



## **FACULTY OF VETERINARY MEDICINE – STARA ZAGORA**

### **Practical training of veterinary medicine students**

#### **Requirements for preparing the written report on a pre-graduation external practical training (EPT)**

##### **First part – National Competent Authority / Food Safety Agency (FSA)**

The information in the report should be organized in the following sections:

1. A presentation of the structure of the Regional Food Safety Directorate (RFSD) as a part of the state competent authority at the student's residence, with the primary functions of the departments in the fields of control and protection of animal health, humane treatment of animals, and public health; control of the safety of food, feed, control on veterinary medical products, border control (for regions with border checkpoints).
2. Number of sites and enterprises controlled by the RFSD where EPT's been conducted, and number of expert staff involved with the "Food control" department. Parallel data must be included with regard to the "Animal health and welfare and feed control" department (number of farms per animal species, number of feed factories, number of registered veterinary practices/clinics, veterinary pharmacies, and warehouses for wholesale trade with veterinary medical products).
3. Information on visited sites/enterprises per dates and the name of the responsible RFSD expert that accompanied the trainee. We recommend visiting at least one facility of meat production, meat processing, or dairy processing plant. If possible – visits to facilities processing poultry/waterfowl meat and products, eggs, fish, bee honey, warehouses and stores. In addition, a visit to a veterinary medical product wholesale warehouse can be conducted as well, or a veterinary pharmacy, as well as a feed enterprise in the region.
4. A review of sample forms and skill development for preparation of model documents with regard to execution of official control checks – preparation

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and filling of checklists, protocols for non-compliance, for check findings, etc. (added to the appendices of the report).

5. Presentation of the requirements for registration of a veterinary practice and licencing a veterinary practitioner – requirements towards the practice site and construction, the type and scale of activities conducted therein – description of the required set of documents for the official permission for operation of the practice.

6. Description of the procedures for registration, announcement and eradication of infectious diseases in animals – per data on a registered contagious disease outbreak in the region during the last 5 years (one example by choice; attachment of copies of protocols from epizootic committees, orders for animal stamping out and disposal, and other specific documents attached to the report appendices).

7. Description of the procedures in the visited facilities and any inconsistencies found there. Information on the HACCP systems at the visited enterprises.

8. Presenting a short technological scheme in at least one of the visited larger enterprises, with marked critical control points on it.

## **Second part – Clinical internship**

This part must contain five sections, developed proportionally and reflecting the conducted internship at a small animal clinic and an animal farm (any type of animal).

Section 1 – Reproduction, obstetrics, reproductive conditions, and mammary gland diseases

Section 2 – Surgery and surgical diseases

Section 3 – Internal non-contagious diseases

Section 4 – Infectious diseases

Section 5 – Parasitic diseases



Every section should include detailed accounts of at least four patients – two from a small animal clinic and two from an animal farm.

The scale and formatting must be in accordance with the requirements of the separate Faculty departments, as indicated below.

### Part 1: Reproduction, obstetrics, reproduction disorders and udder diseases

This part of the report should include a general description referring to a small animal clinical and livestock farm in terms of problem importance and prevalence of various obstetric & gynaecological diseases in the region, share of patients with such diseases, causes for reproduction disorders, commonest methods of treatment (hormonal and non-hormonal) and prevention, management of clinical and diagnostic activities for detection of infertility, intensification of reproduction, assisted techniques for reproduction, control of mammary gland diseases and diseases in neonates. A critical analysis on findings showing the personal opinion of the student is desirable.

The description of patient cases should be accompanied with photos, analysis and discussion. This part should occupy at least three typewritten pages.

### Part 2: Surgery and surgical diseases

In the beginning of this part, students describe the up-to-date surgical pathology in the region (for farm animals and horses) and in the respective clinic (for small animals). In the first group, they describe the number and species of animals, rearing technology, possible causes for observed pathology, the commonest methods of treatment and prevention. In small animals, attention should be focused on the capacity of the clinic, surgical diseases at the clinic where the practical training is performed classified by organs and systems, their number with regard to breed specific features, age or random factors. The potential of the clinic in terms of equipment, options for functional diagnostics and diagnostic imaging, performed surgical interventions both for treatment and prevention should be discussed.



After this introduction, patients are described following the protocol for examination of animals with surgical diseases. The status chirurgicus should be presented particularly accurately with all possible methods for clinical, laboratory, functional and diagnostic imaging examinations. Diagnoses are given in English and Latin. Conservative and surgical treatments should be described in detail, with drug doses, operative approach, protocol and outcome. Presentation of photo material is recommended as additional material evidencing the personal involvement of the student.

Described patients should be from different species (2 small animals and 2 farm animals or horses); furthermore, described pathology should be different.

At the end of the part, a critical or sum-up analysis is made that should present the personal opinion of the student about use of inadequate or imprecise methods of diagnostics and treatment, student's proposition for corrections, and description of personal involvement, acquired knowledge and mastered skills.

