitioners and veterinarians in western France? A pilot qualitative study of current psychosocial obstacles



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Context

Infectious zoonotic risk: a major Public Health concern

More than 60% of the pathogens currently identified can be transmitted from animals to humans Should be addressed through **close collaboration between veterinarians and physicians** at a local scale

Objectives

- Describe the social representations and attitudes of veterinarians (V) and general practitioners (GP) towards zoonotic risk
- Question their **intention to collaborate** in managing this risk.

Methods

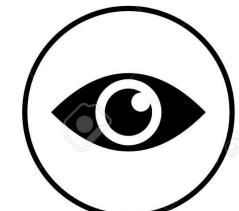
- Qualitative survey: individual interviews held with V and GP working in rural areas in western France
- Convenient **sample**: 10 GP (6 \vec{O} ; 4 \hat{Q}); 14 V (12 \vec{O} ; 2 \hat{Q})
- **Semi-structured interviews**, organised for each profession, conducted face-to face by a single interviewer, an occupational psychologist, who used a guide containing open-ended questions
- Verbatim analysis:
 - Social representations of each profession towards the other using attitudinal analysis
 - Cross-perceptions of zoonotic risk and collaboration using thematic analysis
- Study design approved by the ethics committee GNEDS (Groupe Nantais d'Ethique dans le Domaine de la Santé)

Results

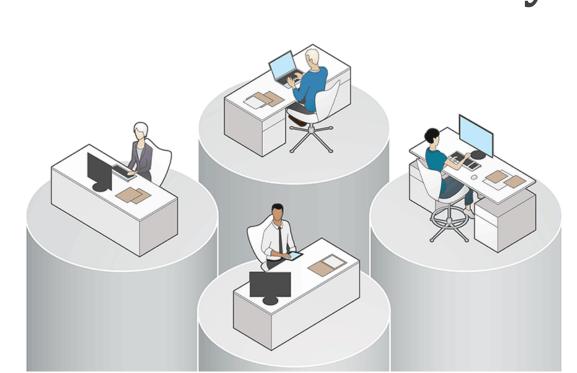
Interprofessional collaboration perceived by both V and GP as non-existent

Cultural and organizational constraints





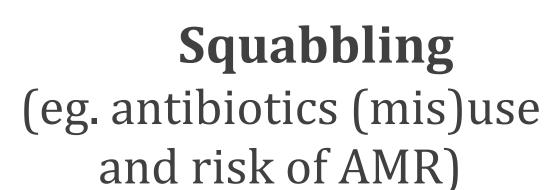
≥ 20th C., a vision of medicine as being separated between human vs. veterinary

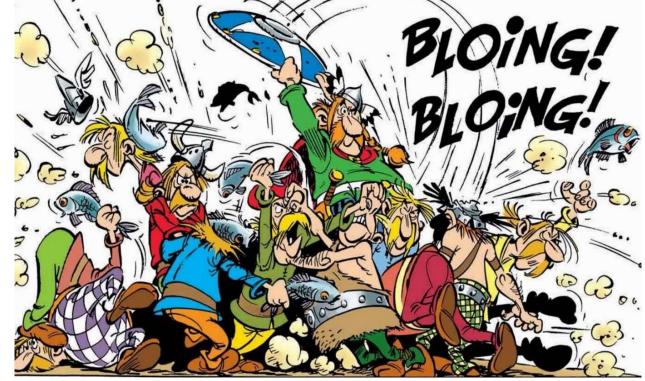






Overwork Nervous breakdown





Perspectives

- Pilot study: further research on a larger scale
- Need to deconstruct the negative reciprocal beliefs and social representations and to coproduce elements of a shared culture through:
 - Creating opportunities for people to meet and to know each other
 - Designing training courses
 - Organizing joint conferences



Psychosocial implication about zoonotic risk:



Higher among V than among GP

- Higher expertise

 More frequent confrontati
- More frequent confrontation to zoonoses in their clientele

Social desirability for the other profession High among GP



GP towards V: positives representations

- « High technicity »
- « Extended skills »
- « very difficult to pass the entrance exam to veterinary schools »



Low among V

V towards GP: often negative representations « (V) are perceived more (by GP) as butchers than (animal) doctors »

Social benefits of collaboration



High among V

« I think it would be in our interest to share our knowledge, our know-how, our control methods on a collective scale »

Moderate to low among GP



« I wonder what it [the collaboration] would lead to... What can it do for me professionally? And what's in it for them? But above all, what is in it for our joint patients, if we have any? »

