**Bart Rispens award 2023 for the best paper published in Avian Pathology (volumes 50 and 51)**

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Following deliberation by the Bart Rispens Research Award Committee it is our pleasure to announce that the winner of the Bart Rispens Research Award for 2023, representing the best paper published in Avian Pathology in the years 2021 and 2022, is **Cameron Ellington** for the paper “**Characterization of Md5-BAC-REV-LTR virus as Marek’s disease vaccine in commercial meat type chickens: protection and immunosuppression**” (Ellington *et al.*, 2021). The topic of the 2023 winning paper is especially relevant given Bart Rispen’s development of the Marek’s disease vaccine strain CVI-988 (or “Rispen(s) vaccine”). Chiharu Hidaka and Surya Paudel were also highly commended, finishing in second and third places, respectively (Hidaka *et al.*, 2021; Paudel *et al.*, 2021).

A highlight of the biennial WVPA congress, the Bart Rispens Research Award is given to the first author of the best paper published in Avian Pathology during the two calendar years preceding the Congress (<http://www.wvpa.net/awards.php#bart>). The award celebrates the pioneering work of Bart Rispens and is represented by a medal (Figure 1). Supported by MSD Animal Health, the award will be presented at the 22nd congress of the WVPA in Verona, Italy (4th - 8th September 2023, <https://www.wvpac2023.com/>).

The Bart Rispens Research Award Committee extends its congratulations to all authors of the nominated and winning papers.

**References**

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**Figure legend**

Figure 1. The Bart Rispens Research Award medal, awarded biennially to the best paper published in the journal Avian Pathology.