



Andrea Dondona

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ABOUT ME

I am an experienced veterinary epidemiologist and a valued member of the IUCN Wildlife Health Specialist Group, with over 18 years of experience in veterinary public health, wildlife health and conservation. My expertise spans Transboundary Animal Diseases (TADs) and Emerging Infectious Diseases (EIDs), encompassing both fieldwork and research diagnostic laboratory settings. Currently, I serve as the Global Early Warning System Coordinator for the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO) in the Emergency Prevention System for Animal Health unit, within the Animal Production and Health Division (NSA). At FAO, my role entails leading early warning and disease intelligence activities, including disease monitoring, analysis, and forecasting, to facilitate early warning and proactive responses to transboundary and zoonotic disease threats. My career has been marked by significant contributions to the design, development, and management of health information systems, as well as the innovative application of new technologies, such as artificial intelligence, in the One Health sector.

WORK EXPERIENCE

GLEWS Coordinator

Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO) [31/05/2021 – Current]

City: Rome

Country: Italy

- Coordinate and supervise the EMPRES-AH Early Warning team, ensuring timely and efficient monitoring of disease information.
- Oversee the integration of disease monitoring and information activities, collaborating with ECTAD teams and decentralised offices to generate alerts and support early response initiatives.
- Lead the compilation and dissemination of weekly updates on animal health and zoonotic threats, coordinating data collection with country and regional teams, and leveraging platforms like EIOS for disease intelligence.
- Spearhead collaboration with the US Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) to develop a DHIS2 metadata package on zoonotic diseases, enhancing interoperability with EMPRES-i and EMA-i systems.
- Direct Outcome 1 activities of the One Health & Biosecurity project, focusing on the development of innovative features and tools for EMPRES-i and EMA-i, and ensuring seamless integration with other systems and databases.
- Champion the redevelopment of the GLEWS+ platform into a comprehensive Quadripartite tool for shared data and information, facilitating Early Warning and Disease Intelligence across key organizations.
- Manage collaboration with CSI, NSAH, and CJW, overseeing the analysis and enhancement of the EMPRES-i+ (Global Animal Disease Information System).
- Lead the negotiation and establishment of an agreement and workplan for EMPRES-i enhancements and future developments, ensuring alignment with strategic goals and integration with systems like the InFARM data platform for AMR.
- Maintain effective liaison with various FAO technical divisions, One Health (CJW), and other units, both at headquarters and in decentralized offices, for the efficient exchange of data and information critical to animal health threat management.

- Actively participate in meetings focusing on disease information systems, risk assessment, and early warning, contributing to strategic discussions and decision-making processes.
- Drive the development and presentation of concept notes and project proposals to donors, articulating the needs and objectives for disease intelligence, Health Information Systems, and Early Warning in alignment with FAO's logical framework approach.

Veterinary Task Force Coordinator

Veterinary Task Force of The Gabon Sea Turtle Partnership (WCS) [09/2007 – Current]

City: Libreville

Country: Gabon

- Conducted training sessions for veterinarians, park rangers, and field technicians on sample collection and basic health evaluations of sea turtles, enhancing skills through workshops and field assistance.
- Led beach patrols in National Parks to monitor, control, and manage mass stranding incidents of dead turtles, while collecting vital biological and genetic samples for research.
- Addressed the veterinary aspects of conservation for Endangered and Critically Endangered species in Central Africa, coordinating efforts at both national and international levels.
- Managed financial planning, including the preparation of Annual Work Plans and Budgets, ensuring effective resource allocation for conservation initiatives.
- Maintained records and implemented disease control protocols and procedures, contributing to the overall health and wellbeing of wildlife populations.
- Delivered outcomes and impacts of collaborative efforts, coordinating with multiple partner organizations to achieve conservation goals.

Veterinary epidemiologist

Istituto Zooprofilattico Sperimentale del Lazio e della Toscana [31/08/2020 – 30/05/2021]

City: Rome

Country: Italy

- Led the development and management of regional and national veterinary information systems, ensuring robust data integration and reporting mechanisms.
- Oversaw the entire data workflow process, from field collection and laboratory analysis to reporting to national and European authorities, enhancing data reliability and timeliness.
- Directed the implementation of comprehensive epidemiological studies in both animal health and food safety sectors, contributing to evidence-based policy-making and strategic interventions.
- Managed the planning and execution of pharmacovigilance and pharmaco-surveillance activities, ensuring drug efficacy and safety in veterinary practices.
- Established and nurtured international collaborations and partnerships, fostering cross-border cooperation and knowledge exchange in veterinary epidemiology.
- Coordinated and spearheaded digital innovation strategies within the organization, driving technological advancements and digital transformation in veterinary public health.

