European Association of Establishments for Veterinary Education

and the Federation of Veterinarians of Europe

European System of Evaluation of Veterinary Training

REPORT ON THE REVISIT TO THE FACULTY OF VETERINARY MEDICINE OF THE UNIVERSITY OF CORDOBA, SPAIN

STAGE 1

11 June 2010

EXPERT

Prof. Dr. Giovanni Re, Turin, Italy

Chairman of the Team of Expert, Stage 1 visit 9-13 October 2009

Expert Visitor on Training in Basic Sciences
Introduction

After the visit of the Faculty of Veterinary Medicine of Cordoba (FVMC) the Team of experts indicated the following points in its final Report:

- OMISSIS -

6.2 CLINICAL FACILITIES & ORGANISATION

6.2.1 Findings

- OMISSIS -

An isolation room for contagious animals is located in the middle of the building. However, animals with infectious diseases must pass through the whole hospital to reach the isolation area and the isolation room does not fulfill all preventive and sanitary measures necessary for such a facility.

- OMISSIS -

6.2.2 Comments

The concept of the small animal section of the hospital building does not fit 100% with the daily needs. For a caseload of 10 small animals and 2 large animals in one day, the number of consultation rooms (8) is far too high. Isolation facilities in the middle of the building are also not ideal.

- OMISSIS -

6.2.3 Suggestions

6.2.3.4 The isolation facility for small animals must only be reachable from outside, needs a sanitary entry closet and should not be connected to the central air-conditioning system.

- OMISSIS -
ECOVE decisions

This condition has been discussed by the ECOVE, who met on 2-3 February 2010 in Vienna, and ECOVE decided that there was one Category 1 Deficiency which is apt to endanger the achievement of the educational goal according to the EC Directive 2005/36, Article 38, and sentenced:

- *inadequate isolation facilities, since the isolation room for contagious animals is located in the middle of the building and animals with infectious diseases must pass through the whole entire hospital to reach the isolation area which does not fulfill all preventive and sanitary measures for such a facility.*

Consequently, **ECOVE decided that the Faculty of Veterinary Medicine of the University of Cordoba should be included on the list of Conditionally Approved Establishments and is encouraged to rectify this deficiency as soon as possible and apply for a revisit.**
REPORT of Prof. Giovanni Re about the re-visit held on 11 June 20010 at The Veterinary Teaching Hospital of the FVMC.

According to the decision the ECOVE, actually, a new isolation room has been built in the Teaching Hospital of the FVMC. In the Annex 1 to the present Report (map of the TH) the situation of the isolation facility for small animal in the TH of the FVMC is illustrated. In the Annex 2 (new map of the TH) the situation of the new facility is illustrated in a map of the building, where the new isolation area is identified with number 1 in blue colour and in the legend of the map as “New isolation area”. The former isolation room was located in the middle of the hospital (number 28, blue colour) and now renewed and re-adapted as a “consultation room”. The new isolation room has been built in a corner of the hospital, on the left of the main entrance in an area completely independent of the rest of the buildings in order to avoid any interference with the normal influx and efflux of non infectious animals, materials, staff and clients of the hospital. This new isolation unit has an independent entrance that makes possible that any animal suspicious of been affected by an infectious disease gets directly into the isolation area without passing through any common area of the hospital and a rear independent entrance that makes possible to animals hospitalized in the hospital facilities (room number 4, 5 and 6 of the map) if diagnosed as suspected to be infectious can pass directly into the new isolation facility. This isolation area is equipped with independent necessary facilities that guarantee all the preventive and sanitary measures for the hospitalization of animals suffering from infectious diseases: a sanitary entry closet, a visiting room, and independent fixed cages (2 for dogs and 2 for cats) equipped with an independent evacuation system for fluids and cleaning. Three mobile stainless steel cages are also available. All doors are made of washable and disinfectable stainless steel.

Some images are included to the preset report to illustrate the new isolation unit for dogs and cats at the Teaching Hospital of the FVMC.

Conclusions

On my opinion the Category 1 deficiency raised by ECOVE regarding the quality of the isolation unit for dogs and cats at the Veterinary Teaching Hospital of the FVMC has been rectified, by the construction of the new independent facility equipped with preventive and sanitary measures necessary to host and isolate infectious patients.

The other 2 strong suggestions regarding: 1) the number and quality of practical works (including clinics) and 2) the introduction of a registration system for all the clinical activities of each student have been addressed by introducing 1) a higher number of “hands on activities” and by putting all the clinical practical works (previously offered in about 160 hours of clinical practice plus other hours
divided in different clinical activities) in a single track for each students and, 2) by adopting an individual record of each practice from all clinical disciplines as well as a reference to the clinical cases in which they have participated in. These measures will be effective starting from the Academic Year 2010-2011.

Cordoba 11 June 2010

The Chairman of the Visiting Team

Prof. Giovanni Re
Photo 1: Main entrance of the isolation unit for dogs and cats, independent from the Hospital Main entrance, allowing the direct access to isolation unit to external animals. Support staff member is disinfecting the entry closet.
Photo2: Rear entrance of the isolation unit for dogs and cats, allowing the controlled access to isolation unit to hospitalized animals
Photo 3: Entrance to the consultation room of the isolation unit. Only authorised staff is admitted.
Photo 4: Consultation room into the isolation unit for dogs and cats.
Photo 5: Isolation cages for dogs and cats (on the left). All cages are equipped with an independent evacuation system for fluids and cleaning. All doors are made of washable and disinfectable covered stainless steel.
Photo 6: The ventilation system is filtered and independent from the other units of the hospital. The influx/efflux of forced air is driven directly outside.