LITHUANIAN UNIVERSITY OF HEALTH SCIENCES
VETERINARY ACADEMY
THE DESCRIPTION OF PROCEDURE PRACTICE OF ANIMAL NURSING OF THE STUDENT IN THE STUDY PROGRAMME OF VETERINARY MEDICINE

I.   GENERAL PART

1. The description of the procedure for the Organization, Implementation and Evaluation of Practice Animal Nursing (hereinafter - Practice) in the Study Programme of Veterinary Medicine in the Faculty of Veterinary Medicine (hereinafter FVM), Veterinary Academy, Lithuanian University of Health Sciences (hereinafter - Procedure) was prepared with reference to the following documents:

1.1. The law of Science and Studies of the Republic of Lithuania, 30 April 2009, No. XI-242 (Official Gazette, 2009, No. 54-2140). Amendment act No. XII-2534 (01 January 2017)

1.2. Law of Veterinary Activities of the Republic of Lithuania of 17/12/1991, No. I-2110; Amendment act No. V-953, 01 September 2023)

1.3. Description of Veterinary Study Field (Decree of Minister of Education, Science and Sport No V-1687, 2020-11-04);

1.4. Manual of Standard Operating Procedure (ESEVT Leipzig SOP 2023);

1.5. Regulation of the Studies at LSMU (approved by Decree No. 190-03 of the LSMU Senate on 29 May 2025).

2. This Procedure defines organization, implementation and assessment of the practical training for 3rd-year students of Veterinary Medicine at LSMU VA in private small animal veterinary clinics, animal shelters, stud farms, farms, companies, zoos, or other veterinary medicine practice facilities.

3. The formation of the Practice shall be organized by the unit of the Faculty of Veterinary Medicine (FVM) and coordinator approved by the FVM Council.

II. BASIC CONCEPTS

4. **Practice of animal nursing** – an obligatory part of Veterinary medicine study program, encompassing preclinical skills: animal welfare and ethology, anatomy, physiology, histology, clinical pathology, propaedeutic, diagnostic imaging, microbiology, epidemiology, virology, parasitology, pharmacology, and general pathology as outlined in the Veterinary Medicine study program. Upon acquiring these skills in practice, students are expected to be prepared to undertake clinical studies.

5. **Coordinator of practice of animal nursing** (hereinafter - Coordinator) - the FVM lecturer indicated in plan of VM third year studies.

6. **Supervisor of the practice of animal nursing** (hereinafter - Supervisor) – a person, who has qualification of veterinary doctor and working experience of at least 3 years.

7. **Base of practice of animal nursing** (hereinafter – Practice base) – private small animal clinics, animal shelters, stables, stud farms, zoos, and enterprises of various legal forms operated by private veterinary practitioners, where veterinary activities are carried out.

8. **Practice documents** - documents prepared during the Practice, which the student prepares according to the requirements specified by the university and submits for evaluation at the time indicated by the coordinator.

9. **Competences** - skills, knowledge, abilities formed during Practice.
10. **Health Insurance** - all students of VM are insured against accidents during Practice in any country where the practice takes place, provided that the Practice agreement has been signed.

III. THE AIM OF THE PRACTICE

11. To provide conditions for the student to acquire practical/professional competencies necessary to achieve the learning outcomes of the study program

