

**European Association
of Establishments for Veterinary Education**

**Association Européenne
des Etablissements d'Enseignement Vétérinaire**



FINAL REPORT on the RE-VISITATION to

FACULTY OF VETERINARY MEDICINE UNIVERSITY OF ZAGREB (FVMUZ)

DATE

16-17 March 2015

by the EXPERT GROUP

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INTRODUCTION

Former full visitation to the FVMUZ took place on 10-14 June 2013. ECOVE final decision on that visitation (30 October 2013) granted the establishment with **CONDITIONAL APPROVAL**, considering the finding of a major deficiency based on the statement that “*The requirements regarding physical facilities with respect to safety and health procedures are not met*”.

After receiving a letter issued on 15 October 2014, from the Dean of the FVMUZ, Prof. Tomislav Dobranić, with the interim report on the improvements developed by the establishments to overcome the major deficiency (Annex 1), the ECOVE decided to accept the re-visitation to the FVMUZ in the meeting held in Vienna on 10 December 2014.

PROGRAMME OF THE RE-VISITATION

The re-visitation was carried out in a very cordial, friendly and professional atmosphere and the team was supplied with all further information asked for.

On 16 March Dr. Talty visited an outside farm during practicals on large animals with students and professors of the FVMUZ. In the morning the team visited laboratories where students perform practical work (Chemistry & Biochemistry, Histology & Pathology, Pathophysiology, and Pharmacology) and had the opportunity to ask questions to the students. In the afternoon the team met the members of the Committee of Biosecurity of the FVMUZ.

On 17 March the team visited the Small and Large Animal clinics and the isolation units at the Veterinary Teaching Hospital of the FVMUZ. Finally the team visited the new premises for isolation unit, almost finalised, with the coordinators involved in biosecurity and biosafety instructions to the staff members.

FINDINGS

During re-visitation the team verified some important improvements at the FVMUZ by following the suggestions of the report made by the team during the full visitation in June 2013:

1. Biosecurity is now introduced to the students before practicals so the professor makes sure that they understand and will comply with the procedures to avoid the physical, chemical and biological hazards by the signature of a biosecurity statement.
2. The FVMUZ has developed a biosecurity strategy for the premises, the clinics, the ambulatory mobile clinic and the farms to ensure appropriate protective measures for the staff and students, disinfection of premises and vehicles and good isolation protocols for patients with infectious diseases, as well as a protocol for the notification of any outbreak of a notifiable disease, zoonoses or emerging disease.
3. The problems with the deficient storage and handling of hazardous chemical products detected in some laboratories are solved since new appropriate metal cupboards for acids, bases, etc., are in place and new fume hoods were installed in places with risk of exposure to formalin and other dangerous chemical products.
4. Eye-washers, first aid boxes and fire-extinguishers are now available in all laboratories.
5. Escape plans and escape signs are visible in all buildings.

6. The team especially acknowledge the strong decision taken by the dean to establish the Committee on Biosecurity of the FVMUZ on July 4th 2013. This Committee was actively working in the development of SOPs for general biosecurity and biosecurity in laboratories and in the clinics with patients. As a consequence, routine awareness on biosecurity improved substantially at the FVMUZ. They are also in charge of an important activity of internal audit of the biosecurity in lecture rooms, clinics, laboratories, etc., by revising the escape plans, devices and adherence of the staff and students to the SOPs.
7. In the hospital the team visited the services in Internal Medicine, Surgery and Reproduction. In all rooms waste was separated with regard to its infectivity and sharp materials and needles were collected in appropriate containers; disinfectants, instructions on biosecurity and exits were properly advised. Clothes and shoes of the staff are used separately in the different clinical services. Students are instructed on the proper use of clothes and shoes. In any clinical service there are 2 persons in charge of the revision and record, every 3 months, of the expiring date of medicines, sutures and materials. Patients are categorised regarding their infective status into 4 categories. Category 1 and 2 are hospitalised in the VTH; category 3 and 4 enter the infectious diseases clinical service or Isolation Units. The team visited with great pleasure the almost finished new “state of the art” building that will house the patients with infectious diseases.
8. Dr. Patrick Talty attended an extramural practical farm visit and observed that proper procedures were observed regarding biosecurity as well as health and safety.

SUGGESTIONS

The team encourage the establishment to continue promoting the work of the Committee on biosecurity.

CONCLUSIONS

Based on evidence and the information supplied by the establishment and collected during the re-visitation, it is the opinion of the team that the FVMUZ has solved the major deficiency.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

The team would like to thank the Dean, Professor Tomislav Dobranić, and his team for the preparation of the re-visitation, as well as the Committee on Biosecurity and the Liaison Officer, Professor Nikša Lemo, for the excellent performance, friendliness and hospitality offered.

ANNEX 1 DECISION OF ECOVE

The Committee concluded that the deficiency identified in 2013 had been rectified.

The Faculty of Veterinary Medicine, University of Zagreb is classified after the Re-visitation as holding the status of: **APPROVAL**.