

Regional Workshop

Accelerating the Operationalisation of the One Health Joint Plan of
Action (OHJPA) in Veterinary Services in the European Region

18-20 November 2025 - Athens, Greece

One Health Education in Greece



Advancing One Health through Veterinary Education

Andreana Pexara

Associate Professor

Head of Division of Food Safety and Technology and Epidemiology

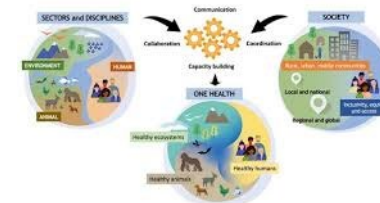
Laboratory of Hygiene of Foods of Animal Origin

Faculty of Veterinary Medicine



UNIVERSITY OF
THESSALY

One Health



The “One Health” approach summarises a concept that has been known for more than a century; that **human, animal and plant** health are interdependent and bound to the health of the ecosystems in which they exist



World Organisation
for Animal Health

One Health High-Level Expert Panel (OHHLEP)

The One Health advisory group for Quadripartite organizations: the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO), United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP), World Health Organization (WHO) and World Organisation for Animal Health (WOAH).



OHHLEP's definition of One Health

One Health is an integrated, unifying approach that aims to sustainably balance and optimize the health of people, animals and ecosystems. It recognises the health of humans, domestic and wild animals, plants, and the wider environment (including ecosystems) are closely linked and inter-dependent. The approach mobilises multiple sectors, disciplines and communities at varying levels of society to work together to foster well-being and tackle threats to health and ecosystems, while addressing the collective need for clean water, energy and air, safe and nutritious food, taking action on climate change, and contributing to sustainable development.

***“Because we share One World,
we all share One Health”***

Role of **Veterinarians** in Public Health and One Health

- Prevent zoonoses
 - Ensure food safety
 - Advance biomedical research
 - Shape public health policy
 - Promote the benefits of the human-animal bond
 - **Promote One Health approach**
 - **Veterinary Education** and Community Extension
- 

Veterinarians & One Health

Zoonotic Diseases

- Diagnose and manage zoonotic diseases
- Routine exams, vaccinations, parasite control
- Promote human-animal bond
- Report diseases to public health authorities
- Collaborate with human health professionals



Veterinarians & One Health

Food Safety



- On the Farm: herd health and welfare (vaccination, biosecurity, stress reduction), feed control, use of veterinary medicines
- Meat inspection in slaughterhouse (*ante-mortem* & *post-mortem*)
- Microbiological and Chemical Testing
- Monitor foodborne outbreaks
- Inspect food production facilities
- Legislation and Policy Development

Veterinarians & One Health

Lab Animal Medicine & Diagnostics



- Ensure welfare of laboratory animals
- Support ethical and humane research
- Focus on zoonotic and comparative medicine
- Collaborate via international centers
- Enhance diagnostic capabilities globally

Veterinarians & One Health

Biomedical Research



- Study diseases transmitted by humans and animals
- Veterinary trials inform human therapies
- Research host-pathogen-environment interactions
- Understand zoonotic transmission routes
- Focus on virulence and molecular differences

Veterinarians & One Health

Biologics & Pharmaceuticals



- Regulate drugs, vaccines, devices (FDA, USDA, EPA)
- Encourage innovation, protect consumers
- Control use and storage of select agents
- Ensure biosafety and disease control

Veterinarians & One Health

Government & Policy

- Veterinary Services: focus on public health
 - ✓ Control animal disease spread
 - ✓ Manage zoonoses, environmental health
 - ✓ Legislation



Veterinarians & One Health

- **Veterinary Education and Community Extension**
 - **Veterinary Studies**
 - Train new veterinarians and specialists
 - Collaborate across disciplines (One Health)
 - Educate public on disease threats
 - Promote risk awareness and community engagement

Veterinary Education in Greece



- Greece has two accredited veterinary faculties

- Aristotle University of Thessaloniki (AUTH)

– Faculty of Veterinary Medicine



ARISTOTLE
UNIVERSITY
OF THESSALONIKI

- University of Thessaly (UTH)
- Faculty of Veterinary Medicine



UNIVERSITY OF
THESSALY

Veterinary Education in Greece

Accreditation & Recognition

- Accredited by the European Association of Establishments for Veterinary Education (EAEVE).