IV.   PROSPECTIVE RESULTS OF THE PRACTICE

12. During the Practice, students must strengthen the following competencies and be able to:
12.1. Comply with, monitor, ensure, and control occupational and biological safety standards, manage laboratory waste disposal, and clean the workplace after work;
12.2. Collect the anamnesis (medical history) of small and large animals;
12.3. Communicate appropriately with the animal owner;
12.4. Restrain and handle animals (horses, ruminants, dogs, cats, and exotic animals);
12.5. Perform a general clinical examination of small animals and assess physiological parameters;
12.6. Perform a primary clinical examination of a horse (BCS, mucous membrane color, CRT, T, HR, RR, digital pulse, assessment of peristalsis);
12.7. Perform a primary clinical examination of cattle (BCS, mucous membrane color, CRT, T, HR, RR, assessment of peristalsis);
12.8. Identify the physiological heart rhythm and assess heart sounds in a dog by auscultation;
12.9. Perform and interpret an ECG for small animals;
12.10. Recognize normal respiratory sounds and determine the respiratory rate;
12.11. Recognize physiological gastrointestinal peristaltic sounds;
12.12. Apply general principles of administering enemas in small animals (dogs, cats);
12.13. Perform an oral (dental) examination of small animals;
12.14. Perform an eye examination of small animals and select appropriate tests (fluorescein, Schirmer tear test, light reflex tests);
12.15. Administer or inject medication properly (subcutaneous, intramuscular, intradermal, intravenous) in small and large animals;
12.16. Apply fluid therapy to small animals (dog, cat, ferret, rabbit);
12.17. Be able to collect blood from small animals via the *cephalic*, *saphenous*, or *jugular* veins.
12.18. Select appropriate diagnostic imaging methods based on the clinical situation and anamnesis.
12.19. Prepare intravenous catheters and select appropriate ones for small animals.
12.20. Insert and secure an intravenous catheter in a small animal.
12.21. Select and identify appropriate needles and syringes.
12.22. Properly draw up medications.
12.23. Be able to collect blood from large animals (horses, ruminants).
12.24. Prepare and properly select intravenous catheters for horses.
12.25. Insert and securely fix an intravenous catheter in a large animal.
12.26. Apply fluid therapy in both small and large animals.
12.27. Assess the health status of various animal species based on blood biochemical and

hematological test results.

12.28. Properly select blood collection tubes for hematological and biochemical analysis.

12.29. Prepare and stain blood smears.

12.30. Determine the leukocyte differential count under a microscope.

12.31. Perform a dermatological examination and collect skin samples in small animals.

12.32. Collect, store, and transport urine samples.

12.33. Perform microscopic analysis of urine sediment and interpret the results.

12.34. Provide inpatient care for small and large animal patients.

12.35. Assess abomasa displacement in cattle.

12.36. Assess the movements of the rumen (frequency, strenght, duration) in cattle.

12.37. Perform urine analysis: physical, chemical, and microscopic sediment examination.

12.38. Prepare and evaluate cytological smears.

12.39. Interpret laboratory test results and communicate them to the animal owner.

12.40. Select tools and collect samples for cytological examination.

12.41. Prescribe a branded veterinary drug based on the presented clinical case.

12.42. Prescribe a compounded (extemporaneous) drug based on the presented clinical case.

12.43. Prescribe a branded human medicine based on the presented clinical case.

12.44. Complete a pharmacovigilance report form based on the presented clinical case.

12.45. Calculate the dose of a liquid drug, prepare the required volume for subcutaneous, intramuscular, and intravenous injection, and perform the procedure.

12.46. Classify branded veterinary medicines by indication, based on provided clinical cases.

12.47. Determine the suitability of medicinal substances for food-producing animals according to relevant legislation and assign appropriate withdrawal periods.

12.48. Indicate possible side effects of veterinary medicinal products.

12.49. Identify parasites on a smear: helminths, ticks, lice, fleas, protozoa (Anoplocephalidae, Taeniidae, Dipylidiidae, Fasciola, Paramphistomum, Parascaris, Toxocara, Oxyuris, Dirofilaria, Ctenocephalides, Bovicola, Haematopinus, Psoroptes, Cheiletiella, Demodex, Babesia, Cryptosporidium).

12.50. Position the patient (dog, cat, horse), determine exposure parameters, review and interpret radiographic images.

12.51. Review and interpret ultrasound images, identify artifacts, and adjust image acquisition settings.

12.52. Acquire the specifics of performing radiographic examinations of equine limbs (correct positioning of the horse's leg, proper positioning of the X-ray machine and detector in relation to the limb).

12.53. Acquire the specifics of performing equine orthopedic ultrasound (clipping the horse's limb to ensure proper contact, correct positioning, choosing an appropriate probe for tendon and ligament examination, applying and using gel properly).

12.54. Acquire the specifics of performing abdominal ultrasound in horses using the FLASH method.

12.55. Acquire the specifics of performing reproductive (obstetric) ultrasound in horses and ruminants.

12.56. Acquire the skills to perform endoscopic procedures (bronchoscopy, gastroscopy) in horses.

12.57. Design a laboratory protocol for Staphylococcus isolation. Identify staphylococci based on coagulase, lecithinase, protein A, and mannitol salt fermentation.

