

**Tracks in the veterinary curriculum at the Faculty of Veterinary Medicine, Utrecht University,
The Netherlands, to introduce disciplines of other domains to improve the skills and
effectiveness of veterinarians**

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Increased awareness of the need to improve the skills of veterinarians (and subsequently job perspectives), required reformulation of the curriculum of the MSc program Veterinary Medicine of the Faculty Veterinary Medicine (FVM) at Utrecht University. In this Master's program, students have the opportunity to choose, apart from more in depth clinical tracks, for a 39 weeks program on different non-clinical skills or subjects. At present, 39 weeks of courses (tracks), focusing on One Health, Animal Welfare Management, Veterinary public governance or research are offered. These tracks consist of a course-based education period of 20 weeks and an internship of 19 weeks. The course-based education period is divided in a compulsory core program (10 weeks) and an elective program (10 weeks). Courses within Utrecht University or other Universities embracing the multi-disciplinary side of the subjects can be chosen. Topics of courses addressed in the One Health track are e.g. risk assessment, risk management and risk communication. The track, Animal Welfare Management, addresses e.g. biology of animal welfare, ethical aspects of welfare issues, analysis and communication of welfare management solutions. Veterinary students are studying the multiple topics together with (bio)medical, psychology, pharmacy students. This mix of students stimulates discussions, opens eyes for other disciplines and increases the skills of all participating students.

Keywords: multi-disciplinary – tracks