Specialists in the field of veterinary surgery of the musculoskeletal system
Who we are

AOVET is an independent, nonprofit organization representing a global network of surgeons, scientists, and other professionals highly specialized in the field of veterinary surgery of the musculoskeletal system. Our goal is to achieve excellence in veterinary surgery across species.

Alongside its strong focus on education, AOVET’s key activities lie community development, research and development, and the AO Technical Commission (AOTK System).

AOVET is one of the four clinical divisions of the AO Foundation, the world’s pre-eminent educator in orthopedics.

What we do

AOVET’s mission is to advance the practice of veterinary surgery to improve patient outcomes. This is accomplished by building a network of professionals who share this goal and demonstrate their passion for orthopedics and teaching by sharing their experiences, knowledge, and expertise in a collegial and collaborative way.

AOVET has the following objectives:

- Foster friendly exchange of experiences in the field of trauma and orthopedics
- Establish principles for the operative and nonoperative treatment of musculoskeletal disorders in animals
- Provide courses and training worldwide
- Carry out experimental and clinical research

Today the AO fosters one of the most extensive networks of more than 20,000 surgeons, operating room personnel, and scientists in over 124 countries.
Education

AOVET educational offerings, delivered in peer-to-peer, interactive learning environments, give veterinarians the tools necessary to provide high-quality care for orthopedic cases. All AOVET courses teach methods, not products. Moreover, AOVET has established a curriculum-based approach for its consecutive education offerings:

- Principles courses to introduce the basic principles of fracture management using renowned AO techniques
- Advanced courses to enable the application of advanced concepts and techniques for the management of complex fractures
- Master courses to foster and expand specialization and in-depth knowledge on specific topics

Additionally, to meet increasingly complex and diverse educational needs, the AOVET Education Commission invests heavily in curriculum and faculty development as well as innovative educational approaches to keep AOVET at the forefront of patient care.

**How to get involved**

Register for an educational course or event and learn the renowned AO methods and techniques from the world’s pre-eminent educators in the field of orthopedic surgery.

Community

AOVET is the voice and professional resource for individuals working in the field of veterinary orthopedic trauma and reconstruction as well as musculoskeletal disorders. The AOVET community embodies a culture of teaching and learning, combined with research and development.

Special focus areas:

- Offer access to a dynamic global network of experts and peers who share a common interests and enthusiasm in the field
- Support younger surgeons in pursuing fulfilling careers and in becoming leaders within the AOVET community and governance structure
- Improve patient care standards by supplying valuable educational materials throughout a surgeon’s career

**How to get involved**

Join our community as a friend or, after attending an educational event, as a member to connect with a core group of individuals in the veterinary field and gain access to exclusive privileges and educational resources.

2019

approximately 53 courses with more than 2,296 participants

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<th>Region</th>
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AOVET research and development (R&D) activities are central to AOVET’s goal of advancing clinical patient care and outcomes through evidence-based medicine. With this in mind, the AOVET R&D Commission advises AOVET’s specialty and international boards on clinical challenges for surgeons and how they can be best addressed.

Additionally, as a member of AAALAC International, AOVET takes the leading role in the AO Animal Welfare Advisory Group which reviews AO sponsored activities that use live animals for teaching or involve animal models in research.

**How to get involved**
If you are interested in research, register for an AOPEER course for training in all aspects and phases of clinical research. Additionally, if you currently have a research project, you can apply for an AO research grant.

Sponsors of AOVET provide a financial contribution for one or more educational events and can fund, for example, the course dinner or put a company flyer in the course bag.

**How to get involved**
Contact AOVET directly to receive further information about various opportunities and packages.
How we got here

In 1958, the AO Foundation was established by 13 visionary surgeons.

- AO stands for Arbeitsgemeinschaft für Osteosynthesefragen
- Before the AO was founded, casting was the mainstay of treatment for most fractures, routinely resulting in permanent disability
- The AO commenced systematic investigation of the biology of bone healing and fracture repair
- As a result, rigid fixation, with plates and screws, and early mobilization, with implants, became the gold standard in management of musculoskeletal trauma

Our organization

AOVET is led by an international group of elected veterinary surgeons. The AOVET International Board manages the clinical division strategically on a global level and the four regional boards (Asia Pacific, Europe, Latin America, and North America) are responsible for all local educational activities. Additionally, the AOVET Education, Community Development, and R&D Commissions are responsible for establishing standards, coordinating and leveraging ideas, and ensuring best practices.