AUTH: Date of latest accreditation: 8 June 2022, granted by ECOVE (under EAEVE evaluation)

👉 Valid until 2029, unless earlier re-evaluation is triggered

UTH: Date of accreditation: 11 June 2025, granted by ECOVE (under EAEVE evaluation)

👉 Valid until October 2029, unless earlier re-evaluation is triggered

- ✓ Meets EU educational standards for veterinary training.
- ✓ Focuses on **One Health principles**, integrating animal health, public health, and environmental health

Veterinary Education in Greece

Accreditation & Recognition



- **Accredited by the Hellenic Authority for Higher Education (HAHE)**

an **independent public authority** responsible for **quality assurance, evaluation, and accreditation** of higher education institutions and study programs in Greece.

- ✓ HAHE ensures that Greek universities meet the **European Standards and Guidelines (ESG)** for quality in education and research

Faculty of Veterinary Medicine (AUTH)



- Established in 1950
 - Part of the School of Health Sciences
 - Located in Thessaloniki, Northern Greece
- The Faculty plays a key role in veterinary education in Greece, providing comprehensive training in animal health, public health, and food safety.
- It contributes significantly to the development of professionals involved in the One Health approach.

📍 Aristotle University Campus, 54124
Thessaloniki, Greece
☎ +30 2310 995219 / 995229
🌐 www.vet.auth.gr
✉ info@vet.auth.gr

Faculty of Veterinary Medicine (AUTH)



Academic Programs



UNDERGRADUATE PROGRAM-

5-YEAR (10 SEMESTERS) INTEGRATED PROGRAM (DVM)



POSTGRADUATE STUDIES



- MSc PROGRAMS

Postgraduate Diploma of Specialisation (MSc) in the following three sub-specialisations:

1. Farm Animal Breeding and Medicine
 - 1a. Ruminant Breeding and Medicine
 - 1b. Swine and Avian Breeding and Medicine
2. Companion Animal Medicine
3. Companion Animal Surgery



- PHD RESEARCH



- CLINICAL RESIDENCY TRAINING

Faculty of Veterinary Medicine (AUTH)



Undergraduate
program

Integration of One Health into the Curriculum

One Health–Related **Core Courses I**

Course	One Health Relevance	Semester
Animal and Plant Biology	Basic understanding of animal and plant life and their role in zoonotic diseases.	1 st
General Microbiology and Immunology	Understanding microbes, viruses, and the immune system – key to disease transmission.	3 rd
Special Microbiology and Infectious Diseases	Zoonotic and infectious diseases with public health significance.	4 th
Parasitology and Parasitic Diseases I & II	Parasites important for humans and animals – zoonotic disease vectors.	4 th & 5 th
Ecology and Environmental Protection	Environmental health directly affects human and animal health.	5 th
Toxicology	Control of harmful substances in food and environment – public health protection.	5 th
Pharmacology I & II	Correct drug use, antimicrobial resistance, and residue control in the food chain.	4 th & 6 th

Faculty of Veterinary Medicine (AUTH)



Undergraduate
program

Integration of One Health into the Curriculum

One Health–Related **Core Courses II**

Course	One Health Relevance	Semester
Hygiene and Technology of Milk and Dairy Products	Prevention of foodborne diseases and supports public health through safe dairy practices.	7 th
Practical Training in Hygiene and Technology of Milk and Dairy Product	Promotes food safety and zoonosis prevention through hygienic dairy handling and processing.	7 th
Food Microbiology	Microbial control in food – critical for public safety.	8 th
Practical Training in Hygiene of Foods of Animal Origin and Food Microbiology	Enhances food safety and reduces zoonotic risks via microbial control in animal-origin foods.	8 th
Hygiene of Foods of Animal Origin I & II	Inspection and safety of animal-derived products.	8 th & 9 th
Food Quality and Safety Systems	HACCP & ISO systems for public health protection.	9 th
Epidemiology	Study of disease transmitted among human and animal populations.	9 th

Faculty of Veterinary Medicine (AUTH)



Undergraduate
program

Integration of One Health into the Curriculum

One Health–Related **Elective** Courses

Course	One Health Relevance	Semester
Public Health-Related Parasites	Focuses on parasites that affect humans directly.	7 th
Infectious Diseases of National Importance (Greece)	Focuses on zoonoses and infectious diseases of national concern.	6 th
Herd Health and Management of Food-Producing Animals	Ensures optimal animal health and productivity, reduces antibiotic use, and enhances food safety and public health.	8 th

Faculty of Veterinary Medicine (AUTH)



