



UNIVERSIDAD
COMPLUTENSE
MADRID

Interim Report 2020

Veterinary Faculty

Complutense University of Madrid

Spain



In accordance with Chapter 2, point 4 of the 2019 SOP, 3.5 years after the Visitation, all Establishments that are members of European Association of Establishments for Veterinary Education (EAEVE) must send a concise Interim Report (IR) to the EAEVE Office.

The Veterinary Faculty of the Complutense University of Madrid (FVM) was visited by the experts appointed by the EAEVE in March 2017.

We hereby present the IR following the guidelines in Annex 14 and the template in Appendix 1.

Name and location of the Establishment

Name: Veterinary Faculty, Complutense University of Madrid (UCM)

Address: Avda. Puerta de Hierro s/n, Ciudad Universitaria. 28040 Madrid

Competent authority overseeing the establishment: Ministry of Education, Culture and Sport, and Education Cancellery of the Autonomous Community of Madrid (CM)

Current Establishment's Head

Title and name of head of the establishment: M^a Consolación Serres Dalmau, DVM, PhD

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Title and name of responsible for VTH (professional, ethical):

M^a Dolores Pérez Alenza, DVM, PhD

Title and name of responsible for Academic Affairs in VTH:

M^a Consolación Serres Dalmau (Dean)

Date of the completion of the Interim Report

October 2020



I. Any major changes which may affect the compliance to the ESEVT Standards since the previous SER

Since Re-Visitation in September 2017 no regulatory changes have been introduced either at the University or at the national level. All the staff at the Veterinary Faculty of Madrid (FVM) have continued to work on implementing the corrective actions to improve our Establishment according to the Visitation team's comments and suggestions, as well as on maintaining our strengths, which were praised by the experts in their report. However, since March 2020 the COVID-19 crisis has severely affected, and continues to affect our country.

II. Progress in the correction of Major Deficiency: "Insufficient number of hours of hands-on clinical training with real patients under the supervision of academic staff in both companion and food-producing animals in order to achieve Day One Competences for each individual student".

Once the Initial Visitation Report was received, the Quality Assurance (QA) System immediately started to work on analysing and correcting this deficiency. The corrective actions proposed were approved at the different levels of the QA System and ratified by the Faculty Council in July 2017. This deficiency was corrected after the implementation of 113 hours of hands-on clinical training per student, including 24 hours of training in the Emergency Service, in addition to the 12 weeks of the Clinical Rotations. These hours have been distributed in 5 weeks from years 2 to 5 in different clinical subjects of our curriculum: Propaedeutics (Y-2), Obstetrics and Reproduction I (Y-3), Radiology and Diagnostic Imaging (Y-3), Obstetrics and Reproduction I (Y-4), Infectious Diseases (Y-4), Parasitic Diseases (Y-4), Internal Medicine I (Y-4), Internal Medicine II (Y-5) and Special Surgery (Y-5). The implementation of these measures is being monitored by our QA System.

Furthermore, the Spanish Conference of Veterinary Faculties keeps holding work meetings aimed to change the Veterinary Degree with a view to extending it for one additional semester to further increase hands-on training by broadening practical clinical rotations.

III. Progress in the correction of Minor Deficiencies:

Minor Deficiency 1: "Insufficient resources for maintenance of current facilities and purchase of new equipment"

It was a commitment of the UCM Rectorate to support the FVM through the general budget of the University. In this way, in the year 2017 the FVM was granted from the UCM Rectorate an additional funding of 80,000 € to improve and maintain clinical facilities. In the following years, the FVM has been directly provided with an additional budget item dedicated to biosecurity and animal feeding (120,000 € in 2018 and 100,000 € in 2019).

Since 2018, the UCM has implemented an annual programme of extraordinary funding for the Departments, which has allowed us to present proposals for additional expenditure in facilities and equipment. The FVM has also received additional funding from the general budget of the UCM for specific needs in equipment, premises, staff, and/or actualized teaching materials.

