Veterinary Eligibility and Education in the Philippines

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President, Philippine Association of Veterinary Medicine Educators and Schools

International conference on veterinary eligibility and education by JSVS and AAVS
Nov 21-22, Ito Research Center, The University of Tokyo, Japan
Veterinary Education System
History of veterinary education in the Philippines

1828
One vet assigned for the Philippines

1888-1939
Urgent need for veterinary services

1907
First organized group of veterinary practitioners

Rinderpest outbreak
History of veterinary education in the Philippines

1908
First veterinary school was established

1910
Start to offer classes

1913
Veterinary regulatory board was established then the Vet Examining Board

Curriculum was 5 years, changed to 4 years then 6 years
Statutory body for the DVM program

- Republic Act No. 7722 known as the ‘’Higher Education Act of 1994’’ gives authority to CHED over public & private Veterinary Schools

- Republic Act No. 9268, otherwise known as ‘’The Philippine Veterinary Medicine Act of 2004’’

- Republic Act No. 8981, otherwise known as ‘’PRC Modernization Act of 2000’’
Roles of Statutory bodies

- Joint CHED-PRC Evaluation Team
- CHED Technical Committee for DVM
  - Evaluation and Monitoring of 21 Veterinary Schools
  - Issuance of:
    - Certificate of Program Compliance
    - Certificate as Center of Excellence
    - Certificate as Center of Development
Veterinary Education and Accreditation System in the Philippines

**Commission on Higher Education**
- Authorizes VEEs to offer DVM program
- Requires all VEEs to strictly adhere to the provisions in the CHED policies, standards, and guidelines

**Professional Regulation Commission**
- Admits and issues license of passers in the National Licensure Examination
- Issues renewal of license
- Accredits continuing professional development
Veterinary institutions in the Philippines

1. Aklan State Univ
2. Benguet State Univ
3. Cagayan State Univ
4. Capiz State Univ
5. Cavite State Univ
6. Cebu Technological Univ
7. Central Bicol State Uni Agri
8. Central Luzon State Univ
9. Central Mindanao Univ
10. Dela Salle Araneta Univ
11. DMMMSU
12. Isabela State Univ
13. Nueva Vizcaya State Univ
14. Pampanga State Agri Univ
15. Southwestern Univ
16. Tarlac College of Agric
17. Univ of Eastern Phil
18. UPLB
19. Univ of Southern Mindanao
20. Virgen Milagrosa Univ Foun
21. Visayas State Univ

18 public 3 private
Development/revision of DVM program policies, standards, and guidelines

CMO No. 1 s. 2018 which stipulates the Policies, standards and guidelines for DVM curriculum

CMO No. 46 s. 2012 which stipulates the Policy-Standard to enhance quality assurance through Outcomes-Based Education.

Internationalization and the ASEAN Economic Community (AEC) 2015

Guidelines on Veterinary Education Core Curriculum and Day 1 Competencies established by the World Organization for Animal Health (OIE)

Veterinary Schools and Industry partners must promote continuous quality improvement and meet the demands of international equivalency of quality standards
The DVM Curriculum

6-year course consisting of a 1-year preparatory veterinary medicine curriculum including general education courses and a 5-year professional veterinary medicine curriculum.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Old</th>
<th>New</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>General Education</td>
<td>73</td>
<td>48 (including NSTP)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Basic Sciences</td>
<td>12</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Basic Animal Science</td>
<td>23</td>
<td>22</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Veterinary Medical Sciences</td>
<td>136</td>
<td>145</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>TOTAL</td>
<td>232</td>
<td>229</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
The degree for veterinarians is **Doctor of Veterinary Medicine**

350 - 400 graduates per year

1. **General Education**
   - Introduced to concepts and principles

2. **Basic Science**
   - Practiced with supervision

3. **Basic Animal Science**
   - Demonstrated with minimal supervision

4. **Vet Medicine and internship**
   - 350 - 400 graduates per year
More rigid pre-college preparations

Primary school
6 YRS

Secondary School
4 YRS

Tertiary
6 YRS

Total: 16 years

SCHOOL YEAR

GRADE 6 2017-2018
"First cohort of K to 12 Grade 6 and Grade 12 graduates in 2018"
GRADE 12

GRADE 5 2016-2017
GRADE 11

GRADE 4 2015-2016
GRADE 10

GRADE 3 2014-2015
GRADE 9

GRADE 2 2013-2014
GRADE 8

GRADE 1 2012-2013
"Start of K to 12 education for Grade 1 and Grade 7"
GRADE 7

Pre-college
12 YRS

Tertiary
6 YRS

Total: 18 years

AY 2018-2019
First cohorts
Different academic calendars

First Semester: June - October
Second Semester: November - March
Summer: April - May

First Semester: August - December
Second Semester: January - May
Midterm: June - July
Graduate program for veterinarians

Two universities offer graduate program:

• Master of Science in Veterinary Medicine
• Master of Veterinary Studies

PhD programs in other countries
Regulatory system
• Created in 1973
• Professional Regulatory Boards (PRB) for 46 Professions
Issuance and Renewal of license

- The PRC ID is renewed every 3 years after compliance with 45 CPD points

Disciplinary procedures

- administratively revoke the Certificates of Registration of or suspend registered and licensed veterinarians from the practice of his/her profession
“The Philippine Veterinary Medicine Act of 2004"

PRACTICE OF VETERINARY MEDICINE

Who can practice?