Undergraduate
program

Integration of One Health into the Curriculum

One Health Dimension	Representative Courses
Zoonoses / Public Health	Special Microbiology and Infectious Diseases Epidemiology Parasitology and Parasitic Diseases I & II General Microbiology and Immunology
Food Safety	Hygiene of Foods of Animal Origin I & II Hygiene and Technology of Milk and Dairy Products
Antimicrobial Resistance	Special Microbiology and Infectious Diseases Pharmacology I & II
Environmental Health	Ecology and Environmental Protection Animal Nutrition
Sustainable Systems	Production Animal Pathology I & II Animal Reproduction I & II Herd Health and Management of Food-Producing Animals

Faculty of Veterinary Medicine (AUTH)



Infrastructure & Research

- Teaching hospital and clinical departments
 - Diagnostic labs and university farm
 - **Active research in zoonoses, AMR, food safety, animal welfare**
-
- ✓ Faculty members participate in national and European projects targeting zoonotic disease surveillance, AMR, and sustainable livestock systems

Faculty of Veterinary Medicine (UTH)



- Established in 1993
 - Part of the School of Health Sciences
 - Located in Karditsa, Greece
- The Faculty plays a key role in veterinary education in Greece, providing comprehensive training in animal health, public health, and food safety.
- It contributes significantly to the development of professionals involved in the One Health approach.

📍 224 Trikalon St., Karditsa 43131, Greece
☎ +30 24410 66000
🌐 www.vet.uth.gr

Faculty of Veterinary Medicine (UTH)

Academic Programs



UNDERGRADUATE PROGRAM-

5-YEAR (10 SEMESTERS) INTEGRATED PROGRAM (DVM)



**POSTGRADUATE
STUDIES**



**- PHD
RESEARCH**



**- CLINICAL RESIDENCY
TRAINING**

European Veterinary Specialisations

- 'Aquatic Animal Health'. The title DipECAAH is awarded.
- 'Health Management of Small Ruminants'. The title DipECSRHM is awarded.
- 'Veterinary Dermatology'. The title DipECVD is awarded

Faculty of Veterinary Medicine (UTH)



Undergraduate
program

Integration of One Health into the Curriculum

One Health–Related **Core Courses I**

Course	One Health Relevance	Semester
Pharmacology	Correct drug use, antimicrobial resistance, and residue control in the food chain.	4 th
Veterinary Legislation and Ethics	Understanding ethical and legal framework in public and animal health policies	4 th
Diagnostic Microbiology	Enables the identification of pathogens that affect both animals and humans. Supports surveillance and control of zoonotic diseases, contributing to public health and biosecurity.	4 th
Animal Nutrition and Plant Biology Elements	Healthy feeding contributes to animal health and reduces antimicrobial use	2 nd
Parasitology and Parasitic Diseases I & II	Study of parasitic diseases transmissible between animals and humans	4 th -6 th
Infectious Diseases and Relevant Legislation I & II	Covers major infectious diseases, including zoonoses, and the legal framework for their control. Supports coordinated actions across human, animal, and environmental health sectors to prevent outbreaks, ensure biosecurity, and protect public health — key principles of One Health.	5 th -6 th
Toxicology	Identifying and mitigating toxic risks affecting animals and public health.	6 th
Fish Pathology and Aquatic Animal Health Management	Managing aquatic animal health to prevent zoonotic and environmental impacts.	5 th

Faculty of Veterinary Medicine (UTH)



Undergraduate
program

Integration of One Health into the Curriculum

One Health–Related **Core Courses II**

Course	One Health Relevance	Semester
Veterinary Epidemiology	Understanding and managing disease transmitted among animals, humans, and environment	6 th
Hygiene and Technology of Milk and Dairy Products and Legislation	Focuses on the hygienic production, processing, and legal standards of milk and dairy products. It directly contributes to food safety and public health, while supporting animal welfare and proper environmental practices — embodying the interdisciplinary scope of the One Health concept.	6 th
Hygiene of Foods and Relevant Legislation I & II	Ensures the safety of food of animal origin through proper hygiene protocols and regulatory compliance. Protects consumers from foodborne diseases, minimizes public health risks, and enhances traceability — all crucial elements of the One Health framework, which integrates human health, animal health, and environmental safety.	7 th -8 th
Fish Pathology and Aquatic Animal Health Management	Managing aquatic animal health to prevent zoonotic and environmental impacts	5 th
Population Health Management	Focuses on herd health strategies with public and economic health implications	10 th
Practical Training in Hygiene of Foods of Animal Origin II	Hands-on training in hygiene practices ensures the production of safe food of animal origin. This protects public health, supports food security, and prevents foodborne zoonoses — core components of the One Health approach.	9 th -10 th

