Top level Quality Assurance for Education in Veterinary Medicine in Europe

Veterinarians fulfil important tasks. They care for the health and welfare of animals and for public health. High quality education is essential for every qualified veterinarian.

The European Association for Quality Assurance in Higher Education (ENQA) has formally recognised the quality assurance system for veterinary education in Europe. This system, which was established by the European Veterinary Schools and the European Veterinary Profession, is the first profession-specific European quality system that is accredited by ENQA¹. Veterinary education has reached a front position in quality assurance. Animals and People can rely on it!

The European Association for Quality Assurance in Higher Education (ENQA) formally acknowledged that “the European Association of Establishments for Veterinary Education (EAEVE) provides ‘quality’ and quality assurance in Veterinary Medicine”. EAEVE fulfils its mission by reaching compliance with the Standards and Guidelines for Quality Assurance in the European Higher Education Area (ESG 2015) while fully conforming to the EU Directives.

EAEVE together with the Federation of Veterinarians of Europe (FVE) have created a professional peer evaluation system for the “Accreditation of Veterinary Education Establishments”, which runs for over 30 years. The European System of Evaluation of Veterinary Training (ESEVT) has been developed to ensure that veterinary curricula comply with the requirements set in the European Union legislation.

The President of EAEVE, Prof Dr Ana Bravo expresses her great pride on the achievement. “Over 30 years of continuous efforts and commitment are crowned by the acknowledgment of this prestigious European accreditor agency. It is indisputable that a periodic external review fosters EAEVE to improve its quality assessment methodologies for veterinary education, a precondition for ensuring trust in each Establishments’ educational system and in the qualification they provide” she adds.

The President of the Federation of Veterinarians of Europe, Dr Rafael Laguens, highlights that recognition of qualifications in the EU must go hand in hand with assuring the value of the underlying education programmes. “Veterinary schools play a key role in preparing future veterinarians. They prepare veterinarians to be the gatekeepers for health and welfare of animals as well as for public health”.

¹ ENQA Members
Dr Laguens reiterates the need for the European Commission to endorse the Veterinary education quality assurance and to use it as an example for creating similar systems for quality assurance in other areas of higher education.

Supporting information

- EAEVE-FVE Joint statement on the outcome of the ENQA review
- ECCVT Statement on Harmonisation of veterinary education: fundamental for establishing EU citizens’ trust in veterinary services
- ESEVT SOPs
- ECCVT Statement on Day-1 competences
- ECCVT Statement on key role of Veterinary Education Establishments (VEEs) in our Society

Note to editors

- EAEVE is the accreditation agency of Veterinary Education Establishments in Europe with 96 members from 34 European countries. Its mission is to evaluate, promote and further develop the quality and standard of veterinary medical establishments and their teaching within, but not limited to, the member states of the European Union. EAEVE is registered in the EU Transparency Register with the ID number 300212020206-59.
  www.eaeve.org - office@eaeve.org

- The Federation of Veterinarians of Europe (FVE) is an umbrella organisation of 44 veterinary organisations from 38 European countries, representing a total of around 240,000 veterinarians. FVE strives to promote animal health, animal welfare and public health across Europe. FVE is registered in the EU Transparency Register with the ID number 3959733732-78.
  www.fve.org – info@fve.org