Annual Report VPHI 2022–2023

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Annual Report VPHI 2022–2023

1. Preface

1.1. Gertraud Schüpbach
Head of the Institute
Head of Department DCR-VPH (2022/2023)

The Vetsuisse Faculties Bern and Zürich have an excellent academic reputation and are highly successful in research. Vetsuisse was assigned 4th place in the QS World University Ranking for Veterinary Science for the years 2022 and 2023. We are proud that the Veterinary Public Health Institute and its numerous partners were able to contribute to this success. This report summarizes the most important achievements of the last two years.

With the decline in the importance of SARS-CoV-2, other contagious diseases have come into the focus of attention. Avian flu has spread several times across Europe and has become endemic in many wild bird populations. Millions of birds had to be culled due to the disease, and adaptation of the virus to various mammalian species has caused concern over a potential new pandemic in humans. From a veterinary perspective, African Swine Fever is an equally threatening disease. VPHI contributes with its research to prepare Switzerland for a potential introduction of the disease into the wild boar population.

In the past two years, we have invested considerable time and energy into advancing and improving our teaching activities. The new Vetsuisse curriculum is now established in all years of the veterinary education. The epidemiology group of VPHI has expanded its teaching activities and is now contributing to the newly established courses in scientific work, sustainability, and population medicine. This ideally complements our ongoing courses in epidemiology, biostatistics, and highly contagious animal diseases. At the postgraduate level, we have collaborated with the Institute for Social and Preventive Medicine to implement a new course programme in Public Health Sciences for PhD students. At the level of professional education, we have prepared a new CAS in One Health, which will start in 2024.

I would like to thank the whole VPHI team for the great work during the last two years. Their enthusiasm, creativity and collegiality are the basis for our success.

Gertraud Schüpbach
1.2. Hanno Würbel
Head of Division of Animal Welfare

After recovery from the SARS-CoV-2 pandemic, we gradually slipped back in our pre-pandemic routines. More and more team members realized that although home office has its advantages, it is so much more fun to work surrounded by colleagues and be able to combine work with some social life at the workplace.

The greatest achievement of the past two years was clearly the $2.7 million funding award from the US foundation “Open Philanthropy” to Mike Toscano and his team at the Centre for Proper Housing for poultry and rabbits (ZTHZ) to identify traits that relate to the welfare and health of chickens in view of breeding more robust and resistant birds. This award is also a recognition of the significance of our poultry behaviour and welfare research and further helps establish the ZTHZ as an international leader in poultry science.

On the downside, we had to let go of our plans to permanently establish a companion animal behaviour group at our faculty. Supported by an advanced postdoc position sponsored by the Faculty Clinical Research Platform and an Ambizione Grant by the Swiss National Science Foundation, Stefanie Reimer had established and successfully led the HundeUniBern during her six years with us from 2016-2022. The group was not only successful in research but also contributed substantially to teaching, which in turn attracted many veterinary students to do their Master projects with our companion animal behaviour group. We wish her all the best on her new position at the Messerli Research Institute at the Vetmed Uni Vienna.

Besides these two high- and lowlights, there were many other memorable moments, including the resumption of our annual events: the Walks & Talks retreat, the Dodgeball Tournament, and the Christmas Dinner. Everything else, you will find summarized in this biannual report.

Hanno Würbel
2. Research

2.1. Research of the Veterinary Public Health Institute
The World Health Organization defines Veterinary Public Health (VPH) as "the sum of all contributions to the complete physical, mental and social well-being of humans through an understanding and application of veterinary medical science". VPH thus promotes human health by reducing hazards related to animals, animal products, and their environment, and by supporting positive impacts of animals on humans.

VPH is a broad field, and therefore requires a lot of specialized expertise from clinical skills and ethology to molecular epidemiology and mathematical modelling. It is not possible to cover all this expertise within a relatively small institute. The institute's strategy is thus to specialize on a few defined research areas, and cover additional skills via strategic research collaborations, e.g. with clinicians, social scientists, computer scientists, physicists or molecular epidemiologists. The Institute is part of the Department of Clinical Research and Veterinary Public Health (DCR-VPH).

The following topics are in the focus of the institute's research:

Division VPH/Epidemiology

1. Surveillance and big data
   The focus in this area is on the development and application of new methods for syndrome surveillance, the integration of multiple data sources, as well as the evaluation and improvement of monitoring and surveillance programs of the Swiss Veterinary Service.

2. One Health and modelling of infectious diseases
   Projects dealing with the joint promotion of human, animal and environmental health are the focus of this research area. Current projects are concerned with the ecology of rabies and combined systems for health monitoring in humans and animals.

3. Clinical epidemiology and animal health economics
   The focus is on epidemiological and economic models on zoonoses, antimicrobial resistance and animal diseases. Projects such as these deal with improving animal health, reducing antimicrobial usage in animals and assessing economic impacts of animal diseases and intervention programs.

Division Animal Welfare

1. Center for Proper Housing of Poultry and Rabbits (ZTHZ)
   The ZTHZ, a joint venture between the University of Bern and the Federal Food Safety and Veterinary Office (FSVO), focuses on all aspects concerning housing and welfare for commercial poultry and rabbit production. Projects ultimately target applications in practice, but also cover basic research into underlying mechanisms of practical problems.

2. Animal welfare and 3Rs
   This group studies the relationships between behaviour, cognition, and emotion in order to identify valid and reliable behavioural measures of animal welfare. Special focus is given to laboratory animals (mice, rats) and the 3Rs, with studies on how environmental conditions affect the behaviour and welfare of laboratory animals, and how this relates to the validity and reproducibility of results from animal experiments.
3. Current research projects

3.1. VPH/Epidemiology

3.1.1. Antimicrobial resistance

Anomaly detection in the veterinary antibiotic surveillance system IS ABV
VPHI Staff involved: Guy Schnidrig, Gertraud Schüpbach
Funding source: Federal Food Safety and Veterinary Office (FSVO)
Duration: 2022–2023

Antibiotic benchmark for cattle farms in Switerland
VPHI Staff involved: Guy Schnidrig
Funding source: Federal Food Safety and Veterinary Office (FSVO)/ VPHI
Duration: 2022–2023

Antimicrobial usage and Animal health and welfare indicators
VPHI Staff involved: Beat Thomann, Adrian Minnig
Funding source: Federal Food Safety and Veterinary Office (FSVO)
Duration: 2022–2024

Enovat – European Network for Optimization of Veterinary Antimicrobial Treatment
VPHI Staff involved: Luís Pedro Carmo, Brian Friker, Ronald Ngom, Filipe Maximiano Sousa
Funding source: COST
Duration: 2020– ongoing