Finally, the UCM Rectorate is exploring the viability of constructing a modern multidisciplinary building to house Departments, classrooms and laboratories, or alternatively, the total renovation of the existing facilities within the current buildings, together with a new module mainly for practical teaching laboratories.

Minor Deficiency 2: "Insufficient transversal and collaborative approach between disciplines in some areas of the curriculum and imbalance in the curriculum between theoretical, practical and clinical training to the detriment of the latter".

Periodic follow-up meetings are held with the coordinators of those subjects in which transversal coordination is needed in order to maintain and improve interdisciplinary collaboration. The Committee for Assessment and Improvement of the Veterinary Degree Curriculum (as part of the QA System) supervises all the procedures and proposals.

Different subjects have substantially increased their hands-on clinical training activities in order to reduce the imbalance between theoretical, practical and clinical training in the curriculum (see section II).

Furthermore, during the academic years 2017/18 and 2018/19 the QA System conducted surveys with students and teachers to gather information about the strengths and weaknesses of the current curriculum. All data are being collected to be taken into account for the future revision of the Degree, which will be possible after the re-accreditation process by the Quality Agency of the Community of Madrid (CM) (Fundación para el Conocimiento Madri+d, ENQA member) in 2022-23.

Minor Deficiency 3: "Insufficient hands-on training in post-mortem examination for FSQ"

This issue has been addressed by hiring two Associate Teachers linked to the subject of "Hygiene, Inspection and Food Safety". Both positions are covered by official Veterinary Inspectors working in slaughterhouses of the CM. They are in charge for guiding the visits of Veterinary students in slaughterhouses dedicated to the *post-mortem* inspection of a large number of animal species, especially piglets and poultry. An agreement between the FVM and the Regional Administration of Food Hygiene and Safety has been signed to favour such practices. This additional practical training is essential for improving the "Day One Competences" of the students.



Minor Deficiency 4: “Absence of extinguishers within some large lecture rooms, unfinished isolation facilities and procedures for large animals, inadequate procedures for the storage of drugs in some clinical rooms and non-systematic implementation of biosecurity procedures in laboratories, VTH and teaching farm”

The FVM Self-Protection Plan is adapted to new regulation RD 513/2017. The isolation facilities for large and small animals are fully operational. The Veterinary Teaching Hospital (VTH) Pharmacy Service has the authorisation of the Health Cancellery of the CM to dispense, store, preserve and control drugs (C-403-M). The control of the use and storage of drugs is constantly reviewed, and these issues are clearly described in the relevant protocols of action. The two Biosecurity Committees (FVM and VTH) monitor compliance and update the biosecurity protocols. All this information is placed in visible areas and constantly updated in the website to be fully accessible for both students and staff.

We have made a great effort to raise awareness and to inculcate both staff and students with the culture of biosecurity in all FVM facilities. Mandatory annual seminars on biosecurity have been set up by the Head of Biosecurity of the FVM and the Head of the VTH Pharmacy Service for graduate students, at the beginning of each year and before the start of Clinical Rotations. These seminars have also been implemented for postgraduate students and the FVM staff on an annual basis, as well as training in occupational hazards given regularly by the UCM staff in charge of this area.

Minor Deficiency 5: “Insufficient number of ruminants and pigs necropsy”

In Spain, the strict legislation on the movement of material of animal origin and the insurance policies for the removal of cadavers prevents a continuous flow of necropsies of these species, so encouraging the collaboration of teachers specialising in ruminants and pigs is essential for the acquisition of these skills through extramural activities. To reinforce this training, two Associate Teachers specialised in food-producing animals, and with a large number of farms under their care, were recruited in 2018. Since then, our students have been systematically trained in necropsy techniques on those species. The FVM has always facilitated the transport of cadavers (in accordance with the law) to carry out necropsies in the Establishment. Besides, the collection of pieces from slaughterhouses has been routinely implemented in the Clinical Rotations, to learn how to identify real lesions of the above mentioned species.

