

EAEVE Interim Report

13.03.2023

Table of Contents

1.	Name and location	1
2.	Name and details of the current VEE head	1
3.	Date of completion of the Interim Report	1
4.	Major changes since the SER 2019	1
5.	Progress in the correction of minor deficiencies	2
6.	Plans for the near future	2
7.	Expected date of the next visitation	3

1. Name and location

vetmeduni
Veterinärplatz 1, 1210 Vienna
Austria

2. Name and details of the current VEE head

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3. Date of completion of the Interim Report

February 28, 2023

4. Major changes since the SER 2019

More than 70 significant developments and new initiatives have been implemented/further developed since the last visitation. For further information please see the annex.

In December 2021, the vetmeduni concluded its **new performance agreement** with the BMBWF for the period 2022–2024. The PA 2022–2024 financial statements are 12.37% higher than the financial statements for the PA period 2019–2021. However, the budget only covers a calculated cost increase of 2%. As the negotiations finished in December 2021, the vetmeduni had no chance to take the inflation, higher energy costs and increases due to wage negotiations into account. Therefore vetmeduni, together with other Austrian universities, started in 2022 an additional negotiation round with the BMBWF. End of 2022 vetmeduni accomplished to negotiate additional 25 million euro.

A cooperation agreement “**VetmedRegio**” between the Province of Tyrol and the vetmeduni has been signed. Specifically, an endowed professorship for Ruminant Medicine in the Alpine Region as well as a specialisation module in ruminant medicine is now offered to 20 students. This regionalisation of veterinary training represents an important building block for ensuring comprehensive veterinary care in the west and more rural regions of Austria.

As a contribution to the provision of veterinary care in Austria, the number of study places in the Diploma Programme in Veterinary Medicine was increased by **20 additional places** in the academic year 2022/23.

vetmeduni is currently in the process of introducing a **new veterinary hospital information system**. The previous provider didn't longer support further technical and content-related development.

vetmeduni tackled the **COVID-19 crisis** successfully. A detailed list of measures can be found in the annex.

The **cooperation with TierQuarTier Vienna** was terminated with effect from the summer semester 2022.

We would like to inform EAEVE beforehand, that our high numbers of patients in our new university clinic for small animals have been decreasing in 2022. Major causes were the Covid-

19 crisis and relating thereto staff shortage due to illness, the termination of the cooperation with TierQuarTier Vienna and the relocation and start-up period of the new university clinic for small animals. A lot of measures were taken to keep the development in balance, e.g. agile and flexible processes, strengthening of the communication structures within the clinic and with practitioners, embracing of postgraduate development programmes.

Furthermore, we would like to inform you beforehand, that due to the strict national regulations during the Covid-19 crisis we had to decrease our efforts in extramurally student visitations of individual ruminants and pig patients. Therefore, we didn't manage to fulfil this indicator (I15) successfully. As the national Covid-19 regulations are changing into a more flexible management of the crisis within the last few months, we are confident that our regular student visitations to individual ruminant and pig patients can increase again. We will monitor this development very carefully.

The vetmeduni is undergoing a major process of change (e.g. digitalisation, competitive labour market, new tenure track options). As a result, the Rectorate has decided to work on these challenges and opportunities for the whole organisation, its culture and communication in a major project entitled **vetmeduni+: shaping the future together**.

5. Progress in the correction of minor deficiencies

15 out of 16 recommendations of the EAEVE Expert Commission were included in content-related and strategic discussions and implemented according to the internal and national framework conditions. Only the recommendation of the option for a professional doctorate can't be further assessed due to binding regulations of the Austrian legislative framework. For a detailed overview of the individual recommendations please see the annex.

6. Plans for the near future

The **vetmeduni development plan 2030** will be updated in 2023. The development plan is the university's strategic, future-oriented planning instrument. It forms an essential basis for the performance agreements and contains an analysis of vetmeduni's situation, potential, strategies, and objectives for the coming years.

The vetmeduni is successfully participating in the BMBWF's **Uni-Med-Impuls 2030 programme**. This programme aims to strengthen university-level medical research and education in Austria. As part of the programme, the vetmeduni will install three new professorships (in systems genetics, One Health, and comparative cross-species infectiology) and will participate in establishing the inter-university Ignaz Semmelweis Institute. In the future, the new institute will serve as a comprehensive contact point for politics, science and research in infection biology, while conducting high-quality basic and clinical infectious diseases and relevant pathogens.

The results (expected in autumn/winter 2023) out of the **vetmeduni+** project will be integrated into the future campus re-development of the buildings and infrastructure.

7. Expected date of the next visitation

Autumn 2026