

**Qualities and Competencies Expected of Veterinarians  
Upon Graduation from Veterinary School**

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## **Qualities and competencies expected of veterinarians upon graduation from veterinary school.**

Veterinarians must provide a wide range of veterinary services based on One Health concept not only to protect the health and welfare of people and animals alike, but also to preserve the environment. In Japan, in addition to veterinary practitioners for companion animals and farm animals, there are also veterinarians responsible for veterinary disease control and food safety, as well as researchers whose work contributes to the fields of drug development and infectious disease. Veterinarians are also required to understand bioethics and animal welfare, contribute to the livestock and fisheries industries, work toward a sustainable society, and contribute to environmental conservation. To meet the diverse range of demands placed on veterinarians, veterinary school graduates must possess a lifelong motivation to continue pursuing their scientific curiosity and developing their problem-solving abilities, develop be experts in their field, and strictly adhere to all applicable laws and regulations. Based on these viewpoints, the following seven items were set as the qualities and abilities expected of veterinarians upon graduation from veterinary school.

### **1. Veterinary professionalism**

To be aware of the duty and responsibility of a veterinarian to protect the health and welfare of people and animals, and to contribute to society as a veterinarian by observing ethics and all applicable laws and regulations.

### **2. Knowledge of veterinary medicine and problem-solving skills**

To provide a wide range of veterinary services by possessing the requisite knowledge and problem-solving skills for the role of veterinarian.

### **3. Provide high-quality veterinary medical care and safety controls**

To possess the knowledge and skills necessary to provide safe and high-quality veterinary medical care with consideration for the pain of animals, the anxiety of clients, and the social influence of the veterinary profession.

#### 4. Establish a sustainable relationship with society through one's veterinary practice

To possess the communication skills necessary to establish and maintain good working relationships with clients and community, to take on leadership roles in a wide range of veterinary services, and to contribute to community, country, and planet.

#### 5. Promote safe and secure livestock and fishery resources in accordance with the One Health initiative

To prevent the spread of animal disease and zoonosis, and to tackle issues such as food hygiene and anti-microbial resistance to further the development of the livestock and fisheries industries and improve public health.

#### 6. Scientific research skills

To understand the necessity of research for the development of veterinary science and medicine, and to conduct research with a critical thinking.

#### 7. Personal development and autonomous lifelong learning

To pursue self-improvement throughout one's life and to continue learning independently in order to improve one's knowledge and skills as a veterinarian in order to serve in various roles.