12.58. Design a laboratory protocol for Escherichia coli isolation. Choose automated systems for determining biochemical activity of enterobacteria.

12.59. Evaluate antimicrobial susceptibility of microorganisms using the disk diffusion method in vitro.

12.60. Evaluate the minimum inhibitory concentration (MIC) of antimicrobials using serial dilution

methods.

12.61. Select selective, differential, and diagnostic media for Staphylococcus, Escherichia, Salmonella, Mycoplasma, yeasts, and fungi.

12.62. Select appropriate cultivation methods for anaerobic bacteria.

12.63. Select appropriate samples for virology testing and prepare them for shipment.

V. ORGANIZATION AND IMPLEMENTATION OF THE PRACTICE

13. The Practice is obligatory for all third-year students of the study programme of Veterinary Medicine.

14. A student can perform the Practice only after fulfilling 5 semester study plan of study programme of Veterinary Medicine.

15. The extent and duration of the Practice is regulated by the Study Plan of the program of Veterinary medicine.

16. The extent of the Practice – 80 hours (3 ETCS) including 1.5 hours allocated for informing students about Practice procedures, report writing requirements, and other relevant information; 44 hours – practice in the chosen small animal clinic; 11 hours at horse stables; 11 hours at agricultural companies and private farms; 4.5 hours for consultations on report writing and submission; hours practice in the stud farms; 5 hours for independent work (writing the reflection and the internship report); 3 hours for the student's practical assessment.

17. The students choose the Practice base personally (from given list at the LSMU Moodle) and inform practice coordinator.

18. A student may propose a practice placement themselves; however, before a contract is signed, the placement must be evaluated by the internship coordinator and clinic supervisors and recognized as suitable for the internship (Annex 1).

19. The Contract of Practical Training of the Student (praktika.lsmuni.lt) regarding Practice shall be signed (electronic signature) between the University, base of Practice and the student. The University shall be represented by a person appointed by the Rector's order.

20. Students may not perform Practice in companies owned by parents or other close relatives.

21. Practices conducted at foreign university-affiliated institutions are carried out in accordance with the Student Practical Training Agreements established by the University.

22. The student performs the Practice at the Practice base in guidance of the Supervisor.

23. The student together with the Supervisor draw up a time schedule (Annex 2) for the Practice. The schedule must be placed in Moodle during the first week of the practice. Changes to the schedule shall be notified to the coordinator via e-mail and immediately placed renew schedule in Moodle.

24. During the Practice a student must fill in a logbook (hereinafter – Practice Logbook) with information about tasks performed and acquired skills (Annex 3).

25. During the practice, the student records the number of animals observed and assessed (Annex 4). The recommended minimum number of animals is indicated in Table 1 of Annex 4.

26. During the practice, the student prepares the ANIMAL NURSING PRACTICE DOCUMENT (hereinafter referred to as the Practice Document) (Annexes 3, 4, and 5) in accordance with the REQUIREMENTS FOR ANIMAL NURSING PRACTICE DOCUMENTS (Annex 7) and submits it to the coordinator at the prearranged time. The document in PDF format is uploaded to the Moodle platform.

27. The Procedures of Practice, Annexes and other related documents are uploaded on the webpage of LSMU https://lsmu.lt/en/most-important-documents-of-faculties/#faculty-of-veterinary-medicine and Moodle course of PRACTICE OF ANIMAL NURSING.

VI. FUNCTIONS, RIGHTS, DUTIES AND RESPONSIBILITIES OF THE PRACTICE SUPERVISOR

28. The supervisor shall:
28.1. Enable and help students to deepen their preclinical theoretical knowledge and practical skills;
28.2. Provide an opportunity for students to carry out the study results provided in the description of the Practice under supervision which will allow to prepare for clinical studies;
28.3. Presents safety and bio-safety requirements to the students;
28.4. At the end of the practice, the Practice Supervisor evaluates the competencies acquired by the student with a grade, completes the EVALUATION (Annex 6), and confirms it with their signature and stamp, also confirming that the data provided in the logbook and report are accurate and truthful.
28.5. Informs the Coordinator if the student does not attend the practice, or in cases of other disciplinary or conduct violations, or in the event of an accident.
28.6. In the event of an accident, take measures to provide or call for first aid and immediately inform the Coordinator.