EIP-AGRI SERVICE POINT EXPERT

EIP-AGRI Service Point (DG-AGRI) [20/02/2020 – 30/01/2021]

City: Brussels

Country: Belgium

- Served as the Coordinating Expert for the ***Focus Group on Wildlife and Agricultural Production*** under the European Innovation Partnership (EIP) 'Agricultural Productivity and Sustainability'.
- Collaborated with the EIP-AGRI Team and DG AGRI to develop a strategic roadmap for actions related to the Focus Group, aligning with overarching goals of agricultural sustainability and wildlife management.
- Authored the Starting Paper for the inaugural Focus Group meeting, setting the foundation for discussion and alignment of objectives.
- Prepared the draft agenda for the first Focus Group meeting in coordination with the EIP-AGRI Service Point, ensuring compliance with DG AGRI directives.
- Facilitated the Focus Group meeting, steering discussions to achieve targeted outcomes in collaboration with DG AGRI and EIP-AGRI Service Point staff.

- Analyzed "mini-papers" from Focus Group members, synthesizing key insights and recommendations for action.
- Contributed to the drafting of meeting minutes, ensuring accuracy and adherence to DG AGRI's guidelines.
- Compiled the final report summarizing the Focus Group's activities and recommendations, demonstrating the impact of collaborative efforts on policy and practice in agricultural productivity and wildlife management.

Veterinary Officer

ASL di Rieti [15/12/2019 – 30/08/2020]

City: Rieti

Country: Italy

- Led the planning and execution of official veterinary controls on farms, ensuring compliance with health standards and regulatory requirements.
- Managed veterinary information systems, optimizing data management and supporting decision-making processes.
- Conducted epidemiological and traceability investigations to monitor and control animal disease outbreaks, enhancing public health safety.
- Directed the planning and implementation of Veterinary Public Health activities, aiming to prevent zoonotic diseases and promote animal welfare.
- Oversaw pharmacovigilance and pharmaco-surveillance activities, ensuring the safe and effective use of veterinary medicinal products.
- Managed interactions between wildlife and domestic animals, implementing strategies to mitigate risks and foster a balanced ecosystem.

Veterinary Epidemiologist

Istituto Zooprofilattico Sperimentale dell'Abruzzo e del Molise "G. Caporale" (IZSAM) [15/09/2009 – 29/11/2019]

City: Teramo

Country: Italy

- Developed emergency and surveillance plans to manage exotic animal diseases and Emerging Infectious Diseases (EID) in both livestock and wildlife, ensuring rapid response and containment.
- Led the design and implementation of animal health information systems for national and regional institutions, collaborating with a range of companies from start-ups to large enterprises.
- Implemented prevention and diagnostic measures for animal diseases and zoonoses, applying best practices to safeguard public and animal health.
- Managed surveillance, control, and intervention strategies for transboundary animal diseases (TADs) in wildlife populations, enhancing biosecurity and disease management.
- Strengthened collaborations and partnerships to ensure effective disease control interventions at the Wildlife/Livestock interface, particularly in Africa, addressing complex health challenges.
- Developed and evaluated diagnostic tests and reference materials for wildlife, adhering to World Organization for Animal Health (WOAH) standards, to improve disease detection and control.
- Oversaw the financial planning and management for disease control initiatives, ensuring efficient allocation and utilization of resources.
- Conducted training for staff and prepared comprehensive progress reports to monitor and evaluate project outcomes.

Project Responsibilities:

- Project Manager for Foot and Mouth Disease surveillance in African buffalo in the Caprivi strip, Namibia (September-November 2009).
- Project Manager for the surveillance of Foot and Mouth Disease in wildlife to declare the Etosha National Park in Namibia free from the disease (May-December 2011).
- Project Manager for the study of experimental infection with Peste des Petits Ruminants virus (PPRV) in an African goat breed at the National Animal and Health Laboratory in Eritrea (June-July 2012).
- Project Manager for research on emerging arbovirus diseases in Etosha National Park and other protected areas in Namibia (September 2014 - September 2017).

International Veterinary Consultant

Kyrgyz Republic (World Bank) [27/01/2019 – 01/03/2019]

City: Bishkek

Country: Kyrgyzstan

- Provided veterinary technical support and training under the World Bank-funded Pasture and Livestock Management Improvement Project, enhancing the competencies of veterinarians and Pasture Users Unions members in Kyrgyzstan.
- Developed and implemented capacity-building initiatives in animal disease management and control, focusing on both zoonotic and non-zoonotic diseases, aligning with national and international guidelines.
- Facilitated the creation of Animal Health Plans and trained stakeholders in infectious disease monitoring, reinforcing best practices and regulatory compliance.
- Organized and conducted six workshops in Chuy and Talas Oblasts, training over 120 individuals, thereby strengthening local veterinary capabilities and knowledge.
- Engaged directly with farmers and veterinarians in the field to gather epidemiological data, provide hands-on training, and deliver veterinary assistance, fostering community engagement and enhancing disease surveillance and response.