Relait: Reducing Antimicrobial Use in dairy production in Fribourg
VPHI Staff involved: Brian Friker, Dima Farra
Funding source: Federal Office for Agriculture (FOAG) and Agricultural Institute Canton Fribourg
Duration: 2020– ongoing

3.1.2. Clinical epidemiology and animal health economics

Cattle farm classification based on antibiotic use and animal movement
VPHI Staff involved: Guy Schnidrig
Funding source: Federal Food Safety and Veterinary Office (FSVO) / VPHI
Duration: 2023–2024

Evaluation of Animal Health data
VPHI Staff involved: Valerie Hungerbühler, Gertraud Schüpbach
Funding source: Federal Food Safety and Veterinary Office (FSVO)
Duration: 2021–2024
Paratuberculosis in Swiss dairy cattle
VPHI Staff involved: Silja Griss, Beat Thomann, Gertraud Schüpbach
Funding source: Swiss National Science Foundation (SNSF)
Duration: 2022–2025

GBADs - Estimation of Animal Health Loss Envelope for UK Pork Production
VPHI Staff involved: Beat Thomann
Funding source: The University of Liverpool
Duration: 2022

GBADs Danish Case Study - Estimation of Animal Health Loss Envelope for Danish Pork Production
VPHI Staff involved: Beat Thomann, Camille Doras
Funding source: The University of Liverpool
Duration: 2023–2024

Risk-based animal welfare controls
VPHI Staff involved: Brian Friker, Annie Buzzel, Beat Thomann
Funding source: Federal Food Safety and Veterinary Office (FSVO)
Duration: 2022–2023

Smart Animal Health – A method to assess animal health and welfare in farm animals
VPHI Staff involved: Beat Thomann, Gertraud Schüpbach
Funding source: Federal Food Safety and Veterinary Office (FSVO) and Federal Office for Agriculture (FOAG)
Duration: 2019–2022

Smart Animal Health 2– Implementing animal health and welfare measures in dairy and swine farms
VPHI Staff involved: Beat Thomann, Adrian Minnig, Gertraud Schüpbach
Funding source: Federal Food Safety and Veterinary Office (FSVO) and Federal Office for Agriculture (FOAG)
Duration: 2022– ongoing

3.1.3. One Health & Modelling of infection diseases

Bridging Grants with China, Japan, South Korea and the ASEAN region: Bridging One Health
VPHI Staff involved: Gertraud Schüpbach, Luís Pedro Carmo
Funding source: Swiss Federal Institute of Technology Zurich
Duration: 2020–2023

Building Resilience to Health Hazards
VPHI Staff involved: Salome Dürr, Laura Cunha da Silva
Funding source: Leading House for the Latin American Region
Duration: 2020–2023
**eRabies – towards rabies elimination in Uganda**  
VPHI Staff involved: Salome Dürr  
Funding source: Swiss National Science Foundation (SNSF)  
Duration: 2022–2026

**NCCS: Effect of Climate Change on Human Health, Animal Health and Food Safety**  
VPHI staff involved: Anna-Sophia Stocker, Gertraud Schüpbach, Ioannis Magouras  
Funding source: Meteo Schweiz, Subcontract Vetsuisse  
Duration: 2023–2025

**Leptospira infection in humans and livestock in Uganda**  
VPHI staff involved: Salome Dürr  
Funding source: VPHI  
Duration: 2020–2023

**One Health and citizen science approaches for contextualized community-led interventions tackling waterborne parasitic diseases in Chad**  
VPHI staff involved: Dima Farra, Salome Dürr  
Funding source: Swiss Network of International Studies (SNIS) and Specialization Board Vetsuisse  
Duration: 2022–2024

**Effects of human activities on the behaviour of wild boar for African Swine Fever control**  
VPHI Staff involved: Beatriz Vidondo  
Funding source: Federal Food Safety and Veterinary Office (FSVO), Federal Office for the Environment (FOEN)  
Duration: 2021–2023

**Preparation towards African Swine Fever Control**  
VPHI Staff involved: Janine Miesch, Salome Dürr  
Funding source: Federal Food Safety and Veterinary Office (FSVO)  
Duration: 2023–2025

**SwineNet – network analysis and infectious disease modeling**  
VPHI Staff involved: Francesco Galli, Dima Farra, Salome Dürr  
Funding source: Swiss National Science Foundation (SNSF)  
Duration: 2019–2023

**SySMob - an innovative and integrated health surveillance system in human and animal populations in rural Africa**  
VPHI Staff involved: Salome Dürr  
Funding source: Wolfermann-Nägeli-Stiftung  
Duration: 2021– ongoing
3.1.4. Zoonotic diseases

**EFSA: Prioritizing zoonotic diseases for a One Health Surveillance**
VPHI staff involved: Gertraud Schüpbach, Laura Cunha Silva, Annie Buzzel
Funding source: European Food Safety Agency (EFSA)
Duration: 2023

**Aflatoxin-related health risk for mild consumers**
VPHI Staff involved: Filipe Maximiano
Funding source: International Livestock Research Institute (ILRI)
Duration: 2019–2023

**Comparative study of diagnostic tests for Q fever and rift valley fever in humans and animals in rural Chad**
VPHI Staff involved: Valerie Hungerbühler, Salome Dürr
Funding source: Wolfermann-Nägeli-Stiftung
Duration: 2021–2023

**A systematic review of KAP studies on rabies and exposure to dog bites**
VPHI Staff involved: Filipe Maximiano
Funding source: University of Berne, Doc. Mobility Grant
Duration: 2023–2024

**Towards “Zero by 30”: Investigation into free-roaming dogs’ behaviour and its application for improved rabies control strategies**
VPHI Staff involved: Laura Cunha da Silva
Funding source: VPHI, UniBE Short Travel Grants for (Post)Docs
Duration: 2022–2025

3.1.5. Other topics on VPH/Epidemiology

**The role of women in animal health in Ethiopia’s Somali region**
VPHI Staff involved: Valerie Hungerbühler
Funding source: Specialisation Committee (SpezKo)
Duration: 2023
3.2. Animal Welfare

3.2.1. Animal Welfare and 3Rs

**ENRICHMENT: Ethological evaluation of minimal requirements for the housing of mice as lab animals and pets**
VPHI Staff involved: Hanno Würbel, Michelle Gygax, Janja Novak
Funding source: Federal Food Safety and Veterinary Office (FSVO)
Duration: October 2021 – September 2024

**iRISE: improving Reproducibility in Science**
VPHI Staff involved: Hanno Würbel, Bernhard Völkl
Funding source: EU Horizon Europe (Widera-2022_ERA-01)
Duration: 2023–2026