VII. FUNCTIONS, RIGTHS, DUTIES AND RESPONSIBILITIES OF THE PRACTICE COORDINATOR

29. The Practice is organized under the responsibility of the Coordinator who shall:
29.1. Organize preparation of the necessary documents;
29.2. Fill out the descriptions of clinical practice in LSMU SIS;
29.3. Ensure timely preparation and submission of the tripartite agreements to students;
29.4. Organize selection and evaluation of Bases for Practice;
29.5. Organize acceptance of Practice documents is administered in LSMU Moodle;
29.6. Organize an anonymous survey of students and carry out its analysis;
29.7. Organize final practical examination.
29.8. Summarizes the practice evaluation results and enters them into LSMUSIS.
29.9. Presents the results of the Practice to the VF Council and submits the results of the student survey and the financial report on the payment to the Practice Bases

VIII. STUDENT 'S RIGHTS, POSITION AND RESPONSIBILITIES

30. During the Practice a student must:
30.1. Follow the internal regulation of procedure and biosecurity specific in the Practice base;
30.2. Follow the principles of veterinary ethics;
30.3. Perform the tasks provided in this procedure and the contract of the Practice and assigned by the Supervisor;
30.4. Be insured from accidents by the University during the Practice;
30.5. Change the Practice base in cases when commission formed by the FVM dean evaluated causes as objective.
30.6. To prepare and submit the Practice documents on the set time.
31. Student's duties:
33.1. Carry out the Practice in accordance with these Regulations and receive the necessary consultations.
33.2. Refuse in writing to carry out the Supervisor's assignments, informing the coordinator, if tasks assigned during the practice are not related to the intended learning outcomes of the Practice.
34. Students have the right to appeal and complain:

34.1. Regarding the assessment and assessment procedures, the student has the right to appeal in accordance with the provisions of the LSMU Study Regulations.

34.2. In cases of harassment, sexual harassment, pursuit or violence, the student may contact the University administration directly or fill in the report form in the Academic Ethics section of the University website in Lithuanian or English, as specified in the Rules of Prevention of Harassment, Sexual Harassment, Pursuit and Violence of Lithuanian University of Health Sciences. Free psychological assistance is provided to LSMU staff and students who have experienced discrimination, harassment or other degrading events.

34.3. Students have the right to complain about disputes with the administration and other employees in accordance with the LSMU Student Dispute Resolution Procedure with the administration and other employees.

IX. REPORTING OF THE PRACTICE

35. Filled practice logbook (Annex 3), numbers of seen/evaluated animals (Annex 4) and reflection (Annex 5) should be submitted to the Coordinator. All these documents shall be saved in PDF format and placed in Moodle at the course specified by the Coordinator. At title page of the Document student shall indicate his/her name, surname and group (f.e. *Name Surname 1 group.pdf).*

36. If the practice document is not submitted for evaluation or is submitted incomplete, the student will not be allowed to participate in the OSICE.

37. After submitting all the necessary documents, student shall attend practical examination on time, set by the Coordinator.

38. The final practical examination is organized by OSICE principles.

II. EVALUATION OF THE PRACTICE

39. The student 's knowledge acquired during the Practice is assessed in accordance with the provisions of the LSMU Study Regulation.

40. The logbook, numbers of seen/evaluated animals, reflection and practical examination are evaluated by the members of evaluation commission approved by FVM dean.

41. For the assessment of student achievements, a cumulative assessment is applied (from 1.0 to 10.0 points) using formula:

E – 100 %. – Final evaluation of the Practice (from 1 to 10 grades);

E = A (20 %) + B (10 %) + P (70 %)

A – 20 % – average of the Supervisor's evaluations (from 1 to 10 grade). *From three supervisors' evaluations must be graded as positive (not less than 5);*

B – 10 % – average of the practice document evaluation (from 1 to 10 grade). *Averages of the evaluations of small animals, equines and ruminant practice parts must be graded as positive (not less than 5);*

P – 70 % –the average score of the practical task assessments (the total score divided by the number of assessed practical tasks), rated on a scale from 1 to 10. The assessment criteria for the practical tasks are provided in the description of the OSICE in Veterinary Medicine

42. All the parts of the Practice evaluation (A, B and P) must be graded as positive (not less than 5). If at least one part is graded as negative, the average is not calculated. In this case students shall retake the Practice.