Associate Veterinarian

FISE (Federazione Italiana Sport Equestri) [28/02/2007 – 12/2018]

City: Rome

Country: Italy

- Implemented and supervised welfare and disease control procedures for horses, ensuring optimal health and compliance with veterinary standards.
- Coordinated and oversaw anti-doping sampling procedures, establishing rigorous testing protocols to maintain integrity in equestrian sports.
- Conducted anti-doping sample collection during horse competitions, meticulously adhering to established guidelines to ensure accuracy and fairness in testing.

Director of Veterinary Service

Sea Turtles Rescue Centre [05/2006 – 08/2009]

City: Linosa

Country: Italy

- Conducted emergency medicine and surgical procedures for loggerhead sea turtles (*Caretta caretta*), providing critical care and rehabilitation.
- Performed comprehensive physical examinations, administered daily treatments, and carried out blood collection for hospitalized sea turtles, ensuring effective monitoring and recovery before their release back into the wild.
- Supervised European conservation projects and led reintroduction activities, coordinating efforts to enhance sea turtle populations and habitat sustainability.
- Trained biologists in the handling of sea turtles and the collection of biological samples, promoting best practices in wildlife research and conservation.
- Reviewed and updated preventive medicine protocols and necropsy procedures, enhancing healthcare standards and post-mortem analyses.
- Demonstrated proficiency in data collection, records management, and financial administration, ensuring accurate documentation and efficient resource utilization.

Visiting Veterinarian

San Diego Wild Animal Park [25/09/2006 – 06/10/2006]

City: Escondido (CA)

Country: United States

- Exposed to the medicine and surgery of captive wild animals including antelope, rhinos, elephants, large carnivores and birds
- Observed the application of quarantine and preventive medicine protocols in a zoo setting

Wildlife Veterinarian

Game Capture Unit - Veterinary Wildlife Services of the South African National Parks [02/2006 – 05/2006]

City: Kimberley

Country: South Africa

- Expertly performed chemical immobilization of wildlife, including black rhinos (*Diceros bicornis*), buffalo (*Syncerus caffer*), and various large antelope species, utilizing darting techniques from helicopters, ground, and vehicles, ensuring safe tranquilization, loading, transportation, and reintroduction.
- Conducted mass captures using plastic and net boma methods, managing the tranquilization, loading, offloading, transportation, and reintroduction processes for South African wildlife species, adhering to best practice standards.
- Oversaw veterinary aspects of conservation and breeding programs for endangered species, contributing to their sustainability and population growth.
- Led transboundary wildlife disease surveillance and implemented quarantine protocols and field post-mortem procedures, enhancing disease control and biosecurity measures across regions.

Visiting Veterinarian

Oklahoma City Zoo [09/2005 – 11/2005]

City: Oklahoma City (OK)

Country: United States

- Medicine and surgery of exotic and wild animals including antelopes, large carnivores, great apes, birds, reptiles and marine mammals
- Quarantine, preventive medicine protocols and necropsy in a zoo

Small and exotic animal Veterinarian

Private Practice [10/2004 – 08/2005]

City: Rome

Country: Italy

- Medical service to small animals.
- Performing medicine and surgery of exotic and domestic animals.

Veterinarian

LIPU's Wildlife Rehabilitation Centre [10/2004 – 08/2005]

City: Rome

Country: Italy

- Responsible for staff management and training.
- Emergency medicine and surgery of Italian wildlife; physical exams and blood collection during hospitalization and pre-release in to the wild.
- Preventive medicine protocols and necropsy.
- Management of data and financial records.

Veterinary Medicine Externship

Brookfield Zoo [15/07/2004 – 29/09/2004]

City: Chicago (IL)

Country: United States

- Medicine and surgery of exotic and wild animals including antelopes, great apes, birds, reptiles and marine mammals.
- Quarantine and preventive medicine in a zoo.
- Participation in research projects.

Veterinary Medicine Externship

Henry Doorly Zoo [30/04/2004 – 14/07/2004]

City: Omaha (NE)

Country: United States

- Medicine and surgery of exotic and wild animals including antelopes, great apes, large carnivores, birds (included raptors), primates and aquarium species.
- Quarantine, preventive medicine protocols and necropsy in a zoo and wildlife safari setting.
- Participation in research projects.