**Pferdefütterung mittels Slowfeeding-Systemen**
VPHI Staff involved: Hanno Würbel, Marie Roig-Pons
Funding source: Agroscope
Duration: 2019–2024

**PreReg: Preregistration in Animal Experimentation – A Feasibility Study**
VPHI Staff involved: Hanno Würbel, Cristina Priboi
Funding source: Federal Food Safety and Veterinary Office (FSVO)
Duration: 2023–2025

**SABV: Best practice guidance for including sex as a biological variable in animal research**
VPHI Staff involved: Hanno Würbel, Ivana Jaric, Janja Novak, Bernhard Völkl
Funding source: Swiss 3R Competence Centre (3RCC)
Duration: October 2021 – April 2024

**Do dogs indicate true material when they have been conditioned to pseudo-odor only**
VPHI Staff involved: Hanno Würbel, Leonie Trees
Funding source: Albert-Heim-Stiftung
Duration: 2023–2024

3.2.1. Center for proper housing: poultry and rabbits (ZTHZ)

**Behavioral development and variation in movement patterns across laying hens**
VPHI Staff involved: Michael Toscano, Yamenah Gómez, Camille Montalcini, Bernhard Völkl
Funding: Swiss National Science Foundation (SNSF)
Duration: 2019–2023

**Calcium timing as a method to reduce keel bone fractures**
VPHI Staff involved: Masha Marincek
Funding: Effective altruism
Duration: 2022–2023
Determining suitable swimming areas for geese in Switzerland
VPHI Staff involved: Yamenah Gómez
Funding: Federal Food Safety and Veterinary Office (FSVO)
Duration: 2021–2022

Developing artificial stimuli of encourage earlier use of ramps in the early life of laying hens
VPHI Staff involved: Michael Toscano, Ariane Stratmann, Alex Johny
Funding: Horizon 2020, Marie Skłodowska-Curie grant agreement No 812777
Duration: 2019–2023

Developing a phenotype for piling in laying hens
VPHI Staff involved: Ariane Stratmann, Satar Abdelrahman
Funding: Lohmann Breeders GmbH
Duration: 2021–2023

Digital laying hen barn: Modelling a digital laying hen barn using Computational Fluid Dynamics
VPHI Staff involved: Michael Toscano, Sabine Gebhardt
Funding source: Innosuisse
Duration: 2021–2023

Examining the relationship of social dynamics, behaviour and biology of laying hens
VPHI Staff involved: Michael Toscano, Yamenah Gómez, Klara Grethen
Funding: Horizon 2020, Marie Skłodowska-Curie grant agreement No 812777
Duration: 2019–2023

Exploration of sensor-based behavioural observation for individual laying hens and broiler breeders
VPHI Staff involved: Michael Toscano, Yamenah Gómez, Laura Candelotto
Funding: Federal Food Safety and Veterinary Office (FSVO)
Duration: 2019–2023

Exploring the proximate factors affecting movement and location patterns and their relation to health and welfare in poultry
VPHI Staff involved: Michael Toscano, Yamenah Gomez
Funding source: Swiss National Science Foundation (SNSF)
Duration: 2019–2024

GEroNIMO: Genome and Epigenome enabled breeding in Monogastrics
VPHI Staff involved: Michael Toscano, Matthew Petelle
Funding source: EU Horizon 2020
Duration: 2021–2026
**HenGen: Genomic basis of animal health and welfare phenotypes**  
VPHI Staff involved: Masha Maricek  
Funding: Federal Food Safety and Veterinary Office (FSVO)  
Duration: 2022–2024

**HenTrack: Using individual movement and location patterns to improve the genetic selection of commercial laying hens**  
VPHI Staff involved: Michael Toscano, Sabine Gebhardt, Yamelah Gómez  
Funding: Open Philanthropy Project, Hendrix Genetics  
Duration: 2022–2026

**Insect feeding as an alternative protein source for laying hens**  
VPHI Staff involved: Masha Marincek, Ariane Stratmann  
Funding: Berner Fachhochschule  
Duration: 2022–2023

**Optimizing climate control in laying hen aviaries**  
VPHI Staff involved: Sabine Gebhardt  
Funding: Innosuisse  
Duration: 2021–2023

**Toe pecking in laying hens: Identification of risk factors and causes**  
VPHI Staff involved: Franziska Häfliger, Masha Marincek, Alex Johny  
Funding: Federal Food Safety and Veterinary Office (FSVO)  
Duration: 2023–2025
### 3.3. Funding