### Part 3: Internal non-infectious diseases

This part should begin with introduction focused on important internal noninfectious diseases and pathology, with etiology, methods of diagnostics and treatment. The patients should be described according to the requirements for making a case record. The information should include detailed clinical signs, methods for clinical and laboratory examination, applied treatment (types, doses, route, duration of drug treatment) and finally, outcome of the disease should be always written.

### Part 4: Infectious diseases

Information in this part should contain:

1. Personal analysis of the epidemiological state (present infectious diseases and their prevalence) during the last 5 years on the territory of the administrative district, where the pregraduation practical training is carried out. The data must be obtained from the National Veterinary Service.

2. Description of the mass immunoprophylactic and diagnostic activities, part of the prevention program of the National Veterinary Service for

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the calendar year on the territory of the administrative region, where the pregraduation practical training is carried out.

3. Personal critical analysis of the commonest infectious diseases, measures for their treatment, measures for restriction and eradication of registered diseases, effect of their application (in a small animal clinic and at a livestock farm).

4. Description of the personal participation of the student in immunoprophylactic and diagnostic activities carried out during the training in line with the schedule of the state programme of prophylaxis for the respective region.

5. Description of typical clinical cases (in a small animal clinic – 2 cases and at a livestock farm – 2 cases) by using Patient Record Form (uploaded to the site) with personal critical analysis of the used diagnostic algorithm and treatment protocol. The minimum required size of the part “Infectious diseases” in the report is 6 typewritten pages.

### Part 5: Parasitic diseases

The information in this part should contain the following information:

1. Important parasitic diseases by animal species with analysis of the epidemiological state in the region.

2. Zoonotic infections status in the region – single or multiple cases of zoonotic parasitic diseases during the last 3 years.

3. Programme for mandatory antiparasitic prophylactic, therapeutic or mass diagnostic activities in the region.

4. Personal involvement of the student in antiparasitic prophylactic, therapeutic or mass diagnostic activities.

5. Description of the more interesting or frequently seen parasitological cases in the clinic, and participation of the student in their diagnostics and treatment (synopsis of data from the journal with comment on the appropriateness of used drugs for treatment and the outcome of the disease).



The report should be personally written. No copy/paste of information and its identical presentation is allowed. The report should be typewritten on standard A4 pages.

### **Practical training journal**

It is additionally prepared and completed on a daily basis during the external practical training.

The journal contains information on manipulations, diagnostics and treatment of patients, visits in farms or other facilities in a way similar to that used in the ambulatory record. The practical training journals should comply strictly to all columns present in ambulatory records (ID number, date, owner, animal species, diagnosis, manipulations, applied drugs and consumables, route of application, outcome of the disease, remarks). The journal should include all seen patients, not only several chosen by the student. The diagnoses should be given both in English and Latin.

### **Appendix**

Example for plan of a patient's description

#### **Reproduction, obstetrics, reproduction disorders and mammary gland diseases**

I.

1. Anamnesis (disease history)

2. Signalment data

3. General health status

4. Depending on the reproduction problem:

4.1. Data from examination of patients with gynaecological problems

External exam (inspection, palpation, auscultation, transabdominal ultrasonography)

Internal exam (if eligible for this animal species)



- vaginal exam (vagoscopy, endoscopy)
- rectal exam (rectal palpation of genitals, transrectal ultrasonography)

4.2. Data from examination of patients with abortion or parturition problems

External exam (inspection, palpation, auscultation, transabdominal ultrasonography)

State of the parturient animal (state of the bony and soft birth channels)

State of the foetus/foetuses (position, number, vitality, gestational age)

4.3. Data from examination of patients with mammary gland disease

- special exam of the mammary gland (inspection, palpation, test milking, ultrasonography)
- milk examination (macroscopic parameters, California mastitis test, cytological test, microbiological exam)

4.4. Data from examination of male breeders with reproductive problems or evaluation of reproductive status of the animal

- special andrological exam (evaluation of genitals and sexual reflexes)
- analysis of semen (if necessary)

5. Data from laboratory analyses (haematological, blood biochemical, hormonal, cytological, microbiological, parasitological etc.) and radiography (if done)

6. Diagnosis (clinical diagnosis based on performed examinations and full Latin name)

7. Prognosis

8. Treatment

- method of treatment (surgical or non-surgical) – the used method should be described in details; in case of surgical intervention, to list the sequence of manipulations and the type of anaesthesia
- medications – full commercial name, used dose, application route and treatment frequency, treatment duration should be specified
- the outcome of the disease should be described (if data are available)



II. In case of pregnancy exam, the following should be listed:

1. Species, number and age of animals
2. Method of pregnancy check-up, examination method and criteria for pregnancy confirmation depending on the foetal gestational age
3. Result from the examination (% pregnant and 5 non-pregnant animals)

III. If estrus and ovulation synchronisation and/or insemination are done, the following should be listed:

1. Species, number and age of animals
2. The applied synchronisation protocol (hormonal or non-hormonal drugs, the name of the preparation, application route and frequency, single dose for the specific animal species)
3. The method used for detection of animals in oestrus and determination of optimum time for insemination or fixed-time insemination
4. Insemination technology (mating with a male breeder, artificial insemination, semen type, method of semen application, single insemination dose, frequency of insemination).
5. Result and outcome.