



Zürich, 24 Januar 2024

**PhD Position (Dr. sc. med. vet.) at the Clinic for Small Animal Surgery, Vetsuisse
Faculty University of Zurich**

We are seeking a PhD candidate to join the Soft Tissue and Oncologic Surgery Group at the Clinic for Small Animal Surgery, starting in May 2024. The candidate will be enrolled in our PhD program and conduct a study assessing the impact of prophylactic antibiotic therapy on surgical site infections after castrations and gastrointestinal surgeries in dogs and cats. In addition, the study aims to investigate the impact on resistance formation and the fecal microbiome and resistome.

The responsibilities of the PhD candidate include organization of the clinical study, collecting and analyzing the resulting data, as well as assisting in the treatment and care of the study patients (dogs and cats). The work also involves a laboratory component where the candidate will process and analyze microbiological samples. In addition to standard diagnostics and *in-vivo* resistance testing, the project includes evaluation of the intestinal microbiome and resistome. Beyond clinical medicine, interest in microbiology, data analysis, and bioinformatics is desirable. Experience in small animal surgery is advantageous but not mandatory.

As part of the PhD program, the candidate is expected to fulfill the required credits of the Graduate School and publish the research results in 3-4 original publications (peer-reviewed, open access). The work will be conducted in close collaboration with our clinical team, the Clinic for Small Animal Medicine and the Veterinary Bacteriology Institute of the Vetsuisse Faculty, as well as the group of Prof. J. Suchodolsky at Texas A&M University.

Requirements include a completed veterinary medicine degree, an interest in small animal surgery, and expertise in antibiotic resistance/molecular microbiology. Proficiency in both German and English is necessary. The position is an 80% position, regularly salaried in accordance with the suggestions of the SNF. The selected candidate will be employed for three years.



Please submit applications, including a curriculum vitae, the latest academic transcripts, contact information for two referees, and a motivation letter as a single PDF document via email to PD Dr. Mirja Nolff (mnolff@vetclinics.uzh.ch). In addition, applicants are requested to include an English introduction into the topic of 'Prophylactic antibiotic therapy in gastrointestinal procedures in dogs and cats,' including references (citation format: Vet Surgery, maximum length of 2 pages).

Application deadline is February 29th 2024 with interviews planned for the week thereafter.