



Professor Gonzalez has a Master degree in Microbiology from San Marcos and a PhD in Veterinary Epidemiology and Economics from the University of Reading. He used to be the Dean of the Veterinary School and now is the head of the Veterinary Epidemiology and Economics office.

Most of his research has been devoted to *Taenia solium*, specifically in diagnosis, treatment, prevention and control. He was part of the board of the Cysticercosis Working Group in Peru, responsible of eliminating *T. solium* in an area with 100,000 inhabitants.

Currently he is working in the transmission dynamics of zoonotic cestodes and the role of invertebrates in egg dispersion and endemic stability for *T. solium* and other zoonotic cestodes. Likewise he is investigating the possibility of using a set of drugs and interventions for the prevention, control and elimination of multiple diseases in a given area. Armando Gonzalez has an Associate appointment at Bloomberg School of Public health (Johns Hopkins University) and is the current president of the Peruvian Academy of Veterinary Sciences and a correspondent member of the Spanish Royal Academy of Veterinary Sciences. He has over 150 indexed papers in scientific journals in Disease control and surveillance, *T. solium*, *Echinococcus*, Avian Influenza virus and Parasites of camelids.

## **ARMANDO GONZALEZ**

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# CYSTICERCOSIS WORKING GROUP IN PERU

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**T**he Cysticercosis Working Group in Peru (CWPG) is an international multi-institution organization devoted to study and control *Taenia solium*. CWGP leadership comprised Robert Gilman from Johns Hopkins University, Armando Gonzalez from San Marcos University, Hugo Garcia from Universidad Peruana Cayetano Heredia and Victor Tsang from Georgia State University. The CWGP produces, collect and collates data from a wide range of government and nongovernment programs to provide an overview of human and animal health, disease surveillance and disease control. The CWGP successfully eliminated *T. solium* from an area with 100,000 inhabitants.

Information Sources:

1. Peruvian Ministry of Health, that centralizes data from the primary health centers to the main specialized hospitals at regional and national levels
  - Neurocysticercosis cases
  - Taeniasis diagnosis
2. Peruvian Agriculture Ministry and Peruvian Veterinary Services (SENASA) centralizes the information on animal health at the regional and national levels
  - Animal diseases
  - Livestock numbers and slaughter statistics by production type
  - Abattoir statistics
  - Key animal contacts, producer organization, researchers, consumer associations
3. Disease surveillance programs
4. Universities, research results, undergraduate and postgraduate thesis, national and regional meetings

Potential solutions include evaluation of single drugs for the treatment of human and porcine cysticercosis, hydatid disease, liver fluke, filarial parasites, gastrointestinal nematodes. Likewise, the use of invertebrates to ascertain environmental contamination with parasites eggs is currently being evaluated.