Finally, since 2016-17 the FVM has implemented a system of registration of extramural activities, including necropsies. The system has now been evaluated and it will be redesigned for the next academic year to make it more efficient.

Minor Deficiency 6: “Insufficient autonomy of the Establishment to adapt the number of students to the available resources and to control their progression”

The FVM has limited autonomy in this respect. The number of students admitted per year has been strictly limited by the National Authorities and could not be changed until re-accreditation in July 2017. Then, the Faculty Council approved a request to reduce the number of new admissions to 155 students. This demand was granted by the UCM Rectorate and has been maintained to date. We are currently evaluating with the UCM Academic Authorities responsible for admission the balance between the available resources and the number of students for the next three-year period.

Minor Deficiency 7: “Insufficient number of teaching staff specialised in clinical disciplines and services, insufficient formal training ‘to teach and to assess’ for practitioners involved with extra-mural clinical training, lack of support and recognition of teaching and clinical performances for progression in the career, insufficient number and qualification of support staff, especially in clinical services, and insufficient personal development opportunities for staff”

Nine Associate Teachers specialised in clinical disciplines were hired to develop intramural and/or extramural clinical activities. Annually, meetings are held with practitioners involved in extramural training to give precise indications on “Day One Competences”, so this staff can unify teaching criteria and objectives.

Since 2017, a specific clinical profile (i.e. EBVS/ABVS specialisations) can be included in the selection and promotion of academic positions, which has notably improved the quality of the newly enrolled clinical teaching staff. Therefore, within the UCM plan, 25 Associate Teachers and 10 Assistant Teachers have been hired according to those criteria. Regarding staff stabilisation, 7 hired Associate Professors have been stabilised to civil servant status and 23 civil servant Associate Professors have been promoted to Full Professors.

The UCM and the FVM have also reinforced training programmes for their academic staff, especially in new teaching technologies and methods for learning assessment.

The FVM has set up a training course for Veterinary Technical Assistants aimed to provide professionals with a high level of qualification. VTH support staff is involved in the training of the students, which allows them to update their knowledge and skills and improve their stabilisation and promotion opportunities.



Plans for the near future

We intend to address the revision of the Veterinary Degree curriculum, including the proposal of the above mentioned additional semester. Other key points will be the renewal of our facilities, the adaptation of the number of students to our resources, and the stabilisation and promotion of our staff. We will be facing the great challenge of the new scenario derived from the COVID-19 pandemic, working on biosafety and biosecurity together with keeping high quality standards in our curriculum.

Expected date of the next Visitation

March 2024.

Annex: Excel table with FVM ESEVT Indicators



Name of the Establishment:**Name & mail of the Head:****Date of the form filling:****Raw data from the last 3 full academic years**

		Year -1	Year -2	Year -3	Mean
1	n° of FTE academic staff involved in veterinary training	246,2	248,825	249,245	248,09
2	n° of undergraduate students	1112	1128	1093	1111,00
3	n° of FTE veterinarians involved in veterinary training	183	182	179	181,33
4	n° of students graduating annually	141	159	148	149,3333333
5	n° of FTE support staff involved in veterinary training	148	146	150	148
6	n° of hours of practical (non-clinical) training	742	783	769	764,6666667
7	n° of hours of clinical training	749	739	745	744,3333333
8	n° of hours of FSQ & VPH training	662	664	664	663,3333333
9	n° of hours of extra-mural practical training in FSQ & VPH	36	36	36	36
10	n° of companion animal patients seen intra-murally	7227	6519	8536	7427,333333
11	n° of ruminant and pig patients seen intra-murally	135	173	203	170,3333333
12	n° of equine patients seen intra-murally	554	491	408	484,3333333
13	n° of rabbit, rodent, bird and exotic patients seen intra-murally	311	287	308	302,0
14	n° of companion animal patients seen extra-murally	-	-	-	-
15	n° of individual ruminants and pig patients seen extra-murally	10248	7720	8256	8741,3
16	n° of equine patients seen extra-murally	1552	1510	1696	1586,0
17	n° of visits to ruminant and pig herds	580	638	640	619,3
18	n° of visits of poultry and farmed rabbit units	39	47	45	43,7
19	n° of companion animal necropsies	281	249	281	270,3
20	n° of ruminant and pig necropsies	110	137	215	154,0
21	n° of equine necropsies	17	25	19	20,3
22	n° of rabbit, rodent, bird and exotic pet necropsies	152	162	120	144,7
23	n° of FTE specialised veterinarians involved in veterinary training	40	44	47	43,7
24	n° of PhD graduating annually	20	19	24	21,0

