



Self-Evaluation Report 2022

University of Extremadura Faculty of Veterinary Sciences

EAEVE RE-VISITATION

Cáceres, September 2022

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FACULTY OF VETERINARY SCIENCES
UNIVERSITY OF EXTREMADURA

REVISITATION
SELF-EVALUATION REPORT 2022
EAEVE ACREDITATION

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1. INTRODUCTION

The Faculty of Veterinary Sciences of the University of Extremadura (FVUEx) was subjected to an ESEVT Full Visitation on 28 March-01 April 2022.

In the Final Report of the Visitation, the Visitation Team reflected several areas worthy of praise (i.e. Commendations),e.g.:

- The commitment and enthusiasm of staff and students
- Positive interaction between students and staff, in an environment conducive to learning
- The strong support provided by the teaching staff to the students
- Transparency and openness
- Aspiration to comply with national and ESEVT accreditation standards
- Well-developed research culture and commitment
- Willingness to further improve the quality of student training
- Positive attitude and commitment of the University QA Vice-Rector and the entire team towards the continuous development of quality culture
- The excellent services provided to students and staff by the UEx and Faculty IT team
- The excellent attention and assistance provided by UEx and Faculty to student welfare and support

Several items of partial compliance were identified as Minor Deficiencies:

- Partial compliance with Substandard 3.1.4 because of suboptimal time spent in farm animal clinical training to achieve day one competencies for each individual student.
- Partial compliance with Substandard 4.3 because of suboptimal compliance with the biosecurity manual and procedures in some areas, especially during the necropsy activities.
- Partial compliance with Substandard 5.1 because the number of rabbits, rodents, birds and exotic patients is not adequate for the number of students involved and the number of companion animal (including equine and exotics) necropsies provided to the students is suboptimal.

Finally, one item was considered not compliant with the ESEVT Standards and subsequently established as Major Deficiency:

- Non-compliance with Substandard 3.1.3 for Clinical Sciences in companion animals because of insufficient number of hours of hands-on clinical training on real patients under the supervision of academic staff in order to achieve Day One Competences for each individual student.

The ECOVE concluded that in view of the Visitation Report with the identification of one Major Deficiency and in accordance with the ESEVT, the status of the FVUEx is **CONDITIONAL ACCREDITATION**.

It is the clear understanding of the FVUEx Board and staff that the EAEVE accreditation process, including the Visitation, the Report and the interaction with the Team has been

an excellent opportunity to review and improve the teaching quality of the Establishment, in the line of the standards established by the EAEVE.

After the final decision of the ECOVE, the Establishment has intended to complete this process, defining, specifying and executing all improvement proposals suggested, both in the Visitation and in the previous analysis that the Establishment had carried out. To this end, immediately after receiving the preliminary report from the Visitation Team, FVUEx team proposed the reactivation of the specific EAEVE Working Group to design and coordinate the necessary actions, relying on the work of the Quality Assurance Unit and the Faculty Board's Commissions and Committees, which had already collaborated in the preparation of the SER and the Visitation.

The RSER presents the relevant information on the actions carried out to correct the major deficiency identified as well as to respond to the minor deficiencies and suggestions. We are confident that those actions will allow the FVUEx to be fully compliant with the EAEVE accreditation standards.

Version and date of the ESEVT SOP which is valid for the Visitation ESEVT SOP May 2019 (Zagreb) as amended in December 2020.

2. CORRECTION OF THE MAJOR DEFICIENCY

2.1. Major Deficiency

The VEE is not compliant with Substandard 3.1.3 for clinical sciences in companion animals because of insufficient number of hours of hands-on clinical training on real patient under the supervision of academic staff in order to achieve Day One Competences for each individual student.

