



Infection Prevention and Control Best Practices

For Small Animal Veterinary Clinics

Dear veterinary staff member,

We are conducting a brief online survey to understand your current infection control practices and your motivation for seeking out these guidelines. Participation in the survey is strictly voluntary. You may exit the survey at any time, and you may skip any questions you wish. All responses are anonymous

This survey should only take approximately 2-3 minutes to complete. We would greatly appreciate your feedback.

Click this link to start the survey:

https://uoguelph.eu.qualtrics.com/jfe/form/SV_6DbIPOk3dZnLbQ9

Clinic Infection Prevention and Control Audit Checklist

Fully Implemented	Partially Implemented	Not Implemented	Not Applicable	AREAS / ITEMS
Hand hygiene:				
				Sink or alcohol-based hand sanitizer stations available in all patient contact areas
				Signage for alcohol-based hand sanitizers with instructions
				Signage for hand washing with instructions
				Minimize jewellery (rings or bracelets)
				No artificial nails / nail extensions / chipped nail polish
				Staff can identify when to use hand hygiene:
				Before and after patient care
				Before aseptic procedures
				Before putting on and after taking off gloves
				After contact with body fluids or mucous membranes
				After contact with contaminated equipment / surfaces
				After personal body functions (i.e. sneezing, coughing, washroom)
				Before eating
Personal protective equipment available:				
				Gloves:
				Household rubber, reusable
				Latex or other, disposable
				Masks:
				Nose and mouth (e.g. surgical) masks
				N95 masks, including fit testing
				Gowns
				Lab coats
				Goggles / eye protection
				Written policies for dress code:
				Available
				Followed
Cleaning / disinfection procedures:				
				Written protocols and procedures for general cleaning and disinfection:
				Available
				Followed
				Appropriate detergents/cleaners available
				Appropriate disinfectant products available for:
				Patient-contact surfaces
				Equipment and instruments

Fully Implemented	Partially Implemented	Not Implemented	Not Applicable	AREAS / ITEMS
Cleaning / disinfection procedures cont'd:				
				Cleaning and disinfection protocol for clippers:
				Available
				Followed
Disinfection / sterilization of medical equipment:				
				Clear cold sterilization protocol in place, specifying proper cleaning before use, product concentration, contact time, interval for changing solution as per manufacture's instructions
				Written protocols for for cleaning semi-critical and critical devices prior to disinfection / sterilization (including disassembly, sorting and soaking, physical removal of organic material, rinsing, drying, physical inspection, wrapping):
				Available
				Followed
				Autoclave:
				Quality control sterility indicators are included in each autoclaved pack
				Biological indicators are periodically used to ensure adequate sterilization and results are logged
				All autoclaved packs are marked with date of autoclaving
Laundry management:				
				Laundry is cleaned on site or by or a commercial service
				Laundry is dried at high temperatures (65-70C)
				Infectious laundry is pre-soaked in bleach solution
				Soiled laundry is transported in a clean manner
				Clean laundry is segregated from soiled laundry
				Hand hygiene station available in laundry area
Waste management:				
				Clear guidelines regarding segregation of waste that is:
				Biohazardous
				Non-biohazardous
Sharps handling:				
				Approved puncture-resistant, labeled containers used
				Containers available in all required areas
				Sharps are disposed immediately after use (not recapped)
				Containers not more than 3/4 filled
Documentation of staff immunization:				
				Rabies
				Tetanus
				Influenza

Fully Implemented	Partially Implemented	Not Implemented	Not Applicable	AREAS / ITEMS
Clinic design:				
				Designated isolation area for animals with infectious diseases is available and clearly marked:
				Isolation room vented to outside, or exhaust air HEPA filtered
				Designated diagnostic specimen handling area
				Designated staff “break” area
				Clinic “flow” is clean to dirty
				Separate fridges for food, vaccines and medications, and diagnostic specimens
Vector control:				
				Food debris and clutter eliminated
				Points of entry for rodents and other vermin are sealed
				No standing water outside clinic
				Windows are screened
Examination rooms:				
				Hand washing sinks with soap available in all rooms
				Exam rooms only have essential supplies (no extra storage/stocking)
				Policies followed for cleaning exam rooms:
				Between patients
				At end of day
				Enhanced cleaning/disinfection protocol followed for exam rooms following suspected infectious cases
Isolation area:				
				Isolation area only has essential supplies (no extra storage/stocking)
				Equipment and PPE stay in the isolation area
				Appropriate signage available
				Footbaths or footmats available, if needed
Surgical suite:				
				Surgeon and patient preparation are performed outside the surgical suite
				Personnel traffic in and out of the surgical suite is controlled and minimized
				Surgical suite is only used for sterile procedures (e.g. not dental procedures)
				Surgical safety checklist used for each patient
Staff education and training:				
				Documented annual staff training on:
				Use of personal protective equipment, as applicable
				Cleaning and disinfection protocols, as applicable
				Procedures in the event of potential exposure to zoonotic pathogens, including rabies
				Other infection prevention and control measures, as applicable

