OIE Conference

Evolving Veterinary Education for a Safer World

Animals + Humans = One health
Session 7: Towards global harmonisation
evaluation of the veterinary curriculum,
and an internationally recognised diploma

The present situation of
training evaluation in Europe

Jan Vaarten, FVE exec dir
• FVE is the European veterinary professional organisation

• Through its member organisations in 38 European countries, it represents approximately 200 000 veterinarians

• The European Association of Establishments for Veterinary Education (EAEVE) and FVE together evaluate the quality of veterinary schools and faculties throughout Europe
European legal frame work (1)

- No internationally agreed definition of veterinarian
- No international agreement on required competences or training programmes
- Also not at Community level (EU-27)!

Veterinary education and licensing is a national competence
European legal framework (2)

Exemptions in EU-27

- To achieve an open internal market, member states must automatically recognize veterinary qualifications awarded by other member states, at or above certain minimum requirements
  - These minimum are set to prevent member states from “over asking” and protectionism, and not necessarily to assure proper training
  - More-over the minimum requirements are obsolete (> 30 Yrs) and open to multiple interpretations
- Specific training requirements for veterinarians carrying out official controls in the meat inspection (acting on behalf of the competent authority)
Evaluation method (1)

- Application
- Planning
- Self evaluation report
  - Overview of resources and facilities, training-programmes, etc
- Visitation by expert team
  - To verify what is in the self evaluation report
  - To verify if standards are met
- Reportage
- Deliberation and decision in committee on veterinary training (EAEVE & FVE)
Evaluation method (2)

• Approval

• Conditional approval
  • In case of shortcomings that can be repaired within a reasonable period of time.

• Not approved
  • In case of major deficiencies

Copies of the report are sent to the school and authorities
Final outcome is published on the internet
## Current Situation

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<th>Status</th>
<th>EU-27</th>
<th>Non-EU</th>
<th>Total</th>
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<td>Visited and not approved</td>
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<td>Not applied</td>
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<tr>
<td>Total</td>
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<td>26</td>
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Strength and weakness

- Strengths:
  - Clear and transparent procedures
  - Thorough evaluation
  - Fair and reliable report

- Weakness
  - Not all schools participated (yet)
  - Insufficient connection between outcome and necessary actions

Organisations that run the evaluation system don’t have the ability to enforce
Those who have the power (i.e. national competent authorities) not always use it
Future Developments

• Two tiers system
• Accreditation by ENQA (European Association for Quality Assurance in Higher Education)
• Further transparency
• Strive to legally recognised base
Towards global harmonisation evaluation of the veterinary curriculum, and an internationally recognised diploma

- International collaboration between schools, regulatory bodies, and professional organisations to define common principles and standards for veterinary education that meet societal demands
- Organisation of systems to evaluate the quality of the education programmes in relation to the standards
- Transparency regarding procedures and results
- Qualifications from non-approved schools don’t give entrance to the profession
« Hominum animaliumque saluti »

to the Health and Welfare of Man and Animals

THANK YOU FOR YOUR ATTENTION!

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