2.1.1. Factual information

2.1.1.1.- Following the indications of the Visitation Team about the time spent by students in clinical rotation at VTH, changes have been carried out in order to increase the number of hours of hands-on-clinical training on real patient. Specifically, the following actions have been performed:

1- Increasing in 21 hours the clinical practices for each student (in fact, the improvement has consisted in 22 hours, due to the addition of partial decimals that have allowed an hour of activity to be increased). Previously the clinical practices had a duration of 18 days in the VTH and in the current program the students will spend 32 days of rotation. This has been achieved thanks to modifications in clinical rotation at VTH, with changes done in the subject of Clinical Activities, which oversees this rotation. **Annex 1** shows the Teaching Guides for Clinical Activities subject (*Plan Docente de la Asignatura*) from academic year 2021/22 and the modified one for academic year 2022/23 (Changes highlighted in yellow in the **Annex 1**).

So, in Clinical Activities subject, there were 28 hours included in laboratory diagnosis which were distributed among the different services as follows: 7 hours for Parasitic Diseases; 7 hours for Toxicology; 7 hours for Infectious Diseases and 7 hours for Anatomical Pathology.

All these hours, except for the 7 ones of the service of Anatomical Pathology, which remains as clinical practical hours, have been moved to increase the number of hospital hours of hands-on clinical training for the academic year 2022/23 and from here in advance. It means that there will be an increase of 22 hours corresponding to the first three services.

Eight of these 21 hours will be dedicated to clinical practical training both in exotic and wildlife animals under the supervision of Dr. Alejandro Gutiérrez Villalba, who is a Part Time Lecturer at the VTH, following this schedule:

- Exotic Service at the VTH (**Figure 1**): 4 hours/1 day per week/4 students (Highlighted in **Annex 1** in Teaching Guide of academic year 2022/23).

- Clinical rotation at the Center for Wildlife Recovery and Environmental Education “Los Hornos” (Sierra de Fuentes), 9 km far from the VEE: 4 hours/1 day per week/4 students. **Annex 2** shows the agreement between the UEx and the Regional Government that allows students to achieve practical training, under academic supervision, in wildlife animals at this facility.

PLANTA PRIMERA	PLANTA BAJA <small>USTED ESTÁ AQUÍ</small>	PLANTA SÓTANO
RECEPCIÓN HCV	RECEPCIÓN HCV	HOSPITALIZACIÓN (GRANDES ANIMALES)
TOLOGÍA MÉDICA	MEDICINA INTERNA (PEQUEÑOS ANIMALES)	HOSPITALIZACIÓN (PEQUEÑOS ANIMAL)
REPRODUCCIÓN Y OBSTETRICIA	ONCOLOGÍA	SALA DE NECROPSIA
ATOLOGÍA INFECCIOSA	REPRODUCCIÓN	CENTRO DE REPRODUCCIÓN EQUINA
HISTOLOGÍA Y ANATOMÍA PATOLÓGICA	PARASITOLOGÍA	
	CONSULTA DE EXÓTICOS	
	LABORATORIOS DE DIAGNÓSTICO	

Figure 1: Informative Panel showing the new Exotic Service of the VTH.

The remaining additional 14 clinical hours are added and distributed among the different activities included in the Clinical Activities subject (Rotatory). Previously, the students attended to these activities in groups of 2 over 2 days. From now on, there will be 4 students per group over 5 days. Although the number of students in each group will be increased, the teaching quality is guaranteed thanks to the high number of cases admitted in the VTH.

With all those previous considerations, the global organization of the subject of Clinical Activities (**Table 1**) will be carried out as follows (increased hours shown in bold):

- Equine medicine and surgery service: 15 + **3** = 18 hours (5 days/3.5 hours)
- Equine reproduction service: 15+ **3** = 18 hours (5 days/3.5 hours)
- Surgery service of small animals: 15 + **3** = 18 hours (5 days/3.5 hours)
- Consultation room on surgery of small animals service: 14 hours (4 days/3.5 hours)
- Consultation room on exotics: **4** hours (1 day per week)
- Internal medicine of small animal service: 15 + **3** = 18 hours (5 days/3.5 hours)
- Small animal hospitalization service: 15 + **1** = 16 hours (2 days/8 hours)
- Small animal emergency service: 14 hours (2 days/7 hours)
- Anatomical pathology: 7 + **1** = 8 hours (2 days/4 hours)
- Clinical rotation at the Center for Wildlife Recovery and Environmental Education “Los Hornos” (Sierra de Fuentes): **4** hours/1 day per week

