

CURRICULUM VITAE

Beatrice SICA

Personal information

Date of birth: 16th April 1995

Citizenship: Italian

Phone number: +39 3406635128

Email address: beatrice.sica@unito.it
beatrice.sica@pec.ms.fnovi.it



Current position

PhD student in Veterinary Sciences for Animal Health and Food Safety (38th cycle)

Department of Veterinary Science, University of Turin (Italy)

Beatrice developed as a DMV student a strong interest in equine internal medicine. After a one-year rotating internship in the Equine Veterinary Hospital of the University of Turin, she recently engaged in a PhD program in Veterinary Sciences for Animal Health and Food Safety, focusing on respiratory health from both an equine and One Health point of view. In her free time, Beatrice enjoys mountain hiking with her dog, reading books, and listening to music.

Education

1 st Nov 2022- ongoing	PhD in Veterinary Sciences for Animal Health and Food Safety (38th cycle) Department of Veterinary Sciences, University of Turin, Italy Project title: “A study on the role of inhaled mineral particles in equine lung inflammation” Supervisor: Dr. Michela Bullone
14 th October 2021	Doctor in Veterinary Medicine DVM (LM-42, as for Italian DM 270/2004) Department of Veterinary Sciences, University of Parma, Italy Grade: 110/110 <i>cum laude</i>

Working experience

March - Sept 2021:	Veterinary assistant with clinical and management duties Centro Equino Arcadia, Villafranca Piemonte, Italy Supervisor: Dr. Giovanna Romano, Dipl. ECAR
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Jan - Dec 2022: Internship equivalent position (as for Italian regulation, “Contract veterinarian”)
Large Animal Service (Equine), Veterinary Teaching Hospital (VTH),
Department of Veterinary Sciences, University of Turin, Italy

Period abroad

25th Jul-18th Aug 2023: Visiting at UC Davis School of Veterinary Sciences, Davis (California) acquiring analytical expertise in the pathological assessment of tissues obtained from horses (mostly lungs, but also other available tissues).

19th Aug-2nd Sept 2023: Visiting at Racing Surfaces Testing Laboratory-University of Kentucky, Lexington (Kentucky), acquiring knowledge about the impact of racing surface conditions/properties on performance and (respiratory) health of racehorses.

4th-30th Sept 2023: Visiting at Purdue University, School of Veterinary Sciences, Lafayette (Indiana), acquiring knowledge and technical skills in the field of equine respiratory samples’ assessment (mainly TW/TTW and BAL).

2nd-27th Oct 2023: Visiting at Université de Montréal, Faculté de Médecine Vétérinaire, Montréal (Canada) with the aim to develop and validate a protocol of morphometric analysis with the aid of stereology for the quantification of mineral load in equine lung.

Research experience

During my first year of PhD, I have acquired tasks in data organization and reporting, critical literature review, unbiased level of evidence assessment, and basics of protocol validation.

During my internship-equivalent period at the University of Turin, I participated into a project that aims to investigate the structure-function relationship of the airway smooth muscle in healthy and asthmatic horses. This project has led to national and international collaborations, and preliminary results obtained have been presented at scientific meetings and symposium.

Awards

10th Nov 2023: Teaching and learning center UniTO, CALL Award "Embrace the future: free innovation in the classroom". Category single teaching. Project: VIRTUES, virtual equine endoscopy. Prize amount: 4000 euro.

Mother tongue: *Italian*

Other languages: *French: good*

English: fluent

Publications

1. Romolo A, Costa G, **Sica B**, Memoli G, Ardit M, Di Benedetto F, Bellis D, Capella S, Belluso E, Bullone M. (2024) ‘Exposure to respirable silica contributes to lower airway inflammation in asthmatic horses.’ J Vet Intern Med – Accepted on 07/16/2024

Abstract and oral presentations

Presenter when the name is underlined

1. **Sica B**, Parrilli AP, Memoli G, Romolo A, Bullone M. (2023) “Preliminary analysis for the optimization of 3D airway smooth muscle visualization in micro- and submicron-CT images”. In: Proceedings of the 76th Congress of the Italian Society of Veterinary Science (SISVET), 21-23 June 2023, Bari, Italy. – Accepted
2. Romolo A, **Sica B**, Pavan C, Tomatis M, Ardit M, Di Benedetto F, Capella S, Belluso E, Turci F, Bullone M. (2023) “In vitro preliminary investigation of the toxic potential of equine riding surfaces: let the mineral hunt begin!”. In: Proceedings of the 76th Congress of the Italian Society of Veterinary Science (SISVET), 21-23 June 2023, Bari, Italy. – Accepted as oral presentation
3. **Sica B**, Pavan C, Tomatis M, Romolo A, Memoli G, Turci F, Bullone M. (2023) “Exposure to respirable silica in equestrian environments and its potential contribution to lower airway inflammation in horses”. In: 41th VCRS (Veterinary Comparative Respiratory Society) SYMPOSIUM, 23-25 October 2023, Providence, RI (US). – Accepted as poster
4. **Sica B**, Ivester K, Couetil L, Bullone M. (2024), “Preliminary investigations on inhaled mineral particle exposure and related effects in healthy racehorses”. In 29th SIVE Congress, 2-3 February 2024, Florence, Italy.
5. **Sica B**, Parrilli AP, Bullone M. (2024), “In silico 3D equine airway for airway smooth muscle structure studies”. In: 42nd VCRS (Veterinary Comparative Respiratory Society) SYMPOSIUM, 18-20 November 2024, Levi, Kittilä, Finland. Accepted as oral presentation.