Veterinary Preceptorship

Dubai Falcon Hospital [08/2002 – 09/2002]

City: Dubain

Country: United Arab Emirates

- Assisting in medical and surgical procedures, chemical restraint, training, management and husbandry of falconry falcons.
- Assisting in preventive medicine and therapeutics in private zoo collections on a wildlife safari setting.

EDUCATION AND TRAINING

MSc in International Animal Health

University of Edinburgh [08/2010 – 28/11/2013]

City: Edinburgh

Country: United Kingdom

Level in EQF: EQF level 6

Veterinary Epidemiology and International Animal Health

- Dissertation: "Bluetongue in springboks and wildebeests in the Etosha National Park (Namibia): circulating strains and epidemiology".
- During the second year of the MSc I have worked in the field in Namibia to collect biological samples while during the third year laboratory investigations have been carried on at the Istituto Zooprofilattico Sperimentale dell'Abruzzo e del Molise "G. Caporale" in Teramo, under the supervision of Dr. Giovanni Savini and Dr. Federica Monaco

Master in Laboratory Animal Medicine and Welfare

Università degli Studi di Napoli Federico II [02/2011 – 03/03/2014]

City: Naples

Country: Italy

Level in EQF: EQF level 6

Science and Medicine of Laboratory Animals

- Dissertation: "Experimental infection of pigeons (*Columba livia*) with Italian West Nile Virus lineage 1 strains".
- Laboratory investigations have been carried out at the Istituto Zooprofilattico Sperimentale dell'Abruzzo e del Molise "G. Caporale" in Teramo, under the supervision of Dr. Giovanni Savini and Dr. Federica Monaco

Dottore in Medicina Veterinaria (DVM)

Università degli Studi di Perugia (Facoltà di Medicina Veterinaria) [08/1998 – 11/03/2004]

City: Perugia

Country: Italy

Level in EQF: EQF level 5

Medicina Veterinaria

- Dissertation: "Limbs' fractures management in birds of prey".
- I have worked all the fifth year of my degree as an intern in the Surgery Department of the Faculty of Veterinary Medicine (University of Perugia), under the supervision of Dr. Enrico Bellezza and Dr. Franco Moriconi; March 2003 - March 2004.

LANGUAGE SKILLS

Mother tongue(s): **Italian**

Other language(s):

English

LISTENING C2 READING C2 WRITING C2

SPOKEN PRODUCTION C2 SPOKEN INTERACTION C2

French

LISTENING B1 READING B2 WRITING A2

SPOKEN PRODUCTION B1 SPOKEN INTERACTION B1

Spanish

LISTENING A2 READING B1 WRITING A1

SPOKEN PRODUCTION A1 SPOKEN INTERACTION A1

Levels: A1 and A2: Basic user; B1 and B2: Independent user; C1 and C2: Proficient user

DIGITAL SKILLS

Microsoft Office / Zoom / Geographical Information Systems (GIS) / Artificial Intelligence related problem solving / Data Gathering, Data Processing, Data Visualization, Data Analysis

PUBLICATIONS

[Whole mitochondrial genome sequencing provides new insights into the phylogeography of loggerhead turtles \(*Caretta caretta*\) in the Mediterranean Sea](#)

[2024]

Tolve L., Iannucci A., Garofalo L., Ninni A., **Capobianco Dondona A.**, Ceciarini I., Cocumelli C., De Lucia A., Falconi M., Formia A., Iacovelli F., Mancusi c., Marchiori E., Marsili L., Mingozi T., Nannarelli S., Natali C., Terracciano G., Zuffi M.A.L., Novelletto A and Ciofi C. **2024**. Whole mitochondrial genome sequencing provides new insights into the phylogeography of loggerhead turtles (*Caretta caretta*) in the Mediterranean Sea. *Mar Biol* 171, 19 (2024).

[Scoring Enzootic Pneumonia-like Lesions in Slaughtered Pigs: Traditional vs. Artificial-Intelligence-Based Methods](#)

[2023]

Hattab, J., Porrello A., Romano A., Rosamilia A., Ghidini S., Bernabò N., **Capobianco Dondona A.**, Corradi A., Marruchella G. **2023**. Scoring Enzootic Pneumonia-like Lesions in Slaughtered Pigs: Traditional vs. Artificial-Intelligence-Based Methods. *Pathogens*, 12, 1460.