2.- In subjects other than Clinical Activities, the Rector’s Office has approved the transformation of **41 hours of laboratory practices into hands-on-clinical training on real patients (Table 2)**. **Annex 3** shows these documents, being the first one the approval of these changes in the Official Guides for the teaching of the subjects in UEx. The following are these Official Guides for the current academic year 2022/23 and the previous ones. The performed changes for the academic year 2022/23 are:

Department of Animal Health (12 hours increased)

- Clinical and environmental toxicology: from 0 to 5 hours
- Parasitic diseases I: from 3 to 5 hours
- Parasitic diseases II, tropical parasitology and public health: from 0 to 5 hours

Department of Animal Medicine (29 hours increased)

- Reproduction and obstetrics I: from 5 to 7 hours
- Reproduction and obstetrics II: from 5 to 7 hours
- Clinical propaedeutics: from 0 to 5 hours
- Systemic anatomical pathology: from 0 to 20 hours

Table 1: Increase of clinical practical hours for the academic year 2022/23 when compared to the academic year 2021/22 in Clinical Activities.

SUBJECT	Academic Year 2021/22	Academic Year 2022/23
	Clinical hours	Clinical hours (increased)
Equine medicine and surgery service	15	18 (+3)
Equine reproduction service	15	18 (+3)
Surgery service of small animals	15	18 (+3)
Consultation room on surgery of small animals service	14	14 (+0)
Consultation room on exotics	0	4 (+4)
Internal medicine of small animal service	15	18 (+3)
Small animal hospitalization service	15	16 (+1)
Small animal emergency service	14	14 (+0)
Anatomical pathology	7	8 (+1)
Clinical rotation at the Center for Wildlife Recovery and Environmental Education "Los Hornos"	0	4 (+4)
TOTAL	111	132

Table 2: Increase of clinical practical hours for the academic year 2022/23 with respect to the academic year 2021/22 in subjects other than Clinical Activities.

SUBJECT	Academic Year 2021/22		Academic Year 2022/23	
	Clinical hours	Laboratory hours	Clinical hours	Laboratory hours
Clinical and environmental toxicology	0	20	5	15
Parasitic diseases I	3	19.5	5	17.5
Parasitic diseases II, tropical parasitology and public health	0	20	5	15
Reproduction and obstetrics I	5	10	7	8
Reproduction and obstetrics II	5	10	7	8
Clinical propaedeutics	0	45	5	39*
Systemic anatomical pathology	0	20	20	0
TOTAL	13	144.5	54	102.5

*One missing hour of laboratory has been moved to lectures (see Annex 3)

2.1.1.2.- The Visitation Team indicated in their Report that the VEE curriculum does not include "Exotic animal diseases" and that the number of animals in this discipline in VTH is insufficient. It was also indicated that the analysis of clinical charts from the last few months shows the absence of reptiles, amphibians and exotic birds, and only a few small mammals as patients.

Our Faculty is currently waiting for a change in the Curriculum of the Veterinary Degree at national level that will allow to include a specific subject focused on exotic animal diseases. Meanwhile, and to alleviate the deficiency in the curriculum about "Exotic animal diseases", two actions have been carried out:

1.- Considering lectures in academic teaching, 12 lessons concerning exotic animals have been added in the following subjects: Embryology and anatomy I, Infectious diseases I, Parasitic diseases I, Clinical and environmental toxicology (there was already 1 lesson of exotics, and 2 new ones are incorporated), Internal medicine and nutritional disorders I, Internal medicine and nutritional disorders II, Clinical propaedeutics, Imaging-based diagnosis, Surgical pathology II, and Reproduction and obstetrics I.

With this modification in the curriculum, the total number of lessons concerning exotics studies will be 13 (12 new lessons and 1 lesson already taught during previous academic courses, on the subject of Clinical and environmental toxicology), as reflected in the specific Teaching Guides of the aforementioned subjects (**Annex 4**, the lessons focused on exotic animals have been highlighted).

