

Faculty of Veterinary Medicine Freie Universität Berlin

European Association of Establishments for Veterinary Education |
Interim Report | May 2021

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1. NAME AND LOCATION OF THE ESTABLISHMENT

Faculty of Veterinary Medicine
Freie Universität Berlin
Oertzenweg 19b
D-14163 Berlin, GERMANY

2. NAME AND DETAILS OF THE CURRENT ESTABLISHMENT'S HEAD

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3. DATE OF THE COMPLETION OF THE INTERIM REPORT

26 May 2021

4. DATE OF THE PREVIOUS VISITATION

The Full Visitation took place from 13-17 November 2017.
Faculty status awarded by ECOVE: CONDITIONAL ACCREDITATION

The Re-visitation was carried out from 15-17 July 2018. The Committee concluded that the Major Deficiency, identified in 2017, had been fully corrected.
Faculty status awarded by ECOVE: ACCREDITATION

5. 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)

November 2024

6. MAJOR CHANGES

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

There are no major changes since the last SER that affect the ESEVT substandards.

7. PROGRESS IN THE CORRECTION OF MAJOR DEFICIENCIES (NON-COMPLIANCE WITH ESEVT SUBSTANDARDS) AND PLANS FOR THE NEAR FUTURE

Major Deficiency 1: insufficient number of hours of hands-on clinical training under the supervision of academic staff in order to achieve Day One Competences for each individual student

Immediately after the full Visitation in 2017, the faculty implemented short-term measures and defined mid-term measures to fully resolve the Major Deficiency. The Re-Visitation Team of 2018 confirmed that short-term measures were fully effective and mid-term measures were appropriate to fully correct the Major Deficiency.

All mid-term measures as laid out in the 2018 rSER are meanwhile also in effect. They included the introduction of new clinical modules (practical modules in surgery, anaesthesiology, and emergency medicine), the revision and extension of the final year's clinical rotations, as well as the implementation of a student logbook for clinical rotations. The mid-term measures required a formal change of the study curriculum (entered into legal force on 17 July 2018). The curricular changes were implemented stepwise until the summer of 2020. The new practical modules were evaluated very positively by our students. Since October 2018, clinical logbooks are used on a regular basis.

8. PROGRESS IN THE CORRECTION OF THE MINOR DEFICIENCIES (PARTIAL COMPLIANCE WITH ESEVT SUBSTANDARDS) AND PLANS FOR THE NEAR FUTURE

Minor Deficiency 1: insufficient training on emergency cases for all students, especially in companion animals

As described above, the implementation of a practical module in emergency medicine was a key feature of the revision of the curriculum. The course concept was extended to didactic and leadership training where students also acquire competences in effective instruction under emergency settings. The first run of the course was completed by September 2020 and evaluated very positively. The course is currently being refined and extended with completion in 2021.

Minor Deficiency 2: inadequate monitoring and evaluation of EPT

The mandatory evaluation of internships for students and EPT providers had already been fully introduced before the 2018 revisitation. Meanwhile, evaluation questionnaires were discussed and harmonized among all five German establishments for veterinary education.

Minor Deficiency 3: insufficient signage for biosecurity and restricted areas

All measures announced in the 2018 rSER have been addressed. The completion of a separate hygiene building ("Lavatorium") was originally planned by the end of 2018. For reasons beyond our control, however, the construction is delayed. The end of the construction period is currently planned for early 2022.

Minor Deficiency 4: inadequate isolation facilities in small animals

The planned structural modifications and the complete reconstruction of the in-patient area is still under review by the Division for Engineering and Utilities of the Central University Administration. However, the isolation wards for infectious dogs and cats (e.g. parvovirus infections and feline rhinotracheitis) have already been redesigned and the tenders for the construction work are currently in progress.

Minor Deficiency 5: insufficient number of necropsies in cattle and pigs

The continuous efforts to increase the number of necropsies in cattle and pigs are reflected in an effective increase of indicator 18 (see Annex).

Minor Deficiency 6: sub-optimal use of the VTH companion animal patients for clinical training of undergraduate students

The changes reported in the rSER and implemented in Summer term 2018 resulted in substantial improvement of practical training in all clinics with a higher number of companion animal

patients seen by students. The changes included an internal reorganisation of the clinical rotations with much stronger involvement of all students in treating regular as well as emergency patients.

Minor Deficiency 7: insufficient specialised academic staff in some key clinical disciplines

The establishment takes continuous efforts to ensure an adequate coverage of teaching by veterinary specialists. The respective indicator is well above average. We are currently restructuring the companion animal clinics together with an external counselling service and will address the potential for improvement in key clinical disciplines during that process.

ANNEX: UPDATED EXCEL TABLE WITH ESEVT INDICATORS Raw data from the 2 full academic years preceding AY 2019-2020

Calculated Indicators from raw data		Establishment values	Median values ¹	Minimal values ²	Balance ³
I1	n° of FTE academic staff involved in veterinary training / n° of undergraduate students	0.13	0.15	0.13	0.00
I2	n° of FTE veterinarians involved in veterinary training / n° of students graduating annually	0.72	0.84	0.63	0.09
I3	n° of FTE support staff involved in veterinary training / n° of students graduating annually	1.43	0.88	0.54	0.89
I4	n° of hours of practical (non-clinical) training	721.00	953.50	700.59	20.41
I5	n° of hours of clinical training	736.00	941.58	704.80	31.20
I6	n° of hours of FSQ & VPH training	285.50	293.50	191.80	93.70
I7	n° of hours of extra-mural practical training in FSQ & VPH	250.00	75.00	31.80	218.20
I8	n° of companion animal patients seen intra-murally / n° of students graduating annually	62.46	62.31	43.58	18.88
I9	n° of ruminant and pig patients seen intra-murally / n° of students graduating annually	4.05	2.49	0.89	3.16
I10	n° of equine patients seen intra-murally / n° of students graduating annually	9.81	4.16	1.53	8.28
I11	n° of rabbit, rodent, bird and exotic patients seen intra-murally / n° of students graduating annually	39.68	3.11	1.16	38.52
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	45.57	16.26	8.85	36.72
I14	n° of equine patients seen extra-murally / n° of students graduating annually	1.05	1.80	0.62	0.43
I15	n° of visits to ruminant and pig herds / n° of students graduating annually	3.01	1.29	0.54	2.47
I16	n° of visits of poultry and farmed rabbit units / n° of students graduating annually	0.11	0.11	0.04	0.07
I17	n° of companion animal necropsies / n° of students graduating annually	1.76	2.11	1.40	0.36
I18	n° of ruminant and pig necropsies / n° of students graduating annually	0.90	1.36	0.90	0.00
I19	n° of equine necropsies / n° of students graduating annually	0.35	0.18	0.10	0.25

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

I20	n° of rabbit, rodent, bird and exotic pet necropsies / n° of students graduating annually	1.63	2.65	0.88	0.75
I21*	n° of FTE specialised veterinarians involved in veterinary training / n° of students graduating annually	0.53	0.27	0.06	0.47
I22*	n° of PhD graduating annually / n° of students graduating annually	0.51	0.15	0.07	0.44

Comments

not applicable

Suggestions of improvement

not applicable