

A brief history

- Pre-1991: Uneducated labour
- 1991: Work on establishing veterinary nurse education at NVH
- 1994: 1-year university course at NVH
- 2003: 2-year University college candidate degree
- September 1st 2003: Professional title «dyrepleier» and authorisation as Animal Health Personell

The current situation

Veterinary nurse studies at NVH in 2011

- o4 semesters / 80 weeks
- •46 weeks theory at NVH
- •27 weeks in practice clinics
- 7 weeks practice in NVH's clinics in 3rd / 4th semesters

Teaching

- •Veterinary nurse students taught by veterinary nurses and veterinarians
- •Focus of all teaching is nursing and care
- Teaching is orientated to suit veterinary nurse students
- Practical skills taught by veterinary nurses

Examination of students

- «Traditional» written exams
- Written paper on given topic
- •Oral presentations, 1st and 3rd semesters
- •30-page project paper
- •Final exam: 4-hour written exam, 8-station OSCE

Practical evaluation

- Veterinary nursing journals
- Practice handbooks
- Skills

Challenges

- •NVH placement clinics
- •Veterinary nurse students NVH

Benefits

- •Evidence-based teaching by national-/international-level veterinarians
- Interaction between student groups
- •«Reality-check» in placement clinics

The future

- Heightening of status
- Expansion University college candidate degree to a Bachelor's degree
- Specialisation → Master's degree, Ph. D.
- Standardisation of teaching
- Market for veterinary nurses in Norway
- Keeping veterinary nurses in the profession

Thank you!