2.- Considering clinical practical teaching, the following actions have been carried out:

- Opening of a Clinical Service and a new consultation room for Exotic Animals. The consultation will take place one day a week/ 4 hours and with 4 students. The Academic Staff in charge of this new service (Part Time Lecturer Dr. Alejandro Gutiérrez) has experience in exotic animals and has recently defended his Doctoral Thesis on ferrets. In addition, he will increase his training in exotics with the idea of achieving greater specialization. **Annex 5** shows the cover page of the Lecturer Alejandro Gutiérrez's Doctoral Thesis entitled "Cardiac assessment in healthy individuals of the species *Mustela putorius furo* by means of radiographs and the "OsiriX MD" programme" and one related publication.

- Clinical practical training at the Center for Wildlife Recovery and Environmental Education "Los Hornos". These practices will be carried out thanks to the previously mentioned Agreement between the University and the Regional Administration of Environment and Rural, Agrarian Policies and Territory (Junta de Extremadura), on which this Recovery Center depends (**Annex 2**). The practices will be carried out one day a week (4 hours/ 4 students). The Academic staff in charge of these practical training will be the same one as in the intra-mural Service of exotic animals.

2.1.1.3.- The Visitation Team indicated in their Report that it is worth emphasising the presence of European Diplomates, and on-site residencies. Nevertheless, even considering the presence of several European Diplomates, the number of specialists in various clinical fields is inadequate.

The hands-on-clinical training on real patients in the surgery service of the VTH has been reorganized in order to reinforce the Exotic Animal Service. To this end, the Rector's Office has granted a part-time lecturer position for the Area of Surgery and Animal Medicine. **Annex 6** shows the announcement of this position (Number: DL3848) in the Official Journal of Extremadura. If possible, an European Diplomate will be preferred in order to increase the number of Diplomates hired in the VTH, on a desired process for gradually enhancing this number of specialists.

2.1.1.4.- The Visitation Team indicated that the simulation training system is also used in the training process but is limited to a few dummies, mainly horse reproduction, equine colic, and surgical procedures.

As the Visitation team indicated, the VEE is going to purchase some simulators which enables dry lab training. Into this administrative process, at the present moment, the Rector's Office is evaluating which of the different offers is going to be accepted. **Annex 7** shows the documents concerning the public auction established by the UEx for the acquisition of animal mannequins for practical training with students of the Veterinary Degree.

The existing and the new simulators will be scattered among individual units, as the VEE does not currently have a plan to create a separate clinical simulation laboratory. The main reason for this decision is that most of the models are intensively used in the practical training of different subjects. This fact would complicate the maintenance of these models into a separated room, as in many cases an overlap in their use by students alone and in regular practical training could happen. With this consideration, the currently strategy is to maintain specific animal models in the area where associated techniques are applied in clinical patients. Students have free access to these rooms, if they ask for the permission of the teacher in charge.

2.1.2. Comments

According to the general indications of the Visitation Team, the VEE has been hardly working to improve the major deficiency directly associated to an efficient increase of *hours of hands-on clinical training on real patient*. In all this project, the enthusiastic cooperation of the great number of professors directly involved on the clinical training has been basic to try to achieve the standards required by the EAEVE

Actions are being taken not only on increasing the number of hours of clinical activity supervised by academic staff, but also on increasing the number of professors, (particularly specialists and/or diplomates) and practical hours in the services of Exotic, Equine and Small Animals. All this measures, together with some associated changes on different related subject, are expected to increase the hours dedicated by students to the high case log in the VTH and also to open a separately consultation more specifically in areas such as exotic animals. It is worth noting, finally, that the VEE is waiting for the change of the Curriculum of the Veterinary Degree in Spain that not only will include more practical hours for students, but also exotic subjects.

3. Correction of the Minor Deficiencies

3.1. Minor Deficiency:

Partial compliance with Substandard 3.1.4 because of suboptimal time spent in farm animal clinical training to achieve day one competencies for each individual student.

3.1.1. Factual Information

In order to increase the hands-on training in farm animal clinical, the UEx have recently opened (July 2022) a call for two new positions of Part time Lecturers, linked to the subject "Large Animals medicine and Activities in Animal Production". **Annex 8** shows the announcement of these positions (Numbers: DL3846 and DL3847) in the Official Journal of Extremadura. These new positions will be held by Practitioners. So, together with the three part-time lecturers previously enrolled by the UEx, their whole number teaching in Ambulatory Clinic will be five, in addition with the full time Associate professor, which makes a total of 6 teachers in charge of the Ambulatory Clinic training.

