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ANIMAL WELFARE CONFERENCE

Shifting Perceptions, Driving Change; A Decade of Trials & Tribulations for WVS India

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The mission – situation before 2010



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- Set up a program to empower veterinarians in India to become actively involved in humane dog population management and rabies control

- Improve animal health and welfare through the veterinary skills training, inspiration and advice





- *“A number of challenges were identified for the successful implementation of reproduction control around the world, particularly in the developing world.*
 - *lack of suitably trained staff*
 - *poor techniques*
 - *insufficient anaesthesia*
 - *insufficiently sterilized instruments*
 - *post-surgical complications*
- *“Dog owners and carers, too, often struggle to access or afford reproduction control services.”*



Trials and Tribulations



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- WVS India International Training Center established in 2010
 - 12 days long residential program, focus on good quality spay-neuter hands-on skills
 - 10-12 participants at a time, 20-25 courses per year

2012 WVS course in Nepal

2013 MR Truck

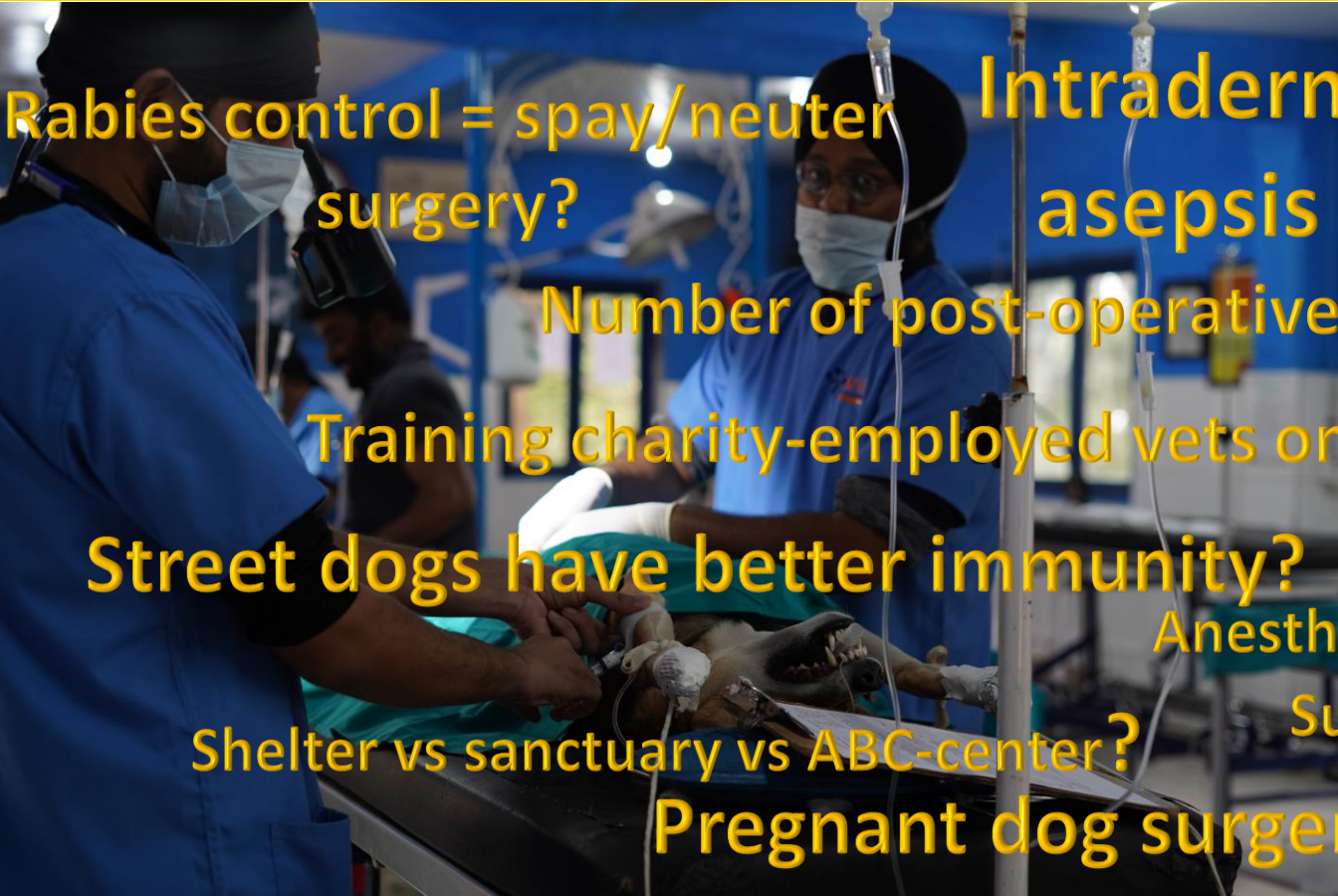
2015 WVS ITC Thailand

2016 WVS ITC in Goa, India

2021 WVS Taskforce programs

- **Initial challenge to overcome:** How to get veterinarians understand the benefit of the program?





Rabies control = spay/neuter surgery?

Intradermal sutures
asepsis

Number of post-operative days required

Training charity-employed vets only or any vets?

Street dogs have better immunity?

Anesthesia mortality?

Shelter vs sanctuary vs ABC-center?

Surgical site infections?

Pregnant dog surgeries?

International and National recognition



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“..There are also opportunities to develop training programmes for veterinarians, veterinary students and veterinary nursing staff in collaboration with NGOs that focus on improving veterinary capacity such as **Worldwide Veterinary Service**, Vets Without Borders and Vets Beyond Borders, or through OIE's global Performance of Veterinary Services programme.”

[FAO guidelines to Dog Population Management
2011]



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Where we are now?



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Two centers in India, 24-25 full-booked courses every year



Authoring

Assessing the impact of a canine surgical-neutering educational programme on the knowledge and attitudes of Indian veterinarians

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Key words: animal welfare, attitudes, knowledge, India, veterinary education, case-based learning

[WVS Taskforce, Episode 4: Veterinary Surgical Training in Egypt – YouTube](#)

12 years of WVS surgical training – what all is changing?



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FAO guidelines to Dog Population Management, 2011

✓ WVS India programs provide training to approx 500 vets / year

✓ High surgical standards, post-op wound scoring

✓ Specific focus on safe field anesthesia, multi-modal, pre-emptive analgesia

✓ Asepsis, autoclave and instrument packing practice

✓ Minimal. Publication and continuous feedback from the field

✓ WVS ITC trained vets able to provide spay/neuter services in remote places



12 years of WVS surgical training – what all is changing?



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- The art of good spay/neuter as fundamental skill
- Increasing demand for small animal veterinary services, small private clinics, charities
- Standard of veterinary care and welfare in India is increasing
- WVS seen as the leader in quality spay/neuter and rabies control activities in India.



21 July 2022

JD's Animal Welfare Zone (JAWZ) is hiring!

We are hiring a dynamic, enthusiast vet who wants to kick start their career in a non profit veterinary clinic.

We have a 4500 sq ft facility in Chennai, India.

Job areas of focus / requirement:

WVS training mandatory

Animal birth control

General medicine

Must be willing to handle aggressive dogs

Should handle maggot infested cases

Assist senior vet in surgery

Admin work

Must be open to feedback and suggestions

Thank you



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