[Applications of computer vision systems for meat safety assurance in abattoirs: A systematic review](#)

[2023]

Sandberg M., Ghidini S., Alban S., **Capobianco Dondona A.**, Blagojevic B., Bouwknecht M., Lipman L., Seidelin Dam J., Nastasijevic I., Antic D. **2023**. Applications of computer vision systems for meat safety assurance in abattoirs: A systematic review. *Food Control*. 150, 109768

[Modern Management of Livestock and Pastures in Nomadic Communities](#)

[2023]

Forabosco F. and **Capobianco Dondona A.** **2023**. Modern Management of Livestock and Pastures in Nomadic Communities. *Nomadic Peoples*. 27 (1) 32-47

[Immunogenicity and safety studies of an inactivated vaccine against Rift Valley fever](#)

[2022]

Ronchi G.F., Testa L., Iorio M., Pinoni C., Bortone G., **Capobianco Dondona A.**, Rossi E., Capista S., Mercante M.T., Morelli D., Di Ventura M., Monaco F. **2022**. Immunogenicity and safety studies of an inactivated vaccine against Rift Valley fever. *Acta Trop.* 232:106498

[Training Convolutional Neural Networks to Score Pneumonia in Slaughtered Pigs](#)

[2021]

Bonicelli L., Trachtman A.R., Rosamilia A., Liuzzo G., Hattab J., Mira Alcaraz E., Del Negro E., Vincenzi S., **Capobianco Dondona A.**, Calderara S., Marruchella G. **2021**. Training Convolutional Neural Networks to Score Pneumonia in Slaughtered Pigs. *Animals*, 11, 3290

[Sero-surveillance of emerging viral diseases in camels and cattle in Nouakchott, Mauritania: an abattoir study](#)

[2021]

Cosseddu G.M., Doumbia B., Scacchia M., Pinoni C., Di Provvido A., Polci A., Isselmou K., Di Gennaro A., Spedicato M., Carmine I., Savini G., **Capobianco Dondona A.**, Iapaolo F., Valleriani F., El Mamy A.B., Barry Y. and Monaco F. **2021**. Sero-surveillance of emerging viral diseases in camels and cattle in Nouakchott, Mauritania: an abattoir study. *Trop Anim Health Prod.* 53 (2) 195.

[Genetic Diversity of Rift Valley Fever Strains Circulating in Namibia in 2010 and 2011](#)

[2020]

Cosseddu G.M., Magwedere K., Molini U., Pinoni C., Khaiseb S., Scacchia M., Marcacci M., **Capobianco Dondona A.**, Valleriani F., Polci A. and Monaco F. **2020**. Genetic Diversity of Rift Valley Fever Strains Circulating in Namibia in 2010 and 2011. *Viruses.* 12 (12) 1453

[Complete Coding Sequences of Lumpy Skin Disease Virus Strains Isolated from Cutaneous Lesions in Namibian Cattle during 2016 Outbreaks](#)

[2020]

Di Felice E., Pinoni C., Khaiseb S., Camma C., **Capobianco Dondona A.**, Polci A., Molini U. and Monaco F. **2020**. Complete Coding Sequences of Lumpy Skin Disease Virus Strains Isolated from Cutaneous Lesions in Namibian Cattle during 2016 Outbreaks. *Microbiol Resour Announc.* 9 (28) e00124-20

[Scoring pleurisy in slaughtered pigs using convolutional neural networks](#)

[2020]

Trachtman A.R., Bergamini L., Palazzi A., Porrello A., **Capobianco Dondona A.**, Del Negro E., Paolini A., Vignola G., Calderara S. and Marruchella G. **2020**. Scoring pleurisy in slaughtered pigs using convolutional neural networks. *Vet Res* 51, 51.

[Spotting insects from satellites: modeling the presence of *Culicoides imicola* through Deep CNNs](#)

[2019]

Vincenzi S., Porrello A., Buzzega P., Conte A., Ippoliti C., Candeloro L., Di Lorenzo A., **Capobianco Dondona A.** and Calderara S. **2019**. Spotting insects from satellites: modeling the presence of *Culicoides imicola* through Deep CNNs. *SITIS 2019*: 159-166. arXiv:1911.10024, 2019

[Assessing the role of migratory birds in the introduction of ticks and tick-borne pathogens from African countries: An Italian experience](#)

[2019]

Pascucci I., Di Domenico M., Capobianco Dondona G., Di Gennaro A., Polci A., **Capobianco Dondona A.**, Mancuso E., Cammà C., Savini G., Cecere J.G., Spina F. and Monaco F. **2019**. Assessing the role of migratory birds in the introduction of ticks and tick-borne pathogens from African countries: An Italian experience. *Ticks and Tick-borne Diseases.* 10 (6) 101272.