Besides, the UEx has changed the type of contract of the Part Time Lecturers from 4+3 to 6+5 (six teaching and five tutoring hours per week). So, the hours of teaching per week increase from 12 hours taught during the previous years to 30, and from 9 to 25 in the case of the hours of tutoring per week. This increase in the number of academic staff implies more hours dedicated per student to the practical training which will be important for the improvement of the "Day One Competences" of each individual student.

3.1.2. Comments

The FVUEx and the academic staff involved in the teaching of Farm Animal clinical training consider essential the promotion of more practices of the students, and the actions carried out within this section are oriented in that direction.

The teaching and learning that take place in the farm ambulatory clinic will continue to be developed with 1 to 3 students per staff member.

3.2. Partial compliance with Substandard 4.3 because of suboptimal compliance with the biosecurity manual and procedures in some areas, especially during the necropsy activities.

3.2.1. Factual information

The clinical teaching practices carried out in the necropsy room make necessary to develop and implement biosafety and prevention measures and procedures that guarantee the safety of users. In this sense, the following actions have been carried out:

1.- Within the framework of the Biosafety Plan of the FVUEx, different "Specific Biosafety Protocols have been developed for each type of activity, adjusting each of them to the risks of each service". Specifically, specific prevention protocols have been approved: laboratories in general, VTH, VTF, and the last one implemented is the necropsy room protocol, designed jointly with the VTH Foundation. These protocols have

been approved by the Faculty Board and published on the VEE website: <https://www.unex.es/conoce-la-uex/centros/veterinaria/informacion-academica/normativas/normativas>.

As an implementation of all protocols, this information will be included in the specific training during both internal and external internships. In addition, at the entrance to the different dependencies there is a QR code that users mandatory must access in order to confirm they know and comply with the biosafety protocols.

In the case of clinical teaching activities in the necropsy room, due to their relevance, a new specific protocol has been designed with the VTH Foundation named: "Specific biosafety procedures for the necropsy room" (**Annex 9**). This document presents a series of measures that must be taken into account when performing necropsies. All the staff of the Establishment will be involved in the adoption of preventive measures and recommendations.

This "Specific biosafety protocol for the necropsy room" has the following sections:

- Introduction: The necropsy room is a particularly sensitive area of the VEE due to constant exposure to risks associated to physical, chemical or biological agents. This procedure aims to establish the necessary preventive measures, to be able to carry out any specific task under the best possible health and safety conditions in accordance with the biosafety conditions and the different biological containment measures. This protocol is addressed to all authorized staff, students and teachers.
 - Identification and classification of biological, physical and chemical risks, specifying the types of contamination and the preventive and containment measures in each case.
 - Personal protection equipment (PPE), where the specific rules of user clothing are developed (for those who perform the necropsy as well as those attending the diagnosis). In this section of the protocol, the minimum essential clothing to perform an adequate necropsy has been implemented.
 - Access protocol to the necropsy room. Access through the corridor to separated changing rooms for men and women has been set up and adapted. All personal belongings must be stored at these changing rooms. In the changing room, users will put on overalls or surgical clothes, apron, waterproof boots, leggings, disposable gloves and masks. It is also carefully specified how the output is performed. Two footbaths have been set up in the entrance/exit corridor. Finally, the biosafety measures for the reception of samples, viscera or corpses are indicated.
 - The final chapters of the necropsy room biosafety protocol indicate the cleaning and waste removal protocols, the preventive measures in the event of an accident, and the actions in case of the detection or suspicion of a notifiable disease.
- In short, with all the established protocols, it has been possible to improve biosafety in the teaching practice of the VEE.

2.- In relation to the few discharges that may be generated in the necropsy room during its washing and disinfection, a report has been obtained from the water supply company of Cáceres, the "Canal de Isabel II". This report ensures that the few discharges that may

occur in the necropsy room during its washing and disinfection are directly discharged through the sewage system towards the wastewater treatment plant of the City Council of Cáceres without the existence of any type of drain (**Annex 10**).