#### 3.3.1. Project grants VPH/Epidemiology

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Funding Agency</th>
<th>Funding</th>
<th>Amount (CHF)</th>
<th>Duration</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>
| University of Bern, Specialisation Committee (SpezKo) Hungerbühler V  
*The role of women in animal health in Ethiopia’s Somali region* | Travel grant | 5’000 | 2023 |
| Swiss Network of International Studies (SNIS) Dürr S  
*Waterborne parasitic diseases in Chad* | PhD student, other | 25’640 | 2023–2024 |
| Specialization Board Vetsuisse Bern Farra D  
*Prevalence and risk factors of schistosomiasis and fascioliasis in livestock in Chad* | Resident | 25’640 | 2023–2024 |
| Federal Food Safety and Veterinary Office (FSVO) Dürr S  
*Preparation towards African Swine Fever Control* | Doctoral student research | 149’901 | 2023–2025 |
| Meteo Schweiz, subcontract Vetsuisse Schüpbach G  
*NCCS Effect of Climate Change on Human Health, Animal Health and Food Safety* | Resident | 61’000 | 2023–2025 |
| University of Berne, Multidisciplinary Center for Infectious Diseases (MCID) Dürr S  
*Development of a MAS/CAS in One Health* | Scientific assistant | 63’260 | 2023–2026 |
| The University of Liverpool Thomann B  
*GBADs Danish Case Study - Estimation of Animal Health Loss Envelope for Danish Pork Production* | Research | 31’223 | 2023–2024 |
| The University of Liverpool Thomann B  
*GBADs Estimation of Animal Health Loss Envelope for UK Pork Production* | Research | 33’628 | 2022 |
| University of Bern, Doc Mobility grant Maximiano F  
*A systematic review of KAP studies on rabies and exposure to dog bites* | Doctoral student | 56’459 | 2023–2024 |
| European Food Safety Agency (EFSA) Schüpbach G  
*EFSA: Prioritizing zoonotic diseases for a One Health Surveillance* | Resident | 7’186 | 2023 |
| Swiss National Science Foundation (SNSF) Schüpbach G, Thomann B  
*Paratuberculosis in Swiss dairy cattle* | PhD student | 201’263 | 2022–2025 |
<table>
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<tr>
<th>Project Description</th>
<th>Type</th>
<th>Budget</th>
<th>Duration</th>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Swiss Government Excellence Scholarship (Staatsssekretariat für Bildung, Forschung und Innovation)</strong>&lt;br&gt;Jajere S, Schüpbach G&lt;br&gt;Risks of antibiotic resistance along the food chain in Nigeria</td>
<td>Postdoc</td>
<td>42'000</td>
<td>2023–2024</td>
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<td><strong>Swiss Government Excellence Scholarship (Staatsssekretariat für Bildung, Forschung und Innovation)</strong>&lt;br&gt;Loum R, Dürr S&lt;br&gt;Fasciolosis and schistosomiasis in ruminants and horses in rural areas of Chad</td>
<td>PhD student</td>
<td>24'000</td>
<td>2023–2024</td>
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<td><strong>Federal Food Safety and Veterinary Office (FSVO)</strong>&lt;br&gt;Schüpbach G&lt;br&gt;Anomaly detection in the veterinary antibiotic surveillance system IS ABV Switzerland</td>
<td>PhD student</td>
<td>193'463</td>
<td>2022–2024</td>
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<td><strong>Federal Food Safety and Veterinary Office (FSVO)</strong>&lt;br&gt;Thomann B&lt;br&gt;Risk-based animal welfare controls</td>
<td>Resident</td>
<td>56'126</td>
<td>2022–2023</td>
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<td><strong>Federal Food Safety and Veterinary Office (FSVO)</strong>&lt;br&gt;Thomann B&lt;br&gt;Antimicrobial usage and Animal health and welfare indicators</td>
<td>Doctoral student</td>
<td>146'544</td>
<td>2022–2024</td>
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<td><strong>Federal Food Safety and Veterinary Office (FSVO) and Federal Office for Agriculture (FOAG)</strong>&lt;br&gt;Thomann B&lt;br&gt;Smart Animal Health 2– Implementing animal health and welfare measures in dairy and swine farms</td>
<td>Post Doc, Resident</td>
<td>304'360</td>
<td>2022–ongoing</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Federal Food Safety and Veterinary Office (FSVO) Zusatzvertrag</strong>&lt;br&gt;Vidondo B&lt;br&gt;Effects of human activities on the behaviour of wild boar for African Swine Fever control</td>
<td>Global compensation</td>
<td>20'000</td>
<td>2023–2024</td>
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<td><strong>Multidisciplinary Center for Infectious Diseases (MCID)</strong>&lt;br&gt;Dürr S&lt;br&gt;Development of a CAS in One Health</td>
<td>Assistant</td>
<td>63'260</td>
<td>2023–2025</td>
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<td><strong>Zentrum für universitäre Weiterbildung</strong>&lt;br&gt;Dürr S&lt;br&gt;Development of a CAS in One Health</td>
<td>Assistant</td>
<td>25'000</td>
<td>2023–2025</td>
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<td><strong>Nachwuchsförderungskommission der Universität Bern</strong>&lt;br&gt;Maximiano F</td>
<td>Workshop</td>
<td>5'000</td>
<td>2023</td>
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<td><strong>Vizerektorat Entwicklung, Unibe</strong>&lt;br&gt;da Silva L&lt;br&gt;Travel Grant</td>
<td>Travel</td>
<td>4'350</td>
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3.3.2. Project grants Animal Welfare

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<th>Funding</th>
<th>Amount (CHF)</th>
<th>Duration</th>
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<tr>
<td>Federal Food Safety and Veterinary Office (FSVO) Würbel H</td>
<td>Postdoc</td>
<td>148'000</td>
<td>2023–2025</td>
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<tr>
<td>PreReg: Preregistration in Animal Experimentation – A Feasibility Study</td>
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<td>EU Horizon Europe (WIDER-2022-ERA-01) Würbel H</td>
<td>Personnel and purchase costs</td>
<td>323'539</td>
<td>2023–2026</td>
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<td>iRISE: improving Reproducibility In SciencE</td>
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<td>Albert-Heim-Stiftung Würbel H / Trees L</td>
<td>Master student</td>
<td>13'500</td>
<td>2023–2024</td>
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<td>Do dogs indicate true material when they have been conditioned to pseudo-odor only</td>
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<td>Innosuisse Gebhardt S</td>
<td>Scientific Exchange</td>
<td>207'902</td>
<td>2023–2025</td>
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<td>Optimizing climate control in laying hen avaiaries</td>
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<td>Nachwuchsförderungskommission der Universität Bern Yamahachi H</td>
<td>Walks &amp; Talks</td>
<td>5'000</td>
<td>2022–2023</td>
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<td>Nachwuchsförderungskommission der Universität Bern Jaric I SABV Symposium</td>
<td>Workshop</td>
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<td>2022–2022</td>
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<td>Open Philanthropy Project/Lohmann Genetics Toscano M</td>
<td>Post-doc Technician consumables</td>
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<td>2022–2028</td>
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<td>HenTrack: Better breeding for a cage free future – Phase 2</td>
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<td>Swiss National Science Foundation (SNSF) Toscano M, Gómez Y, Petelle M.</td>
<td>Travel accomodation</td>
<td>14’996</td>
<td>2023</td>
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<td>Exploring the proximate factors affecting movement and location patterns and their relation to health and welfare in poultry</td>
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<tr>
<td>Innosuisse/Smartbreed GmbH Toscano M</td>
<td>Postdoc consumables</td>
<td>12’887</td>
<td>2022–2023</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Supplementing laying hen diets with Black soldier fly larvae to benefit behaviour and health</td>
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### Effective Altruism
Toscano M
*Calcium timing as a method to reduce keel bone fracture*

| Technician consumables | 37’000 | 2022–2023 |

### Federal Food Safety and Veterinary Office (FSVO)
Toscano M
*HenGen: Genomic basis of animal health and welfare phenotypes*

| Global compensation | 50’000 | 2022–2024 |

### Federal Food Safety and Veterinary Office (FSVO)
Toscano M
*Toe pecking in laying hens: Identification of risk factors and causes*

| Global compensation | 229’692 | 2023–2025 |

### University of Bern Research Fund Forschungsstiftung
Petelle M
*Partial financing of radio frequency identification (RFID) Antennas*

| Antennas | 15’000 | 2023 |

### Eva Husi-Stiftung
Gomez Y
*RFID Antennas*

| Antennas | 33’000 | 2023 |

### Stierli-Stiftung
Grethen K
*Untersuchung des sozialen Umfeldes von Legehennen*

| Doctoral student | 10’000 | 2022–2023 |
4. Teaching

4.1. Core curriculum, University of Bern

**Scientific Work**
1st Year and 5th year, Vetsuisse Faculty University of Bern
Responsible lecturers: Prof. Dr. Gertraud Schüpbach, Prof. Dr. Salome Dürr, Prof. Dr. Ioannis Magouras