[Multi-views Embedding for Cattle Re-identification](#)

[2018]

Bergamini L., Porrello A., **Capobianco Dondona A.**, Del Negro E., Mattioli M., D'Alterio N., Calderara S. **2018**. Multi-views Embedding for Cattle Re-identification. SITIS 2018: 184-191

[Antibodies against Schmallerberg virus detected in cattle in the Otjozondjupa region, Namibia](#)

[2018]

Molini U., **Capobianco Dondona A.**, Hilbert R. and Monaco F. **2018**. Antibodies against Schmallerberg virus detected in cattle in the Otjozondjupa region, Namibia. Journal of the South African Veterinary Association, 89, 2 pages,

[Avian Viral Pathogens in Swallows, Zimbabwe : Infectious Diseases in Hirundinidae: A Risk to Swallow?](#)

[2017]

Caron A., Chiweshe N., Mundava J., Abolnik C., **Capobianco Dondona A.**, Scacchia M. and Gaidet N. **2017**. Avian Viral Pathogens in Swallows, Zimbabwe : Infectious Diseases in Hirundinidae: A Risk to Swallow? *EcoHealth*. 14 (4) 805-809.

[Rift Valley Fever Virus among Wild Ruminants, Etosha National Park, Namibia, 2011](#)

[2016]

Capobianco Dondona A., Aschenborn O., Pinoni C., Di Gialleonardo L., Maseke A., Bortone G., Polci A., Scacchia M., Molini U. and Monaco F. **2016**. Rift Valley Fever Virus among Wild Ruminants, Etosha National Park, Namibia, 2011. *Emerg Infect Dis*. 22 (1) 128-130.

[Evaluation of Humoral Response and Protective Efficacy of an Inactivated Vaccine Against Peste des Petits Ruminants Virus in Goats](#)

[2016]

Cosseddu G.M., Polci A., Pinoni C., **Capobianco Dondona A.**, Iapaolo F., Orsini G., Izzo F., Bortone G., Ronchi F.G., Di Ventura M., El Harrak M. and Monaco F. **2016**. Evaluation of Humoral Response and Protective Efficacy of an Inactivated Vaccine Against Peste des Petits Ruminants Virus in Goats. *Transbound Emerg Dis*. 63 (5) e447-52.

[OIEBTLABNET: the web-based network of the OIE Bluetongue Reference Laboratories](#)

[2016]

Conte A., Daniels P., Goffredo M., Ostlund E.N., Di Lorenzo A., Savini L., Tora S., Lubisi B.A., Calistri P., Bruno R., Di Sabatino D., Ippoliti C., Monaco F., Mertens P.P., Lorusso A., **Capobianco A.**, Ripani A., MacLachlan N.J. and Savini G. **2016**. OIEBTLABNET: the web-based network of the OIE Bluetongue Reference Laboratories. *Vet Ital*. 52 (3-4) 187-193

[Genetic characterization of Italian field strains of Schmallerberg virus based on N and NSs genes](#)

[2016]

Izzo F., Cosseddu G.M., Polci A., Iapaolo F., Pinoni C., **Capobianco Dondona A.**, Valleriani F. and Monaco F. **2016**. Genetic characterization of Italian field strains of Schmallerberg virus based on N and NSs genes. *Virus Genes*. 52 (4) 582-585.

[Preliminary report of transfrontier disease surveillance in free-ranging buffalo in the Caprivi Strip, Namibia](#)

[2010]

Capobianco Dondona A., Jago M., Lelli R., Marais A. and Scacchia M. **2010**. Preliminary report of transfrontier disease surveillance in free-ranging buffalo in the Caprivi Strip, Namibia. *Vet Ital*, 46 (3), 267-275

[First External Quality Assessment of Molecular and Serological Detection of Rift Valley Fever in the Western Mediterranean Region](#)

[2015]

Monaco F., Cosseddu G.M., Doumbia B., Madani H., El Mellouli F., Jiménez-Clavero M.A., Sghaier S., Marianneau P., Cetre-Sossah C., Polci A., Lacote S., Lakhdar M., Fernandez-Pinero J., Sari Nassim C., Pinoni C., **Capobianco Dondona A.**, Gallardo C., Bouzid T., Conte A., Bortone G., Savini G., Petrini A. and Puech L. **2015**. First External Quality Assessment of Molecular and Serological Detection of Rift Valley Fever in the Western Mediterranean Region. PLoS One. 10 (11) e0142129.

A new member of the Pteropine Orthoreovirus species isolated from fruit bats imported to Italy

[2015]

Lorusso A., Teodori L., Leone A., Marcacci M., Mangone I., Orsini M., **Capobianco-Dondona A.**, Camma' C., Monaco F. and Savini G. **2015**. A new member of the Pteropine Orthoreovirus species isolated from fruit bats imported to Italy. Infect Genet Evol. 30, 55-58.