3.- To ensure that all the implemented measures are complied with, the figure of Prevention Manager has been created, appointing Mr. Roberto Martín Reyes, a qualified prevention technician from the VTH University-Society Foundation to this task. In addition, the University has hired a new assistant professor in the area of Anatomy and Comparative Pathological Anatomy (belonging to the Department of Animal Medicine) to be in charge of the practical training concerning necropsies. This new member of the staff will help improve these teaching practices.

Finally, some general improvements have been made to the infrastructure of the necropsy facility:

- Installation and adaptation of changing rooms for men and women.
- Installation of 2 footbaths to improve biosecurity.
- Adequacy of the table for performing necropsies on large animals.
- Installation of watertight containers for the transfer of corpses and viscera to the refrigerated chamber.

3.2.2. Comments

During the academic year 2022/23, the new protocol for "Specific biosafety procedures in the necropsy room" is already in force, so that all the new measures and procedures are currently being applied. Likewise, panels with the Q code have been installed in each unit, and it is mandatory for staff and students to know and comply with them.

3.3. Partial compliance with Substandard 5.1 because the number of rabbits, rodents, birds and exotic patients is not adequate for the number of students involved and the number of companion animal (including equine and exotics) necropsies provided to the students is suboptimal.

3.3.1. Factual Information

The EAEVE team suggested in their Report to increase the **number of rabbits, rodents, birds and exotic patients**. This suggestion was firstly discussed with the people responsible for the VTH and Departments of Animal Medicine and Animal Health and the Dean's Office.

The measures related to practical training being implemented in order to increase the number of rabbits, rodents, birds and exotic patients are the following:

- As previously mentioned, (section 2.1.1.1), the consulting room for exotic animals will be reopened 4 hours per week with the attendance of groups of 4 students. This service will be provided by the Part Time Lecturer Dr. Alejandro Gutiérrez. It is expected not to have many patients at the beginning of the activity, since the service was closed years ago due to the low case log. Giving the fact of the low population of both the region of Extremadura and the city of Cáceres the casuistry of exotic pets was limited. However,

an evident and increasing interest in such species has been evidenced for the last years. Besides, to ensure that the information concerning this new service at the VTH reaches the target population, this information has been spread with the help of the Veterinary Clinics which attend the pathologies of exotic pets, as well as social networks (<https://twitter.com/infovetcaceres/status/1552190104604663808?ext=HHwWgICzjaSrvoorAAAA>), and the two Official Colleges of Veterinarians from Badajoz and Cáceres.

- Students will spend 4 hours per week in groups of four, as previously mentioned in 2.1.1.1., at the Center for Wildlife Recovery and Environmental Education “Los Hornos” for clinical practices. During the whole process, students will be taught by Dr. Alejandro Gutiérrez.

Regarding the theoretical training, 12 new lessons have been included in different subjects of the Degree, as previously mentioned in 2.1.1.2. (**Annex 4**). This modification has been approved by the Departments of Animal Medicine and Animal Health and the VQC. The approved Teaching Planning for the academic year 2022/23 is available in the VEE’s website (<https://www.unex.es/conoce-la-unex/centros/veterinaria/titulaciones/info/asignaturas?id=1006>).

As reported by the EAEVE Team, the COVID-19 restrictions had a negative impact on the **number of necropsies** provided to the students. Nevertheless, ESVET indicators have increased throughout the academic year 2020/21. In this sense, the Anatomical Pathology Service integrated in the VTH, the Departments of Animal Medicine and Animal Health, and the Dean's Office are making an important effort to find ways to increase number of necropsies for all animal species that are seen intramurally. Thus, the number of cadavers and material of animal origin to perform the necropsies can be adapted to the number of students involved. Additionally, the academic staff responsible for Veterinary pathology teaching in the VEE is gradually increasing the training aimed at knowing, describing and diagnosing relevant lesions in carcasses of different species, collected both intramurally and extramurally, as well as material from viscera seizures in slaughterhouse inspections.

In general, the related ESVET indicators show a positive post-pandemic chronological evolution, being the data encouraging despite existing a deficit in some species yet.