**Ethology, Animal Welfare and Animal Husbandry**
1st Year, Vetsuisse Faculties, University of Bern & Zürich
Responsible lecturers: Prof. Dr. Hanno Würbel, PD Dr. Bernhard Völkl, Dr. Sabine Gebhardt

**Veterinary Public Health I – Research Based Learning Epidemiology**
3rd Year, Vetsuisse Faculty, University of Bern
Responsible lecturers: Prof. Dr. Salome Dürr, Dr. Ioannis Magouras, Prof. Dr. Gertraud Schüpbach, Beatriz Vidondo

**Veterinary Public Health II – Animal Disease Control and Animal Welfare Legislation**
4th Year, Vetsuisse Faculties, University of Bern & Zürich
Responsible lecturers: Dr. Beat Thomann, Prof. Dr. Gertraud Schüpbach, Dr. Ioannis Magouras, Prof. Dr. Salome Dürr

**Population Medicine and Animal health economics**
2nd and 4th year, Vetsuisse Faculty, University of Bern
Responsible lecturer: Dr. Beat Thomann, Prof. Dr. Salome Dürr

4.2. Post graduate Education and Continuing Professional Education

**Short course in Statistics with NCSS**
The VPH Institute organizes two statistics courses per year, each lasting two days. Around 25 Master's students, PhD students and postdocs, primarily from the Vetsuisse faculty are introduced to data management and data analysis with the software NCSS (www.ncss.com).
Course language: English

**PhD Summer Course Epidemiology and Biostatistics, Public Health Sciences course program**
In 2022 more than 20 PhD students from the graduate school as well as doctoral students and postdocs were introduced to the basics of epidemiological study planning and statistical evaluation within the framework of a two-week summer course offered by VPHI for the Graduate School GCB.
Since 2023, the VPHI contributes to the Public Health Science program from the faculty of medicine, with courses on epidemiology and biostatistics. This program is not a graduate school, but it is recommended to PhD students with a focus on public health and who later aim to stay in academia as post-docs or to work on a science-based organization.
https://www.medizin.unibe.ch/studies/study_programs/phs_course_program/index_eng.html
Course language: English
Internal Residency training sessions in Epidemiology and Biostatistics
The VPHI runs an active residency program at the European College for Veterinary Public Health (ECVPH), and with 3-5 "on site" residents is one of the institutions with the highest density of residency in Europe. So far, all residents who have completed their training at the VPHI have succeeded in passing the exams on their first attempt.

Training of official veterinarians and food inspection specialists
The VPHI teaches the topics monitoring and surveillance systems, risk assessment and epidemiological outbreak investigation within the framework of the Swiss official veterinary training and is also represented on the examination board (Gertraud Schüpbach). For food inspection specialists, VPHI offers training in risk assessment and also participates in the examination board.

4.3. CAS One Health

CAS One Health
VPHI Staff involved: Salome Dürr, Marielle Schär Selby and Camille Doras
Funding source: University of Bern
Duration: 2023–2025

MCID – CAS One Health
VPHI Staff involved: Salome Dürr, Marielle Schär Selby and Camille Doras
Funding source: University of Bern, Multidisciplinary Center for Infectious Diseases (MCID)
Duration: 2023–2025
5. Services

5.1. Services for the Federal Veterinary Authorities

In cooperation with the Swiss Federal Food Safety and Veterinary Office (FSVO), VPHI also conducts applied research and implementation projects on topics relevant for the veterinary services. It prepares risk assessments, is involved in the contingency planning, and provides scientific expertise. In 2022 and 2023, the institute provided services on the following topics:

**Disinfection of manure in case of an outbreak of a highly contagious animal disease**
VPHI Staff involved: Antoine Champetier, Gertraud Schüpbach
Duration: February 2022 – October 2022

**Conflict of interests of keeping animals on pasture**
VPHI Staff involved: Laura da Silva et al.
Duration: April 2022 – May 2022

**Assessment of risks of herd-specific viral vaccines**
VPHI Staff involved: Ranya Özcelić
Duration: May 2022 – December 2022

**R-script for risk-based sample calculation for demonstrating disease freedom**
VPHI Staff involved: Valerie Hungerbühler
Duration: May 2022 – December 2022

**Adaptation of questionnaires for outbreak investigation**
VPHI Staff involved: Valerie Hungerbühler
Duration: April 2022 – December 2022

**Wertung des «Forced Swim Test» aus wissenschaftlicher und 3R Sicht**
VPHI Staff involved: Laura da Silva, Filipe Maximiamo et al.
Duration: February 2023 – April 2023

**Wertung des «Tail suspension Test» aus wissenschaftlicher und 3R Sicht**
VPHI Staff involved: Laura da Silva, Filipe Maximiamo et al.
Duration: July 2023 – December 2023

**Estimation of Burden of Disease Campylobacter**
VPHI Staff involved: Nicole Klopfenstein, Beat Thomann
Duration: August 2023 – April 2024

**Statistical and methodological evaluation of studies on probiotics**
VPHI Staff involved: Gertraud Schüpbach
Duration: April 2023 – October 2023
Modelling the population of stray cats in Switzerland
VPHI Staff involved: Dima Farra, Gertraud Schüpbach
Duration: November 2023 – April 2024

Interpretation of increased number of positive laboratory results for Coxiellosis
VPHI Staff involved: Camille Doras, Ioannis Magouras
Duration: March 2023 – December 2023

Literature study on effects of different types of flooring in free stalls for cattle on animal welfare and environment
VPHI Staff involved: Anna-Sophia Stocker, Gertraud Schüpbach
Duration: May 2023 – September 2023

5.2. Services for the Vetsuisse Faculty

The VPHI offers epidemiological statistical advice for researchers of the Vetsuisse Faculty of Bern. We impart know-how on the topics of study design, calculations on power and required sample size as well as statistical data analysis. Depending on research questions and data structures, our coaches explain and accompany from simple descriptive data analyses to complex multivariate and multilevel regression models, and thus enable the development of research proposals, projects, theses and publications. We contribute to the writing of both project proposals and manuscripts and answer statistical questions from reviewers during the international peer-review process. We make sure that the analysis is performed correctly, the statistical methods are clearly described and the results are properly presented, thus increasing the quality of the published publications.

In 2022 and 2023, ca 70 research projects (including 10 master students, 32 doctoral students, 9 PhD students, 5 residents, 2 Postdocs, 1 aiming a Habilitation and 4 additional publications) were supervised by VPHI staff.

