Investigação em Medicina Veterinária

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Research Unit Identification

Full Name	Investigação em Medicina Veterinária
Acronym	I-MVET
Director	Laurentina Pedroso
Funding Body	COFAC - Cooperativa de Formação e Animação Cultural, C.R.L.
Funding Period	01.09.2026-31.08.2027
Unit URL	https://imvet.ulusofona.pt/

Mission & Objectives

Abstract:

Mission. I-MVET (Investigação em Medicina Veterinária) is the research unit of the Faculty of Veterinary Medicine of Universidade Lusófona, created in 2023/2024 and integrated as a secondary management unit of CECAV (Centre for Animal and Veterinary Sciences), an R&D unit funded by the Foundation for Science and Technology (FCT). Its mission is to promote interdisciplinary, impact-oriented research in veterinary and biomedical sciences, combining fundamental, applied, clinical and translational approaches, and to link research closely to veterinary education, the University veterinary hospitals and the needs of the profession and society.

Scientific and societal challenges. Within a One Health and One Welfare approach, I-MVET addresses challenges at the interface between animal, human and environmental health: prevention, diagnosis and treatment of animal diseases; antimicrobial resistance and alternatives to antimicrobials; zoonoses and vector-borne diseases; food safety along the production chain; comparative oncology and translational medicine;

sustainable animal production; animal welfare; and the reduction and replacement of animal experimentation (3Rs) through cell and organoid models.

Main objectives. (i) To produce high-quality research and publish it in international peer-reviewed journals; (ii) to increase competitive external funding at national and European level; (iii) to integrate undergraduate, master's and doctoral students in research and train the next generation of veterinary researchers; (iv) to promote research-based teaching and evidence-based veterinary medicine; (v) to strengthen national and international partnerships and transfer knowledge to the profession, public authorities, industry and the community.

Scientific Areas & Research Lines

Principal Scientific Areas

Veterinary Science	Health Sciences / Clinical Medicine	Biological Sciences / Medical Biotechnology	Animal and Dairy Science

Research Lines

Research Line 1 — Animal Health, Clinical and Translational Research. Disease prevention, diagnosis and treatment across animal species (companion animals, horses and livestock): internal medicine, surgery, anaesthesiology, reproduction, diagnostic imaging, comparative oncology, infectious diseases and new therapeutic approaches; clinical research in the University hospitals, innovative diagnostic tools and translation of research results into veterinary practice.

Research Line 2 — One Health, Veterinary Public Health and Sustainable Food Systems. Interconnected health risks to animals, humans and the environment: antimicrobial resistance and alternatives to antimicrobials, zoonoses and vector-borne diseases, parasitology, microbiology, epidemiology, food safety, food fraud, food hygiene and risk assessment, and sustainable animal production, including herd health and biosecurity, animal nutrition, functional feed ingredients, circular economy and valorisation of agri-food co-products.

Research Line 3 — Biomedical Sciences and Comparative Medicine. Biological mechanisms underlying health and disease: molecular biology, genomics, transcriptomics, microbiome, biomarkers and natural bioactive compounds; in vitro models such as 2D cell cultures and 3D organoids, which also support the reduction and replacement of animal experimentation (3Rs), to advance animal and human health.

Research Line 4 — Animal Welfare and One Welfare. Animal welfare and its connections with human well-being and environmental sustainability (One Welfare): welfare

assessment and improvement, behaviour, exercise and training, and environmental enrichment.

Identifiers & Citation Information

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Mandatory Acknowledgement Statement

Required in all scientific and institutional outputs (written in the appropriate language):

This work was funded by the Fundação para a Ciência e a Tecnologia (FCT), under project UID/00772/2025 and by COFAC – Cooperativa de Formação e Animação Cultural, C.R.L., under the project "COFAC/I-MVET/2026-27".

Mandatory Application Scope

The acknowledgement statement above must appear in all of the following outputs:

- Scientific articles, posters, books, and journal papers;
- Monographs, brochures, and informational leaflets;
- Newsletters, announcements, and advertising materials;
- Cover pages (where applicable) and all printed applications;
- Digital typographic and other reproduction formats;
  PowerPoint presentations and other digital presentations.