Faculty of Veterinary Medicine (UTH)



Undergraduate
program

Integration of One Health into the Curriculum

One Health–Related **Elective** Courses

Course	One Health Relevance	Semester
Zoonoses through a One Health Approach	This course explicitly addresses zoonotic diseases — those transmitted between animals and humans — within the One Health framework. It promotes interdisciplinary collaboration among veterinary, medical, and environmental sciences to understand, prevent, and control zoonoses, contributing directly to global health resilience.	5 th
Food Quality and Control and Relevant Legislation	Focuses on ensuring the quality and safety of animal-origin food products through control measures and regulatory frameworks. Prevents foodborne illnesses, safeguards public health, and reinforces food chain traceability — all key pillars of the One Health approach.	10 th
Ecology	This course provides fundamental knowledge on ecosystems, biodiversity, and environmental interactions. It supports the One Health concept by highlighting the interdependence between environmental health, animal health, and human health — essential for understanding how ecosystem changes can drive disease emergence and impact health on all levels.	2 nd

Faculty of Veterinary Medicine (UTH)



Undergraduate
program

Integration of One Health into the Curriculum

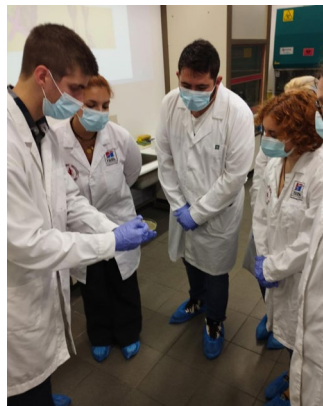
One Health Dimension	Representative Courses
Zoonotic and Emerging Diseases	Zoonoses through a One Health Approach
Environmental Health	Ecology
Food Safety	Hygiene of Foods and Related Legislation I & II Hygiene and Technology of Milk and Dairy Products and Legislation Food Quality Control and Related Legislation
Sustainable Systems	Ecology, Animal Nutrition and Plant Biology, Animal Population Health Management, Animal Welfare and Legislation
Antimicrobial Resistance	Pharmacology, Clinical Pharmacotherapy and Pharmaceuticals, Molecular Microbiology and Parasitology, Diagnostic Microbiology

Faculty of Veterinary Medicine (UTH)

Infrastructure & Research

- Teaching hospital and clinical departments
 - Diagnostic labs
 - **Active research in zoonoses, AMR, food safety, animal welfare**
- ✓ Faculty members participate in national and European projects targeting zoonotic disease surveillance, AMR, and sustainable livestock systems

Faculty of Veterinary Medicine



Faculties of Veterinary Medicine (AUTH & UTH)

One Health Integration

- Courses in epidemiology, zoonoses, food hygiene, public health
 - Collaboration with Faculties Of Medicine and Schools of Public Health, Food Safety, and Environmental Studies
 - Collaboration with Institutes of Medical and Environmental Sciences
 - Participation in national and EU One Health projects
-
- Through partnerships with public health authorities, NGOs, and academia, the Faculties foster a One Health culture.
 - They organize workshops and seminars that bring together scientists & students of veterinary medicine, medical, and environmental sciences.



Department of Public and One Health (University of Thessaly)



- Established in 2019
- Part of the School of Health Sciences
- Located in Karditsa, Greece

➤ The department focuses on an integrated, interdisciplinary approach to human, animal, and environmental health — aligning explicitly with the “One Health” concept.



Vasiliou Griva 13, 43100 Karditsa, Greece
+30 24410 64760 / 64759
<https://pubhealth.uth.gr/en/>

Veterinary Students' Congresses

Organization and participation of students in scientific conferences on One Health

- Faculty Members from both Veterinary Faculties, in collaboration with other Faculties & Departments:
 - actively encourage the organization
 - support them in every possible way — assisting with organization, participating as speakers, and contributing to workshops



Veterinary Students' Congresses

Organization and participation of students in scientific conferences on One Health

(Hellenic One Health)



1st Hellenic One Health Conference
15-16 March 2025

📌 Faculty of Veterinary Medicine,
University of Thessaly, Karditsa, Greece



2nd Hellenic One Health Conference
7-8 March 2026

📌 Kierion Hotel, Karditsa, Greece



Veterinary Students' Congresses

- Veterinary students' congresses feature sessions and workshops focused on One Health (e.g., AMR)



17 & 19 May 2024

University of Thessaly, Karditsa,
Greece



10 & 11 May 2025

Capsis Hotel, Thessaloniki, Greece



ONE HEALTH

Thank you for your attention!