First cases of Schmallenberg virus in Italy: surveillance strategies

[2013]

Monaco F., Goffredo M., Federici V., Carvelli A., **Capobianco Dondona A.**, Polci A., Pinoni C., Danzetta ML., Selli L., Bonci M., Quaglia M. and Calistri P. **2013**. First cases of Schmallenberg virus in Italy: surveillance strategies. Vet Ital. 49 (3) 269-275.

Risk of introduction of Rift Valley fever into the Southern Mediterranean area through undocumented movement of infected animals, 2013

[2013]

European Food Safety Authority; Technical meeting of the EFSA Scientific Network on EFSA Scientific Network for risk assessment in Animal Health and Welfare - Risk of introduction of Rift Valley fever into the Southern Mediterranean area through undocumented movement of infected animals, 2013:EN-416. [24 pp.]. Available online: www.efsa.europa.eu/publications

Survey of ixodid ticks and two tick-borne pathogens in African buffaloes, *Syncerus caffer*, from the Caprivi Strip, Namibia

[2011]

Pascucci I., **Capobianco Dondona A.**, Cammà C., Marcacci M., Di Domenico M., Lelli R., Scacchia M., Jago M., Khaiseb S., Hager A.L., Tjipura-Zaire G. and Caporale V. **2011**. Survey of ixodid ticks and two tick-borne pathogens in African buffaloes, *Syncerus caffer*, from the Caprivi Strip, Namibia. J Zoo Wildl Med. 42 (4) 634-640

NETWORKS AND MEMBERSHIPS

Memberships

- Member of the **Ordine dei Medici Veterinari della Provincia di Roma**.
 - Membership number: 1821
- Member of the **Royal College of Veterinary Surgeons**
 - Membership number: 6447339
- Member of the **IUCN Wildlife Health Specialist Group**

ORGANISATIONAL SKILLS

Organisational skills

- Possess exceptional managerial and coordination capabilities, demonstrated through the successful development of large-scale proposals and effective resource mobilization in both private and public sectors.
- Proven problem-solving acumen, capable of delivering results with minimal supervision and adapting to dynamic environments.
- Serving as the CEO of a technology start-up in Italy since September 2016, I lead a team of over 20 employees and coordinate with a variable number of external consultants, showcasing strong leadership and team management skills.
- Under my stewardship, the company has successfully secured over 4 million Euros through grants and earnings, evidencing my ability to drive financial growth and sustainability.

COMMUNICATION AND INTERPERSONAL SKILLS

Communication and interpersonal skills

- Demonstrated excellent team collaboration, communication, and interpersonal skills, effectively working within diverse teams and environments.
- Adapted efficiently to various work settings, including private practices, large government institutions, International Organizations and challenging contexts in several African countries, the United Arab Emirates, and the United States.
- Experienced in navigating complex dynamics within large international organizations, showcasing my ability to foster relationships and communicate effectively across cultural and organizational boundaries.

JOB-RELATED SKILLS

Job-related skills

- Possess extensive experience across a broad spectrum of species and cases, with successful roles in zoo, wildlife, and management settings.
- Skilled in chemical immobilization, as well as internal medicine and surgery for both zoo and wild animals, demonstrating a comprehensive understanding of veterinary practices.
- Over the past 20 years, I have focused on researching and managing emerging infectious diseases and transboundary animal diseases (TADs), addressing significant public and animal health concerns.
- Acquired specialized laboratory training in virology and molecular biology, underpinning my expertise in infectious disease research and diagnostics.

OTHER SKILLS

Other skills

Professional Interests:

- Keen interest in integrating new technologies within the health and animal sectors, aiming to enhance efficiency and outcomes.
- Specialized in the clinical aspects of zoo and wildlife medicine, emphasizing the role of preventive medicine in maintaining the health of zoo and wild animals.
- Committed to conservation medicine programs globally, with a particular focus on the preservation of endangered species.

Personal Interests:

- Enthusiastic about the internet and emerging technologies, continuously exploring advancements in these areas.
- Active in outdoor activities, including rock climbing, swimming, diving, and scouting, reflecting a dynamic and adventurous spirit.