In recent years, the consultancy work has resulted in an average of 17 publications per year. Around two thirds of these were joint projects with the clinics of the Vetsuisse Faculty in Bern.
6. Publications

6.1. Publications (peer-reviewed)

6.1.1. Division VPH/Epidemiology

2023


Biggel, Michael; Boss, Sara; Uea-Anuwong, Theethawat; Lugsomya, Kittitat; Magouras, Ioannis; Stephan, Roger (2023). Complete Genome Sequence of the Extensively Drug-Resistant Extended-Spectrum β-Lactamase-Producing Proteus mirabilis Isolate HK294, Obtained from Poultry Feces in Hong Kong. Microbiology resource announcements, 12(6), e0022523. American Society for Microbiology 10.1128/mra.00225-23

Brunner, Anna; Lehmann, Anna; Hettlich, Bianca; Peters, Laureen M; Doras, Camille Julie; Adamik, Katja-Nicole (2023). Inflammatory biomarker concentrations in dogs with gastric dilatation volvulus with and without 24-h intravenous lidocaine. Frontiers in veterinary science, 10 Frontiers Media 10.3389/fvets.2023.1287844

Burger, Dominik; Vidondo, Beatriz; Gerber, Vinzenz; Deillon, David; Müller, Antonia; Scheidegger, Milena Deborah; Käser, Rebekka; Ramseyer, Alessandra (2023). High-level competition exercise and related fatigue are associated with stride and jumping characteristics in eventing horses. (Im Druck). Equine veterinary journal Wiley 10.1111/evj.13999

Clavadetscher, G; Biner, B; Schaub, M; Studer, E; Dürr, S; Blatter, S; Schmelz, P; Steínborn, R; Brandt, S; Seuberlich, T; Steiner, A; Alsaaoed, Maher (2023). Risk factors for chronic perforating skin lesions in the area of the digits in cattle on Swiss alpine pastures. Schweizer Archiv für Tierheilkunde, 165(12), S. 771-782. Gesellschaft Schweizer Tierärzttinnen und Tierärzte 10.17236/sat00412

Dinede, Getachew; Amanu, Kebede; Alonso, Silvia; Gazu, Lina; Mutua, Florence; Roesel, Kristina; Lindahl, Johanna F.; Maximiano Sousa, Filipe; Ulrich, Pattama; Guadu, Tadesse; Dione, Michel; Ilboudo, Guy; Knight-Jones, Theodore J. D.; Grace, Delia (2023). Foodborne hazards in food in Burkina Faso, 1990–2019: a systematic review and meta-analysis (Im Druck). Frontiers in sustainable food systems, 7 Frontiers 10.3389/fsufs.2023.1232992


Fahrion, Anna S; Freuling, Conrad M; Léchenne, Monique; Müller, Thomas; Recuenco, Sergio; Vigilato, Marco A N; Busch, Frank; Heitz-Tokpa, Kathrin; Mauti, Stephanie; Muturi, Mathew; Dürr, Salome (2023). *Editorial: Rabies, a long-standing One Health example - progress, challenges, lessons and visions on the way to 0 by 30*. Frontiers in veterinary science, 10, S. 1220327. Frontiers Media 10.3389/fvets.2023.1220327


Gazu, Lina; Alonso, Silvia; Mutua, Florence; Roesel, Kristina; Lindahl, Johanna F.; Amenu, Kebede; Maximiano Sousa, Filipe; Ulrich, Pattama; Guadu, Tadesse; Dione, Michel; Ilboudo, Guy; Knight-Jones, Theodore; Grace, Delia (2023). *Foodborne disease hazards and burden in Ethiopia: A systematic literature review, 1990–2019 (Im Druck)*. Frontiers in sustainable food systems, 7 Frontiers 10.3389/fsufs.2023.1058977


Maximiano Sousa, Filipe; Warembourg, Charlotte; Abakar, Mahamat Fayiz; Alvarez, Danilo; Berger-Gonzalez, Monica; Odoch, Terence; Chitnis, Nakul; Cunha Silva, Laura; Alobo, Grace; Sikko, Maria M; Roquel, Pablo; Hernández, Alexis Leonel López; Dürr, Salome (2023). Investigation of optimized observation periods for estimating a representative home range of free-roaming domestic dogs. Scientific Reports, 13(1), S. 22750. Nature Publishing Group 10.1038/s41598-023-49851-2


Özcelik, Ranya; Abakar, Mahamat Fayiz; Counotte, Michel Jacques; Abdelrazak Zakaria, Fatima; Kimala, Pidou; Issa, Ramadane; Dürr, Salome (2023). Seroprevalence and associated risk factors of brucellosis, Rift Valley fever and Q fever among settled and mobile agro-pastoralist communities and their livestock in Chad. PLoS neglected tropical diseases, 17(6), e0011395. Public Library of Science 10.1371/journal.pntd.0011395

Prümmer, Julia K; Stein, Veronika M; Marti, Eliane; Lutterotti, Andreas; Jelcic, Ilijas; Schüpbach-Regula, Gertraud; Buch, Thorsten; Maiolini, Arianna (2023). Assessment of oligoclonal bands in cerebrospinal fluid and serum of dogs with meningoencephalitis of unknown origin. PLoS ONE, 18(1), e0280864. Public Library of Science 10.1371/journal.pone.0280864

Rompf, Johanna; Hettlich, Bianca; Lutz, Bérénice; Marti, Eliane; Mirkovitch, Jelena; Peters, Laureen; Adamik, Katja-Nicole; Schüpbach-Regula, Gertraud; Willi, Barbara; Schuller, Simone (2023). Plasma procalcitonin kinetics in healthy dogs and dogs undergoing tibial plateau leveling osteotomy. Veterinary clinical pathology, 52(2), S. 360-368. Wiley-Blackwell 10.1111/vcp.13212


Thomann, Beat; Würbel, Hanno; Kuntzer, Thibault; Umstätter, Christina; Wechsler, Beat; Meylan, Mireille; Schüpbach-Regula, Gertraud (2023). Development of a data-driven method for assessing health and welfare in the most common livestock species in Switzerland: The Smart Animal Health project. Frontiers in veterinary science, 10(1125806), S. 1125806. Frontiers Media 10.3389/fvets.2023.1125806

Valle, Damarys de las Nieves Montano; García, Oshin Ley; Hernandez, Beatriz Delgado; Abreu, Marian Irian Percedo; Pérez, Dianelys Quiñones; Cunha Silva, Laura; Carmo, Luís Pedro; Berezowski, John; Zamora, Pastor Alfonso; Dürr, Salome (2023). Toward a One Health Surveillance System in Cuba: Co-Productive Stakeholder Engagement (Im Druck). One Health Cases, 2023 CABI 10.1079/onehealthcases.2023.0024


