

# 2015 Schwabe Symposium: Big, Open, Crowd-sourced and Exhaust(ed)! What opportunities do these data sources hold for Veterinary Epidemiology?

**Abstract:** Evolution in technology has made the possibilities for data collection, information-exchange, networking, and data integration limitless. Using new and emerging technologies to conduct research, promote animal or human health behavior change and facilitate decision making is fast becoming the norm. Grassroots communication efforts have stimulated technological innovations that are facilitating social change (e.g., Crisis Commons and Ushahidi), capturing epidemiological trends (e.g., Google Flu; Bernardo et al., 2013), driving the development of the so-called 'quantified self' and transforming the nature of human and animal health systems (e.g., Patients Like Me, I-Cow, LifeLearn Sofie).

What do these technological advances mean for veterinary epidemiology? What is the impact on our methodologies? How may they impact our pedagogy? Are they transformational (or disrupting) forces in epidemiological research and veterinary medicine?

We have invited a prestigious group of speakers to share models and insight for the use of emerging technologies for research, public and animal health, and clinical practice. A key aspect of the symposium is a panel question and answer session on how these novel data sources impact research, teaching and practice in veterinary medicine and epidemiology.

#### **Agenda:**

**12:30** Introduction: Dr. Julie Funk, Michigan State University

**12:45 The Epinet: Implications of connected beings and things**, *Dr. Theresa Bernardo, Professor and IDEXX Chair in Emerging Technologies and Bond-Centered Animal Health Care, Ontario Veterinary College, University of Guelph*

**1:30 Artificial intelligence in animal health: case study in Sofie, veterinary medicine's first IBM Watson solution.**(<http://www.lifelearn.com/innovations/lifelearn-sofie/>) , *Dr. Adam Little, Director, Partnerships and Innovation, LifeLearn, Inc., Guelph, Ontario, Canada*

**2:15 Coffee Break**

**3:00 Crowd-sourcing public health: The Foodborne Chicago Project** (<https://www.foodbornechicago.org/>) , *Daniel X. O'Neil, SmartChicago Collaborative, Chicago, IL*

**3:45 Big Data for small things: Metagenomic approaches to understanding antimicrobial resistance**, *Noelle R. Noyes, USDA NIFA Postdoctoral Fellow., Colorado State University*

**4:30 Panel Discussion: Participation by all speakers.**

**Sun, Dec 6, 2015**

**12:30-5:00 PM**

**Chicago Ballroom, E/F/G/H 5<sup>th</sup> Floor**

**Presented by the Association for Veterinary  
Epidemiology and Preventive Medicine**

Made possible by the  
AVEPM Continuing Education  
Committee  
and a generous gift from  
Bayer Animal Health