The boxes within the red frames must be filled in by the Establishment (the other values will be automatically calculated)

ESEVT Indicators

Name of the Establishment:						
Date of the form filling:						
Calculated Indicators from raw data			Establishment	Median	Minimal	Balance³
			values	values¹	values²	
I1	n° of FTE academic staff involved in veterinary training / n° of undergraduate students		0,223	0,15	0,13	0,097
I2	n° of FTE veterinarians involved in veterinary training / n° of students graduating annually		1,214	0,84	0,63	0,584
I3	n° of FTE support staff involved in veterinary training / n° of students graduating annually		0,991	0,88	0,54	0,451
I4	n° of hours of practical (non-clinical) training		764,667	953,50	700,59	64,077
I5	n° of hours of clinical training		744,333	941,58	704,80	39,533
I6	n° of hours of FSQ & VPH training		663,333	293,50	191,80	471,533
I7	n° of hours of extra-mural practical training in FSQ & VPH		36,000	75,00	31,80	4,200
I8	n° of companion animal patients seen intra-murally / n° of students graduating annually		49,737	62,31	43,58	6,157
I9	n° of ruminant and pig patients seen intra-murally / n° of students graduating annually		1,141	2,49	0,89	0,251
I10	n° of equine patients seen intra-murally / n° of students graduating annually		3,243	4,16	1,53	1,713
I11	n° of rabbit, rodent, bird and exotic seen intra-murally / n° of students graduating annually		2,022	3,11	1,16	0,862
I12	n° of companion animal patients seen extra-murally / n° of students graduating annually		-	5,06	0,43	-
I13	n° of individual ruminants and pig patients seen extra-murally / n° of students graduating annually		58,536	16,26	8,85	49,686
I14	n° of equine patients seen extra-murally / n° of students graduating annually		10,621	1,80	0,62	10,001
I15	n° of visits to ruminant and pig herds / n° of students graduating annually		4,147	1,29	0,54	3,607
I16	n° of visits of poultry and farmed rabbit units / n° of students graduating annually		0,292	0,11	0,04	0,248
I17	n° of companion animal necropsies / n° of students graduating annually		1,810	2,11	1,40	0,410
I18	n° of ruminant and pig necropsies / n° of students graduating annually		1,031	1,36	0,90	0,131
I19	n° of equine necropsies / n° of students graduating annually		0,136	0,18	0,10	0,036
I20	n° of rabbit, rodent, bird and exotic pet necropsies / n° of students graduating annually		0,969	2,65	0,88	0,089
I21*	n° of FTE specialised veterinarians involved in veterinary training / n° of students graduating annually		0,292	0,27	0,06	0,232
I22*	n° of PhD graduating annually / n° of students graduating annually		0,141	0,15	0,07	0,071
1	Median values defined by data from Establishments with Accreditation/Approval status in May 2019					
2	Recommended minimal values calculated as the 20th percentile of data from Establishments with Accreditation/Approval status in May 2019					
3	A negative balance indicates that the Indicator is below the recommended minimal value					
*	Indicators used only for statistical purpose					