Weber, Jim; Becker, Jens; Syring, Claudia; Welham Ruîters, Maria; Locher, Iwan; Bayer, Magdalena; Schüpbach-Regula, Gertraud; Steiner, Adrian (2023). Farm-level risk factors for digital dermatitis in dairy cows in mountainous regions. Journal of dairy science, 106(2), S. 1341-1350. American Dairy Science Association 10.3168/jds.2022-22243

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Alsaaod, Maher; Dürr, Salome; Iten, Damian; Buescher, Wolfgang; Steiner, Adrian (2022). Locomotion behavior of dairy cows on traditional summer mountain farms in comparison with modern cubicle housing without access to pasture. PLoS ONE, 17(3), e0264320. Public Library of Science 10.1371/journal.pone.0264320

Amphimaque, Bénédicte; Durand, Alexane; Oevermann, Anna; Vidondo, Beatriz; Schweizer, Daniela (2022). Grading of oligodendroglioma in dogs based on magnetic resonance imaging. Journal of veterinary internal medicine, 36(6), S. 2104-2112. Wiley 10.1111/jvim.16519

Becker, Jens; Perreten, Vincent; Schüpbach-Regula, Gertraud; Stucki, Dimitri; Steiner, Adrian; Meylan, Mireille (2022). Associations of antimicrobial use with antimicrobial susceptibility at the calf level in bacteria isolated from the respiratory and digestive tracts of veal calves before slaughter. The journal of antimicrobial chemotherapy, 77(10), S. 2859-2866. Oxford University Press 10.1093/jac/dkac246

Becker, J; Perreten, V; Steiner, A; Stucki, D; Schüpbach-Regula, G; Collaud, Alexandra; Rossano, Alexandra; Wüthrich, D; Muff-Hausherr, A; Meylan, M (2022). Antimicrobial susceptibility in E. coli and Pasteurellaceae at the beginning and at the end of the fattening process in veal calves: Comparing ‘outdoor veal calf’ and conventional operations. Veterinary microbiology, 269(109419), S. 109419. Elsevier 10.1016/j.vetmic.2022.109419


Cunha Silva, Laura; Friker, Brian; Warembourg, Charlotte; Kanankege, Kaushi; Wera, Ewaldus; Berger-González, Monica; Alvarez, Danilo; Dürr, Salome (2022). Habitat selection by free-roaming domestic dogs in rabies endemic countries in rural and urban settings. Scientific Reports, 12(1), S. 20928. Nature Publishing Group 10.1038/s41598-022-25038-z

De la Puente-Arévalo, María; Motta, Paolo; Dürr, Salome; Warembourg, Charlotte; Nikola, Christopher; Burdon-Bailey, Jordana; Mayer, Dagmar; Lohr, Fredric; Gibson, Andy D; Chikungwa, Patrick; Chulu, Julius; Gamble, Luke; Anderson, Neil E; Bronsvoot, Barend M deC; Mellanby, Richard J; Mazeri, Stella (2022). Ranging patterns and factors associated with movement in free-roaming domestic dogs in urban Malawi. Ecology and evolution, 12(1), e8498. John Wiley & Sons, Inc. 10.1002/ece3.8498

Donatsch, L; Friker, B; Sieme, H; Käser, R; Burger, D (2022). No increase in pregnancy rate of mares after preovulatory deep uterine horn application of misoprostol. Theriogenology, 184, S. 132-139. Elsevier 10.1016/j.theriogenology.2022.03.005

Dórea, Fernanda C; Vergne, Timothée; van Schaik, Gerdien; Barrett, Damien; Carmo, Luis Pedro; Robinson, Philip A; Brodbelt, Dave C; McIntyre, K Marie (2022). SVPFM 2021 - Research sharing and networking in times of pandemic: The online Annual Conference of the Society for Veterinary Epidemiology and Preventive Medicine. Preventive veterinary medicine, 202, S. 105611. Elsevier 10.1016/j.prevetmed.2022.105611


Gómez, Yamenah; Berezowski, John; Jorge, Yandy Abreu; Gebhardt, Sabine; Vögel, Sabine; Stratmann, Ariane; Toscano, Michael Jeffrey; Völk, Bernhard (2022). Similarity in Temporal Movement Patterns in Laying Hens Increases with Time and Social Association. Animals, 12(5) MDPI 10.3390/ani12050555

Gorji, Hossein; Lunati, Ivan; Rudolf, Fabian; Vidondo, Beatriz; Hardt, Wolf-Dietrich; Jenny, Patrick; Engel, Doortje; Schneider, Jörg; Jamnicki, Marina; Leuthold, Rudolf; Risch, Lorenz; Risch, Martin; Bühler, Martin; Sommer, Adrian; Caduff, Alexa (2022). Results from Canton Grisons of Switzerland suggest repetitive testing reduces SARS-CoV-2 incidence (February-March 2021). Scientific Reports, 12(1), S. 19538. Nature Publishing Group 10.1038/s41598-022-23986-0

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Kankya, Clovice; Dürr, Salome; Hartnack, Sonja; Waremboürg, Charlotte; Okello, Justine; Mulème, James; Okello, Walter; Methodus, Tubhemukama; Alobo, Grace; Odoch, Terence (2022). *Awareness, Knowledge, and Perceptions Regarding Rabies Prevention Among Rural Communities in Masaka District, Central Uganda: A Qualitative Study*. Frontiers in veterinary science, 9, S. 863526. Frontiers Media 10.3389/fvets.2022.863526


Magouras, Ioannis; Schoster, Angelika; Fouché, Nathalie; Gerber, Vinzenz; Groschup, Martin H; Ziegler, Ute; Fricker, Raffael; Griot, Christian; Vögtlin, Andrea (2022). *Neurological disease suspected to be caused by tick-borne encephalitis virus infection in 6 horses in Switzerland*. Journal of veterinary internal medicine, 36(6), S. 2254-2262. Wiley-Blackwell 10.1111/jvim.16533

Morend, Fanny; Lang, Johann; Vidondo, Beatriz; Ryser-Degiorgis, Marie-Pierre (2022). *Radiographic pelvimetry in free-ranging Eurasian lynx (Lynx lynx carpathicus) from Switzerland*. European journal of wildlife research, 68(4) Springer-Verlag 10.1007/s10344-022-01595-6

Müller, Antonia; Glüge, Stefan; Vidondo, Beatriz; Wróbel, Anna; Ott, Thomas; Sieme, Harald; Burger, Dominik (2022). *Increase of skin temperature prior to parturition in mares*. Theriogenology, 190, S. 46-51. Elsevier 10.1016/j.theriogenology.2022.07.007


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Vargas-Amado, Maria Elena; Carmo, Luís Pedro; Berezowski, John; Fischer, Claude; Santos, Maria João; Grütter, Rolf (2022). Towards risk-based surveillance of African Swine Fever in Switzerland. Preventive veterinary medicine, 204(105661), S. 105661. Elsevier 10.1016/j.prevetmed.2022.105661


