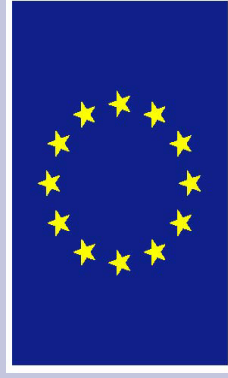


# Prioritization of Zoonoses through burden and costs estimations



The Workshop is conducted from 12 to 15 October 2009 at the  
**Institute of Tropical Medicine (Antwerp, Belgium)**  
with the inputs of:

Dirk Berkvens, Belgium  
Juanita Haagsma, The Netherlands  
Alex Shaw, UK  
Paul Torgerson, Switzerland  
Jakob Zinsstag, Switzerland

### Goal of the workshop

This 4 day workshop will be held in Antwerp at the Institute of Tropical Medicine (ITM) in October 2009<sup>1</sup>. It is organized jointly by the ITM Zoonosis Strategic Network and the Integrated Control of Neglected Zoonoses (ICONZ) FP7 project. It aims to provide researchers, with the practical skills to conduct a health economic evaluation (impact assessment) of zoonotic diseases, from gathering the data, through developing an appropriate model, to reporting the results including uncertainty.

The **general objective** of this workshop is to suggest standardised methods for evaluating the burden of zoonotic infections in developing countries.

The topics dealt with during the workshop will include assessing the **burden** of zoonoses and the **costs** of controlling these diseases, with a focus on burden estimations, the aim being that participants can provide a comprehensive and comparable assessment of mortality and loss of health due to diseases. The burden of disease will be assessed using the disability-adjusted life year (DALY), a measure that combines years of life lost due to premature mortality and years of life lost due to time lived in states of less than full health. In relation to this, participants will be introduced to methods for basic cost calculations needed to assess the cost-effectiveness of interventions to control diseases. The participants will be able to discuss ways to compute **uncertainty** surrounding the estimations. The implications of merging a veterinary and human medicine context in the cost calculations and the feasibility to include a veterinary component in global impact/burden estimation will be discussed.

While the workshop will review the theoretical basis of a health economics evaluation, the primary focus will be on acquiring the technical skills needed to design and perform an evaluation independently and practically. The lectures and exercises will focus on the practical aspects of measuring disease burden, developing appropriate models to calculate disease costs and disability adjusted life year (DALY), and present the results.

**Content of the workshop:** See the attached *Excel* spreadsheet.

**Participants** Participants will be expected to bring with them a laptop computer with:

1. Excel installed (all exercises are in Excel). By preference Excel 2003 should be on the computers, because some of the exercises will only be possible in Excel 2003
2. Sufficient hard drive capacity (approx 50mb) is required in order to install additional software and data.

Places at the workshop are limited and the organizers reserve the right to select applicants strictly on the basis of merit. Applicants should have good Excel skills, basic statistical skills and a basic understanding of epidemiology. The participants should be involved with medical/veterinary (zoonoses) data in their daily work. The aim would namely be that participants could be included in future joint global or country-specific activities related to burden estimations.

**Workshop Coordination:** Stanny Geerts (sgeerts@itg.be), Nadia Ehlinger (nehlinger@itg.be) and Niko Speybroeck (nspeybroeck@itg.be) (ITM)

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