



**EAEVE Interim Report
Department of Veterinary Medicine
University of Perugia
September 2022**

Name and location of the Veterinary Education Establishment (VEE)

Department of Veterinary Medicine, University of Perugia
Via San Costanzo n. 4, 06126 Perugia, Italy

Name and details of the current VEE's Head

Prof. Fabrizio Rueca
Full Professor of Internal Medicine
Department of Veterinary Medicine
University of Perugia
Via San Costanzo n. 4, 06126 Perugia, Italy
Tel. +39 075 5857659

Date of the completion of the Interim Report

September 2022

Date of the previous Visitation

18-22 March 2019 (Visit)
11-13 November 2019 (Re-visitation Self Evaluating Report)

Any major changes which may affect the compliance with the ESEVT Standards since the previous SER (*e.g. new national regulations, new foreign language track, more admitted students, less funding, lower caseload*)

Number of admitted students: Over the past three years, the number of admitted students has increased from 66 in 2019 to 79 in 2021, because in 2021 a number of students called for, and obtained the position reserved to the non-EU students, according to the new disposition of the Italian Ministry of University and Research (MUR) D.M. (Ministry Decree) n. 520 (28/06/2018). Moreover, the MUR called for increasing student enrolment by 10% (Note of the 14/07/21). Nevertheless, so far, this increase has not had a negative impact on ESEVT indicators (see Annex n.1: Updated Excel table with ESEVT Indicators), likely because in the last two years new academic staff enrolment has increased concomitantly.

For the A.Y. 2022-2023, the D.M. n. 1050 (29/08/22) by the MUR declared 205 more students enrolled in Veterinary Medicine Italian degree courses than last year, setting temporary places for our VEE at 86 students, including applicants from EU and non-EU countries residing in Italy.

To contain potential negative effects of this increase and to guarantee regular Veterinary Teaching Hospital (VTH) clinical activities, practical and clinical training, research and laboratory activities, we are already developing a tripartite long-term strategy: 1) recalling the necessary additional units of technical support staff for practical training and permanent teaching staff; 2) optimizing non-clinical training and clinical rotations thus taking advantage of all the teaching staff scheduled onto clinical shifts to provide more student teams; 3) regularly monitoring the case load at the VTH for all the required animal species and teaching needs. Moreover, our VEE is providing greater investment in digital facilities for simulator-assisted teaching.

Progress in the correction of:

Major Deficiencies (non-compliance with ESEVT Standards).

None. The Major Deficiency identified during the 2019 full Visitation was fully corrected, as reported in the ECOVE Re-Visitation Report (11-13 November 2019).

In Response to 1.1.3. Suggestions of the 2019 ECOVE Re-Visitation Report (about Substandard 5.1 because of an insufficient number of ruminants and pig necropsies)

All the actions put in place after the 2019 review, which ensured constant student exposure to farm animal pathology, are still effective. This was also achieved thanks to the agreement between our VEE and some breeding companies, guaranteeing a sufficient number of necropsies of pigs and ruminants, even during the temporary interruption of the agreement between our VEE and the Istituto Zooprofilattico Sperimentale di Umbria e Marche (IZS) due to the Covid-19 pandemic emergency (national safety restrictions). To date, the agreement with the IZS has been renewed, guaranteeing a further increase in the number of necropsies of farm animals. As the visiting team suggested in 2019, the number of cadavers and organs used for normal anatomical dissection is now routinely recorded both in a paper database and in SIOVUD (digital system of VTH).

Minor Deficiencies (partial compliance with ESEVT Standards) and plans for the near future.

Minor Deficiency 1. partial compliance with Substandard 4.7, because of sub-optimal good pharmacy practices and sub-optimal swine husbandry and biosecurity procedures in the teaching farm

a) Teaching farm (AZD)

Swine husbandry has been already optimized and was approved by EAEVE during the last re-visitacion. Subsequently, housing for horses has been updated with five horse boxes built near their paddock. The complete renovation of the cattle and sheep barn, already approved and financed by the University, was firstly delayed and then suspended due to Covid-19-pandemic-related issues, among others, increased costs. The University of Perugia is now revising the budgeting and timeline for the project.

b) Pharmacy procedures (VTH)

All the measures already taken to optimize pharmacy procedures at the VTH are still effective.

Minor Deficiency 2: partial compliance with Substandard 4.13, because of sub-optimal biosecurity procedures in companion animal isolation facilities.

The building of the companion animal isolation facilities has been completed, and we are now in the process of furnishing them and providing biosecurity procedures. Detailed signposting of the above

procedures will be published on the VTH website. In addition, we are organizing specific courses for training staff in the correct use of the pharmacy and pet isolation facilities.

In response to *point 2.2.3. Suggestions* of the 2019 ECOVE Re-Visit Report, we have attached to this IR (**Annex n. 2**) photos of the newly built isolation facilities for companion animals.

To further improve pharmacy procedures and drug flow of VTH our VEE is verifying the sustainability to acquire a new case registration software (FENICE).

Minor Deficiency 3: partial compliance with Substandard 8.5, because of sub-optimal documentation and analysis of assessment outcomes.

The specific weight of each test (written, oral, practical) used in the student's assessment is being established by each course, together with a clearly defined grading system. More written tests have been introduced in the student's assessment process.

The Quality Assurance Committee (QAC) of VEE, established in 2019, is still providing annual reports on students' careers.

Minor Deficiency 4: partial compliance with Substandard 11.7, because of sub-optimal QA procedures at the level of the veterinary department.

The QAC constantly monitors the effectiveness of the PDCA (Plan-Do-Check-Act) cycle for all VEE activities. Monitoring customer satisfaction rate was difficult during the Covid-19 pandemic, because strict biosecurity regulations restricted owners' access to VTH. As clinical procedures return to normality, we have further modified and improved the 'Customer Satisfaction Questionnaire (CSQ)' which is administered via a link sent by phone or email. In future, we hope to administer the CSQ directly with the patient's report or discharge letter.

Plans for the near future

For the near future our goal is to further improve the collaborative One Health-One Welfare approach (including staff, students and animals) to ensure that high quality standards are maintained in our curriculum, biosafety procedures and professional training. Moreover, we will have to face the challenge of the increased student number, but we are developing new strategies, as detailed above, to ensure that the required ESEVT standards are maintained. As an additional aid to support increased student enrolment, we are also developing and increasingly utilizing simulator-assisted teaching. To that end, we have purchased the *Anatmage Table Vet* (<https://www.anatmage.com/table-vet/>), which will be permanently available to students to practice and support their studies in both assisted and self-learning modes. Lastly, we plan to complete the furnishing of the new companion animal isolation facilities by 2022 and start using them by the beginning of 2023.

Expected date of the next Visitation (*which should be completed not later than 2 months before the date of the ECOVE meeting preceding the end of granted status*)

January 2026 (end of granted status **March 2026**)

Annex n.1: Updated Excel table with ESEVT Indicators (*focusing on the last three complete academic years: 2019-2020 / 2020-2021 / 2021-2022*).

Annex n. 2: Newly built companion animal isolation facilities: photo gallery, planimetry and legend of the rooms.