Note: Minimal positive grade is not less than 5 (five). When the grade is less (i.e., 4,99), this grade is not mathematically rounded.

XI. FINAL PROVISIONS

43. The Supplements of the Procedures (approved by the VF Council on 21/10/2020, Protocol No. 15) enters into force on 28.08. 2025. Protocol No. Nr. VAF10-13
44. The Procedure may be amended, supplemented or cancelled by the decision of the Council of the Faculty of Veterinary Medicine.

Lithuanian University of Health Sciences
Veterinary Academy
Students of veterinary medicine programme
Practice of animal nursing
Annex 1

PRACTICE BASE EVALUATION FORM

....

(Full name of institution)

....

(Form completion date)

No.	Requirements for clinical practice base	Description
1.	**At the base of clinical practice clinical procedures and animal examination shall be constantly carried out in the following areas:** • Animal obstetrics, reproduction and reproductive disorders. • Veterinary surgery; • Animal internal diseases; • Infectious diseases, zoonosis • Parasitic diseases; *(Indicate the average of the procedures, tests, completed paperwork during the year).*	
2.	**Personnel** • Veterinary doctors' distribution according to work experience (> 3y., <3 y.); • The number of veterinary doctors to serve as practice supervisors;	
3.	**Treated patient's spectrum:** • Most commonly treated diseases and procedures performed, including their monthly/annual numbers • Number of surgeries performed per month/year according to the most common diseases • Provide a list of surgical operations performed • Other veterinary procedures carried out at the clinic	
4.	**Diagnostic equipment used in the clinic** *(list).* Ultrasound and/or X-ray* Hematology analyzer* Biochemistry analyzer* Urine analyzer* Sample collection for laboratory or cytological testing Sample collection for laboratory or bacteriological testing Microscope* Possibility to perform blood smear analysis Surgical room* Vital signs monitor Inhalation anesthesia* Surgical lamp Instrument autoclave Otoscope* Laryngoscope* Dental scaler* *Mandatory in small animal practice bases (veterinary clinics)* Also, state if clinic is divided into separate sectors.	
5.	**Conditions for student work:** • Possibility to use computer and network; • Periodic income of scientific and veterinary medical practice publications for self-education; • Change rooms and washrooms for trainees. *(Shower, cloakroom etc.)*	
6.	**Maximum number of students allowed to perform practices at once** *(list)*	
8.	**Availability for trainee accommodation**	

Note: If clinical practice base fails 1-4 parts, in clinical practice base list is not included.
Form completed by: _____

 (*Duties, name, surname, signature*)

Institution manager: _____

*(Name, surname, signature, **stamp of the company**)*

by e-mail: vetklinikinepraktika@lsmu.lt

Lithuanian University of Health Sciences
Veterinary Academy
Students of veterinary medicine programme
Practice of animal nursing
Annex 2

Schedule of PRACTICE ANIMAL NURSING

Base of practice:

Student:
Name, Surname, group

Month *(exmaple: September)*	**Day** *(example: 12)*	**Time** *(example: 08:00 -14:00)*
Total Hours:		

Date

Supervisor of practice:

Name Surname Signature Stamp

THE LOGBOOK
(Must be filled each day of the Practice)

Date and time of the practice	Acquired competencies	General number of skills/procedures

....
Practice supervisor 's name, surname, date, signature,

NUMBERS OF ANIMALS OBSERVED AND ASSESSED DURING
PRACTICE OF ANIMAL NURSING

Date	Animal species (dog, cat, cattle, horse, exotic animal)	Number

1 Table. RECOMMENDED MINIMUM NUMBER OF ANIMALS

Specie	Cattle	Horses	Dogs/cats	Exotic animals	In general,
Numbers of patients	7	7	20	5	39

Reflection of analytic experience acquired during the Practice (reflection) (1 page)

1. Reflection must be written in English.

2. Text must be written by the computer in the font *Times New Roman,* the height of the characters of the main text is 12 pt (font). Terms in Latin can be written in *Italic* font.

3. In the reflective analytical analysis of the internship experience, one most memorable case is selected and analyzed in detail.

