



Universität  
Basel

## Research Project

### From bench to barn to bed: Effects and mechanisms of animal-assisted interventions

#### Third-party funded project

**Project title** From bench to barn to bed: Effects and mechanisms of animal-assisted interventions

**Principal Investigator(s)** [Hediger, Karin](#) ;

**Organisation / Research unit**

Departement Psychologie / Clinical Psychology and Psychotherapy (Hediger)

Swiss Tropical and Public Health Institute (Swiss TPH) / Department of Epidemiology and Public Health (EPH)

**Department**

**Project start** 01.10.2021

**Probable end** 30.09.2026

**Status** Active

Animal-assisted interventions (AAI) facilitate rehabilitation in patients with acquired brain injury and have been shown to be an effective approach in psychotherapy. However, the full potential of AAI is yet to be determined as many research questions regarding the effects and mechanisms of AAI are still to be addressed. Objectives and aims: The aim is to examine effects of AAI in the field of neurorehabilitation, psychotherapy and with respect to "One Health". Moreover, the proposal aims at investigating possible mechanisms of AAI related to motivation, reward, attention and social bonding.

**Financed by**

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