The actions that are being taken in order to quantitatively increase necropsies at both intra and extramural levels are the following:

- The UEx will continue supporting the expenses derived from the transport of cadavers from farms and clinics to the VTH and the necropsies performed intramurally. Moreover, the UEx is also supporting the expenses of the Parasitic and Infectious Diagnosis Services.

- As it has been previously mentioned in 3.1.1., there are two new positions of Part-Time Lecturers participating in the Ambulatory clinic itinerary (**Annex 8**) which will contribute to increase the number of extramurally performed necropsies by the students under academic supervision.

- A new Assistant Professor (24 credits of teaching) has been hired to participate in Systematic pathological anatomy (**Annex 11**), which is the subject in which necropsies and anatomopathological diagnosis in the VTH are performed. This new teacher joining

the area and the team in charge of this subject will be a stimulus for the improvement of the activity of this service.

- The subject Systematic pathological anatomy has undergone a remarkable transformation: the 20 hours dedicated to Seminar-Laboratory Practices, in groups of 15 students are now dedicated to Clinical Practices in groups of 7 students. This teaching modification has been approved by the Department of Animal Medicine, the VQC, and the Vice-rectorate of Teaching Staff of the UEx (**Annex 3**).

- A collaboration agreement has been signed between the UEx and the company NEOBÉITAR S.L. to send to the Department of Animal Medicine the wildlife death animals (**Annex 12**). This company carries out wildlife research and management activities, including animal species, such as partridge, rabbit, wild boar and deer. This agreement will increase the number of necropsies from these species performed by students in Systematic pathological anatomy.

- There is a collaboration agreement between the UEx and the Center for Wildlife Recovery and Environmental Education “Los Hornos” (**Annex 2**) which will allow the students to perform necropsies, under academic supervision, of wildlife animals found death or which have died at the center due to injuries, poisoning, accidents or diseases. This agreement will allow to increase the number of necropsies of wildlife and exotic animals, one of the weak points of the VEE.

- Necropsies are also performed in cadavers received from the VTF. The Experimental Animal Service is also asking for necropsies of its animals since 2021. Since 2022 both records are being executed in a comprehensive manner. To address the issue, the records of cadaver and viscera reception at the HCV have been also updated and a system of registration of extramurally necropsies has been implemented since the academic year 20/21.

The use of alternative teaching-learning procedures in Systematic pathological anatomy must be highlighted, especially those based on the analysis of viscera derived from the *postmortem* inspection at the slaughterhouses, which is becoming a widespread practice, but always as a complementary source of knowledge. The FVUEx students know and enjoy this complementary methodology; and recognize that it is not a substitute for necropsies, since the cadaver represents the basis of the morphological diagnosis of disease, being the main source of the pathological diagnosis.

3.3.2. Comments

The measures indicated as already implemented, are not yet reflected in academic results due to a temporary issue. However, they will be analysed in due course by the EQAU and the VQC, when the corresponding information becomes available.

4. GLOSSARY

EQAU Quality Assurance Units for the Establishment

FVUEx Faculty of Veterinary Science of the University of Extremadura

PPE Personal Protection Equipment

QA Quality Assurance

QR Quick Response code

UEx University of Extremadura

VEE Veterinary Educational Establishment

VQC Veterinary Science Degree Quality Committee

VTF Veterinary Teaching Farm

VTH Veterinary Teaching Hospital

5. ESVET INDICATORS

Name of the Establishment: Faculty of Veterinary Sciences, University of Extremadura