4. In the reflection a student must write a summary of the practice, describing which tasks were acquired most successfully, what he needs to improve, if theoretical knowledge was enough for completing tasks. How students acted when there was any challenge.

5. Students given evaluation of the use of the Practice.

6. Suggestions for improving the Practice.

STUDENTS PRACTICE OF ANIMAL NURSING SUPERVISOR 'S **EVALUATION**

A 3ᵈ year student .... of the program of Veterinary

(name, surname)

medicine of Lithuanian university of health sciences, Veterinary Academy. Faculty of Veterinary Medicine carried out Practice of animal nursing at ....from year

(company name)

20 ...., ...month, ... day *to* year 20 ...., ...month, ... day.

I ...., the practice supervisor, DECLARE that information provided in logbook and table are true and correct.

I evaluate student 's skills acquired during the Practice:

Studies results	Rating (1-10)	Comments
Professional abilities Evaluation of student's ability to perform given practical tasks.		
Independence Ability to work and complete given tasks independently, orientation and evaluation of situation.		
Teamwork abilities Ability to work in a team: ability to join teamwork; ability to understand when additional help is needed, control of the situation, reaction to changes, approach of failures of the team members.		
Communication abilities Evaluation of abilities: to ask questions for gaining information for student's questions, to join the discussion, to using ethic, to discuss and talk with the owners, to discuss and talk with the team members.		
Personal qualities Responsibility, punctuality, ability to perform given tasks, tolerance, versatility, reactivity.		
Final evaluation The sum of all 5 evaluations divided by 5 (mathematical rounding is not applicable)		

Supervisors comments and suggestions for improvement of the Practice:
....
....
....
....

Supervisor's Name, Surname, position ....

Requirements for the preparation and submission of the Logbook, number of animals observed and assessed, and the reflection of the Practice of Animal Nursing

The Practice Logbook (Annex 3), the Number of Animals Observed and Assessed During the Practice (Annex 4), and the Reflection (Annex 5) are prepared as a single consolidated document and uploaded in PDF format to the LSMU Moodle section 'Animal Nursing Practice' at the time specified by the coordinator.

The title page of the document must include the student's full name and group (e.g., Name Surname 1 Group. pdf).

Content of the Practice documents:

1. Title page. Provides name of higher education school; name of the study programme; name and surname of the student, course, group; name of practice, name and surname of the supervisor; name of the practice base, year. The second page provides confirmation about independence of the done report. Should be prepared as given on Annex 8.

2. Logbook. Obligatory part of the report, must be completed daily. Student writes acquired competencies and numbers of performed procedures. Text has to be written by the computer, using *Landscape* or *Portrait* orientation, in the font *Times New Roman,* the height of the characters of the main text is 12 pt (font).

3. Number of Animals Observed and Assessed. The number of animals observed and/or assessed during the practice must be recorded. The recommended minimum number of described animals is provided in Table1. Text has to be written by the computer, using *Landscape* or *Portrait* orientation.

 4. Reflection (up to 1 page). Obligatory part of the practice documents. Text has to be written by the computer, using *Landscape* or *Portrait* orientation. If the reflection is not submitted together with the completed logbook and the record of animals observed and assessed during the practice, the practice will not be evaluated**.**

**LITHUANIAN UNIVERSITY OF HEALTH SCIENCES
VETERINARY ACADEMY**
Faculty of Veterinary Medicine

THE DOCUMENT OF PRACTICE OF ANIMAL NURSING

(Title page)

Prepared by: Name Surname
Studies programme, course, group

The title of the Practice base: ....

Supervisor of practice of animal nursing: ....

The title of the Practice base: ....

Supervisor of practice of animal nursing: ....

The title of the Practice base: ....

Supervisor of practice of animal nursing: ....

Kaunas, year

CONFIRMATION OF THE .... **INDEPENDENCE OF THE**

PRACTICE DOCUMENT

I .... **confirm that the presented practice document and all its**

parts:

- **have been done by me;**

- **have not been used in any other Lithuanian or foreign university.**

    I am informed (*aware***) that any violation of the principle of the fair competition, cheating, plagiarism, duplication, otherwise violate of the Clause Academic Honesty of the Study Regulations of LSMU might give cause for expelling me from the University.**

....