

ECVPH Munich 2026

Pro-conference Workshop 3 – Diagnostic Test Evaluation for Veterinary Public Health

Lead: Prof. Simon Firestone, Prof. Mark Stevenson, Dr. Ayesha Salgado (University of Melbourne), Prof. Marcus Doherr (Freie Universität Berlin)

Contact: marcus.doherr@fu-berlin.de

Max. No. of participants: 30

Duration:

Day 1: (Tuesday, Sept 1st 2026): 09:00–17:00- Foundations of diagnostic test development and validation

Day 2: (Wednesday, Sept 2nd 2026): 09:00–17:00 - Applied analytical tools and reproducible workflows

Description

This interactive workshop focuses on the practical evaluation and validation of veterinary diagnostic tests for specific use cases. Participants will work hands-on with analytical tools and datasets to assess test performance and interpret results within real-world Veterinary Public Health contexts.

The workshop combines practical exercises with targeted theoretical input. Participants will be introduced to key concepts of diagnostic test evaluation, including both traditional approaches and advanced analytical methods for validation-for-purpose. In addition, reproducible workflows and the role of interdisciplinary collaboration in test evaluation will be explored.

Through guided application of analytical methods, participants will iteratively evaluate diagnostic data, compare different validation strategies, and assess how methodological choices influence outcomes. The workshop also provides space to critically discuss strengths and limitations of current approaches and to derive practical insights for the design, validation, and implementation of diagnostic tools in Veterinary Public Health.

Objectives

After completing this workshop, participants will be able to:

- Understand key concepts of diagnostic test validation and evaluation for purpose
- Apply analytical tools to assess diagnostic test performance
- Interpret diagnostic data in different epidemiological and operational contexts
- Compare validation strategies and understand their implications
- Reflect on strengths, limitations, and practical applications of diagnostic test evaluation approaches