

Information letter research project euthanasia of animals and the role of the veterinarian.

Euthanasia of animals is a subject that frequently comes up in veterinary practice. Research shows that the decision-making process toward euthanasia can be complex for veterinarians. These complex situations can be experienced as stressful by the veterinarian and potentially lead to signs of compassion fatigue or burn-out.

When we can get more grip on the complexity veterinarians can experience in end-of-life situations, we hope to provide insight into potential support tools and strategies for veterinarians to deal with these complex decisions regarding euthanasia.

To get a better understanding of how veterinarians experience the complexity of end-of-life situations, we want to invite you for an interview. During the interview, we ask you to share your experiences with the euthanasia of animals. The interview questions will mainly focus on 1) your role in end-of-life situations, 2) the considerations you take into account in the decision-making process, and 3) the potential bottlenecks you may experience regarding end-of-life situations and euthanasia of animals. The interview will ask 60 minutes of your time and can be organized at a location of your preference.

Prior to the interview, you will receive a short Qualtrics survey. In the survey, we ask you to share your considerations on case examples concerning end-of-life decisions and euthanasia of animals. The examples and your response will be discussed during the interview.

All collected data will be stored and handled strictly confidential by the research team. Moreover, the data will be anonymized to ensure that information shared in research papers or presentations will not be relatable to you.

For questions concerning the research project or the interview, please contact the head researcher Ellen Deelen via:



e.deelen@uu.nl



0620068434

For questions or remarks regarding privacy within this research project, you can contact the privacy department of Utrecht University via privacy@uu.nl

For complaints regarding this research project, you can contact Hans Heesterbeek via j.a.p.heesterbeek@uu.nl

This research project is funded by the Faculty of Veterinary Medicine of Utrecht University. The research theme is part of the research group Centre for Sustainable Animal Stewardship (CenSAS), Division of Animals in Science and Society. CenSAS researches themes concerning the relationship between animals and humans. This research project is supervised by an interdisciplinary team including Franck Meijboom, Tijs Tobias, Ferry Koster, Jan Willem Hesselink, and Bas Rodenburg.