Name & mail of the Head: J. Enrique Pérez Martín, decanove@unex.es

Date of the form filling: November 2021

	Raw data from the last 3 full academic years	Year 1 18/19	Year 2 19/20	Year 3 20/21	Mean
1	n° of FTE academic staff involved in veterinary training	104.5	103.6	101.75	103.3
2	n° of undergraduate students	598	607	604	603
3	n° of FTE veterinarians involved in veterinary training	75.7	75.9	74	75.2
4	n° of students graduating annually	70	90	70	76.7
5	n° of FTE support staff involved in veterinary training	89	87	86	87.3
6	n° of hours of practical (non-clinical) training	744.8	744.8	744.8	744.5
7	n° of hours of clinical training	696.5	696.5	696.5	696.5
8	n° of hours of FSQ & VPH training	586.8	586.8	586.8	586.8
9	n° of hours of extra-mural practical training in FSQ & VPH	50	50	50	50
10	n° of companion animal patients seen intra-murally	6028	7094	10098	7740
11	n° of ruminant and pig patients seen intra-murally	8	13	45	22
12	n° of equine patients seen intra-murally	354	369	564	429
13	n° of rabbit, rodent, bird and exotic patients seen intra-murally	9	25	40	24.7
14	n° of companion animal patients seen extra-murally	10	-	1	5.5
15	n° of individual ruminants and pig patients seen extra-murally	5017	6486	5367	5623.3
16	n° of equine patients seen extra-murally	47	5	1	17.7
17	n° of visits to ruminant and pig herds	647	284	516	482.3
18	n° of visits of poultry and farmed rabbit units	101	113	38	84
19	n° of companion animal necropsies	47	54	67	56
20	n° of ruminant and pig necropsies	32	72	69	57.7
21	n° of equine necropsies	4	5	8	5.7
22	n° of rabbit, rodent, bird and exotic pet necropsies	12	28	74	38
23	n° of FTE specialised veterinarians involved in veterinary training	7	7	7	7
24	n° of PhD graduating annually	6	4	9	6.3

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	0.17	0.16	0.13	0.05
I2	n° of FTE veterinarians involved in veterinary training / n° of students graduating annually	0.98	0.87	0.59	0.39
I3	n° of FTE support staff involved in veterinary training / n° of students graduating annually	1.14	0.94	0.57	0.57
I4	n° of hours of practical (non-clinical) training	744.75	905.67	595.00	149.75
I5	n° of hours of clinical training	696.50	932.92	670.00	26.50
I6	n° of hours of FSQ & VPH training	586.80	287	174.40	412.40
I7	n° of hours of extra-mural practical training in FSQ & VPH	50	68	28.80	21.20
I8	n° of companion animal patients seen intra-murally / n° of students graduating annually	100.96	70.48	42.01	58.95
I9	n° of ruminant and pig patients seen intra-murally / n° of students graduating annually	0.29	2.69	0.46	-0.18
I10	n° of equine patients seen intra-murally / n° of students graduating annually	5.60	5.05	1.30	4.30
I11	n° of rabbit, rodent, bird and exotic seen intra-murally / n° of students graduating annually	0.32	3.35	1.55	-1.22
I12	n° of companion animal patients seen extra-murally / n° of students graduating annually	0.07	6.80	0.22	-0.15
I13	n° of individual ruminants and pig patients seen extra-murally / n° of students graduating annually	73.35	15.95	6.29	67.05
I14	n° of equine patients seen extra-murally / n° of students graduating annually	0.23	2.11	0.60	-0.36
I15	n° of visits to ruminant and pig herds / n° of students graduating annually	6.29	1.33	0.55	5.74
I16	n° of visits of poultry and farmed rabbit units / n° of students graduating annually	1.10	0.12	0.04	1.05
I17	n° of companion animal necropsies / n° of students graduating annually	0.73	2.07	1.40	-0.67
I18	n° of ruminant and pig necropsies / n° of students graduating annually	0.75	2.32	0.97	-0.22
I19	n° of equine necropsies / n° of students graduating annually	0.07	0.30	0.09	-0.02
I20	n° of rabbit, rodent, bird and exotic pet necropsies / n° of students graduating annually	0.50	2.05	0.69	-0.20
I21*	n° of FTE specialised veterinarians involved in veterinary training / n° of students graduating annually	0.09	0.20	0.06	0.03
I22*	n° of PhD graduating annually / n° of students graduating annually	0.08	0.15	0.09	-0.01

¹Median values defined by data from Establishments with Approval itatus in April 2016

²Recommended minimal values calculated as the 20th percentile of data from Establishments with Approval status in April 2016

³A negative balance indicates that the indicator is below the recommended minimal value

*Indicators used only for statistical purpose