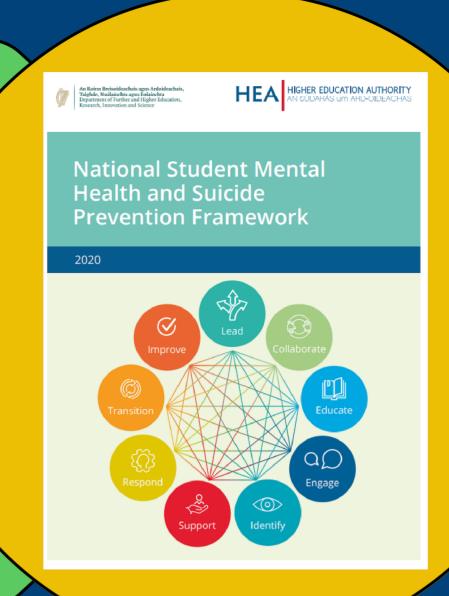
Supporting the National Student Mental Health and Suicide Prevention Framework: Embedding Wellbeing in the UCD Veterinary Curriculum





Research shows increased mental health distress and suicidal ideation among veterinary medicine and nursing practitioners and students. In 2020, the VCI commissioned a survey of the veterinary profession on wellbeing and mental health.

September 2022
Champions in student affairs and faculty identified to work on a pilot curriculum project in collaboration with HSE Health and Wellbeing.



October 2022 - May 2023
Collaboration between student affairs, faculty and HSE on developing a pilot programme focused on self-care for delivery within the veterinary curriculum.





September 2023
Pilot of HSE's adapted 'Minding Your Wellbeing'
programme with 90 undergraduate veterinary
medicine students at UCD.

References:

- 1. R. Deacon and P. Brough, "Veterinary nurses' psychological well-being: The impact of patient suffering and death," Australian Journal of Psychology, vol. 69, p. n/a-n/a, Mar. 2016, doi: 10.1111/ajpy.12119.
- 2. D. J. Bartram and D. S. Baldwin, "Veterinary surgeons and suicide: a structured review of possible influences on increased risk," Veterinary Record, vol. 166, no. 13, pp. 388–397, Mar. 2010, doi: 10.1136/vr.b4794.
- 3. R. Mellanby, "Incidence of suicide in the veterinary profession in England and Wales," The Veterinary record, vol. 157, pp. 415–7, Nov. 2005, doi: 10.1136/vr.157.14.415.
- 4. S. E. Tomasi, E. D. Fechter-Leggett, N. T. Edwards, A. D. Reddish, A. E. Crosby, and R. J. Nett, "Suicide among veterinarians in the United States from 1979 through 2015," J Am Vet Med Assoc, vol. 254, no. 1, pp. 104–112, Jan. 2019, doi: 10.2460/javma.254.1.104. 5. A. J. Milner, H. Niven, K. Page, and A. D. LaMontagne, "Suicide in veterinarians and veterinary nurses in Australia: 2001–2012,"
- 6. C. O'Brien, D. Ni Dhalaigh, P. Corcoran, P. Dodd: Mental Health of Veterinary Professionals in Ireland. 2021. https://www.nsrf.ie/wp-content/uploads/2021/04/Mental-Health-of-Veterinary-Professionals-in-Ireland-Report-2022.pdf

Australian Veterinary Journal, vol. 93, no. 9, pp. 308-310, 2015, doi: 10.1111/avj.12358.

Contact niamh.nestor@ucd.ie and pamela.kelly@ucd.ie for more information