6.1.2. Division Animal Welfare

2023


Johny, Alex; Guggisberg, Dominik; Toscano, Michael Jeffery; Stratmann, Ariane (2023). *This is the way: The effect of artificial cues on early life ramp use behaviour of laying hen chicks.* Applied animal behaviour science, 260, S. 105873. Elsevier 10.1016/j.applanim.2023.105873


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Arroyo-Araujo, María; Voelkl, Bernhard; Laloux, Clément; Novak, Janja; Koopmans, Bastijn; Waldron, Ann-Marie; Seiffert, Isabel; Stirling, Helen; Aulehner, Katharina; Janhunen, Sanna K; Ramboz, Sylvie; Potschka, Heidrun; Holappa, Johanna; Fine, Tania; Loos, Maarten; Boulanger, Bruno; Würbel, Hanno; Kas, Martien J (2022). Systematic assessment of the replicability and generalizability of preclinical findings: Impact of protocol harmonization across laboratory sites. PLoS biology, 20(11), e3001886. Public Library of Science 10.1371/journal.pbio.3001886

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Colles, Frances M; Karasova, Daniela; Crhanova, Magdalena; Preston, Stephen G; Smith, Adrian L; Dawkins, Marian S; Rychlik, Ivan; Gebhardt-Henrich, Sabine G (2022). High resolution parallel sequencing reveals multistrain Campylobacter in broiler chicken flocks testing 'negative' by conventional culture methods: implications for control of Campylobacter infection. Poultry science, 101(10), S. 102048. Elsevier 10.1016/j.psj.2022.102048
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https://doi.org/10.1007/s10071-021-01595-0

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6.2. Completed Dissertations & Master (M.Sc.) Work on research

6.2.1. Division VPH/Epidemiology

Residents: Diplomate ECVPH
- 2021: Filipe Maximiano
- 2022: Ranya Özcelik

Dissertations
- 2023: PhD Maria Elena Vargas Amado, University of Zurich, Spatial Aspects of Potential Disease Spread and Its Containment Among Free-Ranging Wild Boar in Switzerland Considering Possible Spillover to Domestic Pigs

Master Theses
- 2022: Camille Doras, Master of Advanced Studies in Public Health, University of Geneva, research project: Community-based symptoms reporting in two Chadian agro-pastoralist communities and their livestock in a One Health approach – Analysis of a retrospective cross-sectional survey
- 2022: Kathleen Moriarty, Master Swiss Tropical and Public Health Institute, research project: Modeling the Spread of Infectious Diseases Among Swiss Swine Farms
- 2023: Emilie Molnar, Master thesis Vetsuisse Faculty Bern: Analysis of Intramammary Antibiotic Treatment of cattle in Switzerland
- 2023: Rebecca Knell, Master thesis Vetsuisse Faculty Zürich: Analysis of IS-ABV Data on antibiotic treatments of dogs and cats in 2020

6.2.2. Division Animal Welfare

Dissertations
- 2022 PhD Marianna Rosso: Construct Validity of Behavioural Tests Assessing Anxiety in Mice
- 2023 Mark Soltermann, Vetsuisse Faculty Bern: Verhaltensuntersuchung zur Rampennutzung bei Schwimmgelegenheiten für Mastgänse
- 2023 PhD Alex Johny: Promoting ramp usage in early life of laying hens

Master Theses
- 2022 Alina Bonorand (Faculty of Science): Use and preference for shelter: Do mice prefer burrowing over access to artificial shelter?
- 2022 Christina Streiff (Faculty of Science): The effect of partial cage dividers on clinical, behavioral and endocrinological measures of aggressivity male laboratory mice
- 2022 Sarah Lopez, Master thesis Vetsuisse Faculty Bern: Can straw or compost satisfy the rooting motivation of fattening pigs?
- 2023 Milena Sanches Fortes, Master thesis Vetsuisse Faculty Bern: How do mice use space in enriched pet cages?
- 2022 Heidi Niermann, Master thesis Vetsuisse Faculty Zürich: Sociopositive behavior in female breeding rabbits in part-time group housing
6.3. **Awards and prizes for research**

6.3.1. **Division VPH/Epidemiology**

- 2023 Filipe Maximiano - the People's Choice Awards for Best Flash Talk, Biomedical Sciences category at the 2023 GCB annual symposium
- 2023 Dima Farra – Poster Price, Annual Conference VPHI
- 2023 Laura da Silva – Global One Health Prize (co-hosted with Wageningen University & Research (WUR), Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO))

6.3.2. **Division Animal Welfare**

- 2022 Annika Bremhorst – Albert-Heim Stiftung Anerkennungspreis
- 2022 Jakob Winter – Prix Jean-Pierre Miéville
- 2022 Laura Candelotto – best Poster prize, 55th Congress of International Society for Applied Ethology (ISAE)
- 2023 Ivana Jaric – Prix Jean-Pierre Miéville
- 2023 Jakob Winter – research prize International Society for Livestock Husbandry (IGN)
7. The VPHI introduces itself

The institute is strategically guided by a steering board consisting of representatives of the two main funding organizations: 1) the Vetsuisse Faculty, University of Bern, and 2) Swiss Federal Food Safety and Veterinary Office (FSVO). The current members of the steering board are David Spreng (dean of the Vetsuisse Faculty), Jörg Jores (head finances at the Vetsuisse Faculty), Katharina Stärk (head of the animal health department, FSVO) and Hans Wyss (chief veterinary officer).

7.1. Org chart 2022/2023

As of May 2023
7.2. Team VPH/Epidemiology

In the picture:
7.3. Team Animal Welfare

In the picture:
Bernhard Völkl, Michael Toscano, Hanno Würbel, Stefanie Riemer, Sabine Gebhardt, Christina Streiff, Yamena Gómez, Ivana Jarić, Nicole Sutter, Marianna Rosso, Klara Grethen, Alex Johny, Janja Novak, Annika Bremhorst, Marie Roig-Pons, Thomas Heinzel, Jakob Winter, Laura Candelotto, Camille Montalcini, Masha Marincek, Alja Mazzini, Homare Yamahachi, Abdulsatar Abdel Rahman, Alina Bonorand, Ariane Stratmann.
7.4. Secretary and administration

- Lerch, Susanne

7.5. Maps and contact address

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**Aviforum**
In cooperation with:

Schweizerische Eidgenossenschaft
Confédération suisse
Confederazione Svizzera
Confederaziun svizra

Federal Department of Home Affairs (FDHA)

Federal Food Safety and Veterinary Office (FSVO)