

International Conference on
ANIMAL SCIENCE AND VETERINARY MEDICINE

September 11, 2023 | Webinar

Received date: 07-07-2023 | Accepted Date: 10-07-2023 | Published Date: 16-10-2023

Gender differences in moral distress and ethical conflict: A survey of Indian veterinary practitioners

Sujoy Khanna¹, Davinder Singh¹, Jyoti Shunthwal¹ and G R Gowane²

¹ LUVAS, India

² NDRI, India

Gender differences are steadily increasing in the moral distress and ethical conflict of practicing veterinarians internationally and little research has been done to identify the root causes of these problems. This study explores the existence of such significant gender differences in Indian veterinary practitioners. It aimed to investigate the ethical conflicts experienced by veterinarians in India and the coping mechanisms they use to deal with such conflicts. Gender differences in ethical conflict and resultant moral distress may lead to decreased job satisfaction in one specific gender. In contemporary veterinary practice, existence of such gender differences have an impact on the daily practice life. A mixed-methods sequential explanatory methodology was used to conduct an online electronic survey of randomly selected Indian veterinary practitioners to explore their moral distress and ethical conflict levels and to determine whether gender differences exist in their mean scores. The survey was conducted between April 2022 and November 2022, and data were collected through online mode from participants of the survey belonging to India. The study found that only 426 veterinarians participated in the survey, with responses analyzed for demographic characteristics and relevant training of respondents, causes of ethical conflict, and moral distress levels and coping methods. The majority of respondents were male and worked in State Veterinary Services. Female respondents reported less conflict resolution training and less training on self-care. The causes of ethical conflict varied, with some respondents reporting frequent disagreements with animal owners regarding their preferred course of treatment. Coping mechanisms included discussion with colleagues and seniors, seeking professional help, and discussing with a partner or friend. This study sheds light on the ethical conflicts faced by veterinarians in India and highlights the need for improved training on conflict resolution and self-care.

Recent Publications:

1. Vijay Pal Singh and Sujoy Khanna (2021) Protecting animals in India: a government perspective through history to the present day. In "Changing Human Behaviour to enhance Animal Welfare" edited by Rebecca Sommerville. Published by: CAB International ISBN-13: 9781789247237.
2. Vijay Pal Singh and Sujoy Khanna (2022) Domesticated Buffalo: A Model for Human Biomedical Research. In "Biotechnological Applications in Buffalo Research" edited by M.S. Chauhan and Naresh Selokar. Published by: Springer Nature Singapore ISBN 978-981-16-7530-0.
3. Sujoy Khanna, Davinder Singh, Yogesh Bangar and Jyoti Shunthwal (2021) First Questionnaire-based Survey on the Uptake and Use of FMD-HS Combined Oil Adjuvant Vaccine in India. Indian Journal of Animal Research (2021).
4. Davinder Singh, Sujoy Khanna, Jyoti Shunthwal and G.R. Gowane (2023) Knowledge, attitude and practices towards rabies: A questionnaire based study of the community in Haryana, India. Haryana Vet. (June, 2023) 60(2).
5. Narender Singh, Harish Kr. Gulati, Sajjan Singh, Sushil Kumar, Sujoy Khanna and Sandeep (2018) Effect of Supplementing Spirulina and Thyme on Nutrient Digestibility and FCR in New Zealand White Rabbits. International Journal of Livestock Research 8(1).

joykhanna20@gmail.com