PRESENTATIONS

Presentations

- **Capobianco Dondona A.** (*Presenting Author*) et al. **2012**. First report of Rift Valley Fever in two wildlife species in the Etosha National Park in Namibia. 61st Wildlife Disease Association Conference, July 2012, Lyon - France
- Pascucci I., **Capobianco Dondona A.**, Cammà C., Hager A.L., Khaiseb S., Jago M., Scacchia M. and Lelli R. **2010**. The host status of African buffaloes (*Syncerus caffer*) for Ixodid ticks and tick borne pathogens from the Caprivi Strip, Namibia. Oral Presentation. 59th Wildlife Disease Association Conference, June 2010, Iguazú - Argentina

POSTER

Poster

- **Capobianco Dondona A.**, Bergamini L., Dalla Villa P., Possenti L., Di Francesco C., Del Negro E., Calderara S., Mattioli M., Borrello S. **2018**. New frontiers for the identification and traceability of animals: artificial

intelligence to improve animal welfare and veterinary services. 28th CONFERENCE of the OIE Regional Commission for Europe. Tbilisi, Georgia, 17-21 September

- **Capobianco Dondona A.** ([Presenting Author](#)), Iapaolo F., Monaco F., Ashenborn O., Spedicato M., Carmine I., Scacchia M. and Savini G. **2013**. Bluetongue in springboks and wildebeests in the Etosha National Park (Namibia): circulating strains and epidemiology. Epizone 7th Annual Meeting, September 2013, Brussell - Belgium
- **Capobianco Dondona A.** ([Presenting Author](#)) et al. **2012**. Bluetongue and brucellosis in springboks and wildebeests in the Etosha National Park in Namibia. 61st Wildlife Disease Association Conference, July 2012, Lyon - France
- **Capobianco Dondona A.** ([Presenting Author](#)) et al. **2012**. Detection of haemoparasites in springboks and wildebeests in the Etosha National Park in Namibia. 61st Wildlife Disease Association Conference, July 2012, Lyon - France
- Giovannini A., Monaco F., **Capobianco Dondona A.**, Pascucci I. and Lelli R. **2011**. The validation of essays to be used in wildlife. OIE Global Conference on Wildlife. Animal Health and Biodiversity - Preparing for the Future. Paris (France), 23-25 February 2011
- **Capobianco Dondona A.** ([Presenting Author](#)), Beghelli D., Ferraro S., Nannarelli S., De Lucia A., Cavallucci C., Passamonti P. and Morbidoni M. **2010**. Blood parameters and trace minerals in loggerhead sea turtle (*Caretta caretta*), accidentally captured near Linosa, Mediterranean sea. Poster Session. 59th Wildlife Disease Association Conference, June 2010, Iguazù - Argentina

COURSES AND WORKSHOPS

Corsi e Workshops

Capacity Development for Wildlife Health Management in Low and Middle Income Countries

July 22 - 27, 2012

- WDA/EWDA Joint Annual Conference
- Lyon (France)
- Instructors: Dr. Ted Leighton, DVM.

Chemical and Physical Restraint of Wildlife

February 10 - 19, 2012

- Zimbabwe Veterinary Association
- Malilangwe Trust (Zimbabwe)

Recent Approaches in Modelling Animal Infectious Diseases

September 28 - 30, 2010

- International Centre for Veterinary Education and Information (CIFIV) "F. Gramenzi"
- Teramo (Italy)

Practical Short Course on Tick and Ectoparasites Identification

November 16 - 25, 2009

- Department of Veterinary Tropical Diseases
- University of Pretoria (South Africa)
- Instructors: Prof. I.G. Horak, DVM; Maxime Madder.

Gamete Harvesting

October 16 - 21, 2005

- AAZV/AAWV/NAG Joint Annual Conference
- Omaha, Nebraska (USA)
- Instructors: Dr. Naida Luskotoff, DVM.

Emergency Therapy in Wildlife Rehabilitation Centres

December 2004

-SIVASZoo (Italian Association of Zoo and Wildlife Veterinarians) and LIPU (Italian association of protecting birds)

- LIPU's WRC, Rome, Italy
- Instructors: Drs. Costantino Melis, DVM; Ludovico Pozzi, DVM; Donatella Gelli, DVM, PhD; Dr. **Andrea Capobianco Dondona, DVM**; Dr. Renato Ceccherelli, DVM.

Adapted Manual Restraint Techniques in Hoofstock

August 2004

- AAZV/AAWV/WDA Joint Conference
- San Diego, California (USA)
- Instructors: Drs. Tracy Clippinger, DVM; Lee Young, DVM and Curby Simerson, DVM.

Capture and Immobilization of Free-ranging Wildlife

August 2004

- AAZV/AAWV/WDA Joint Conference
- San Diego, California (USA)
- Instructors: Drs. Jon Arnemo, DVM; Dave Hunter, DVM; Mike Kock, DVM; Bill Lance, DVM; Kathy Quigley, DVM.