Veterinarians licensed by the Professional Regulation through the Professional Regulatory Board of Veterinary Medicine
Veterinary Licensure examination (VLE)

Held August each year for 3 days

**Veterinary licensure exam subjects**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>1. Vet Anatomy</th>
<th>5. Vet Pharmacology</th>
</tr>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2. Vet Physiology</td>
<td>6. Zootechniques (including animal behavior and environmental health)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

75% passing score
VLE examination sites

Conduct of veterinary licensure examination in 6 sites (Manila, Baguio, Cagayan De Oro, Cebu, Davao and Tuguegarao)
Special VLE for overseas filipino workers

For 20 professions

TESTING CENTERS

- Abu-Dhabi, United Arab Emirates
- Doha, Qatar
- Riyadh, Kingdom of Saudi Arabia
- Jeddah, Kingdom of Saudi Arabia
- Al-Khobar, Kingdom of Saudi Arabia
- Al Ahmadi, State of Kuwait
- Muscat, Oman
- Tel Aviv, Israel

And SINGAPORE
National percentage of passing the VLE

About 40% of licensed graduates per year
455/950 (48%) passed in 2018
The CPD Council

Accreditation of:
- CPD provider
- CPD program
- Earning credit units under self-directed and/or lifelong learning
## Major areas of CPD activities

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Major areas</th>
<th>Coverage</th>
<th>CREDIT UNITS REQUIRED</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Enhancement of professional practice and technical</td>
<td>Programs, seminars, wet lab training, webinars and other training activities on advances of accepted new developments in veterinary profession</td>
<td>40</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Environmental factors affecting the profession (socio-civic activities, gender and personality development)</td>
<td>Community service, volunteerism in socio-civic activities, involvement in gender and personality issues</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Standards of professional practice (Ethics, Laws, DA Admin Order, PRB/PRC issuances)</td>
<td>Review, updates on the ethical standards of the profession, new laws related to the profession, lessons learned from promulgated malpractice and administrative cases vs vets, DA/PRC/PRB issuances related to the profession</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td></td>
<td>45</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Year</td>
<td>Event Description</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>------</td>
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<tr>
<td>1913</td>
<td>Public Act No. 2245 Creation of Veterinary Examining Board</td>
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<tr>
<td>1992</td>
<td>The Code of Ethics for the veterinary medicine ratified by PVMA</td>
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<tr>
<td>2004</td>
<td>“The Philippine Veterinary Medicine Act of 2004&quot;</td>
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</table>
"The Philippine Veterinary Medicine Act of 2004"

PRACTICE OF VETERINARY MEDICINE

What and How to practice?
The Philippine Veterinary Medical Association affiliates

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>College Name</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Philippine College of Canine Practitioners</td>
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<tr>
<td>Philippine College of Swine Practitioners</td>
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<tr>
<td>Philippine College of Equine Practitioners</td>
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<tr>
<td>Philippine College of Poultry Practitioners</td>
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<tr>
<td>Philippine College of Ruminant Practitioners</td>
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<tr>
<td>Philippine College of Veterinary Pathology</td>
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<tr>
<td>Philippine College of Veterinary Public Health</td>
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<tr>
<td>Philippine College of Veterinary Epidemiology</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Philippine College of Veterinary Feed Practitioners</td>
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<tr>
<td>Philippine Veterinary Drug Association</td>
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<tr>
<td>Philippine Animal Hospital Association</td>
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</tbody>
</table>
Trends in the practice of profession

6 out of 10 veterinarians are females

More female veterinarian graduates
More veterinarians go into companion animal practice.
Trends in the practice of profession

Many opportunities to work abroad but not as accredited vet
More veterinarians involved in continuing professional development activities
Trends and challenges in the profession

• Veterinary establishment should produce vets who are far more competent/knowledgeable than what users can avail online
Summary

• Veterinary education is transforming to address the changing landscape of practice and pedagogy of learning

• Competitive admission and retention of students, and registration of licensed veterinarians

• Institutions undergo evaluation for compliance and levelling by regulatory/accreditation body (CHED, AACCUP), for quality assurance system (ISO), for delivery of veterinary services (OIE)
Way forward

• Evaluate/benchmark the status of all veterinary schools in the country to come up with a common instrument for regional accreditation

• Improvement on the eligibility rate of veterinarians

• Need to increase number/enhance staff capacity for new courses

• Strengthen international collaboration
Players for effective and efficient practice

- 21 Vet schools (PRODUCERS)
- CHED and PRC (REGULATORS)
- PVMA (PROMOTERS)

Veterinary services (USER BENEFICIARIES)
We accept the challenges of inadequacies to improve our performance
Thank you for your attention.