



# RUMINANT CLINIC BIOSAFETY INSTRUCTIONS

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## 1. OBJECTIVE:

It has been prepared in order to provide safe working conditions in Erciyes University Veterinary Faculty Animal Hospital Ruminant Clinic and its affiliated units.

## 2. RESPONSIBILITY

Faculty students and technical, administrative (chief physician) and academic staff are responsible for all the rules to be followed in Erciyes University Animal Hospital Ruminant Clinic .

## 3. APPLICATION:

- It is not allowed to enter any part of the clinics and hospitalization units with food and drink.
- It is mandatory to wear a clean gown during procedures in the clinic to prevent the transmission of infectious agents to humans and animals outside the clinic.
- Aprons should be changed daily or when soiled/contaminated.
- The Animal Hospital is responsible for washing the aprons of the staff, and the students are responsible for washing the aprons of the students. Washing should be done at 60-90°C.
- When an undesirable situation occurs within the polyclinic for any reason, the “Unwanted Incident Notification Form” must be filled and submitted to the authorized person.

### Dressing in Surgical Procedures:

- All staff and students should wear clean, green or blue operating room gowns.
- Clean and easily disinfectable, waterproof aprons should be worn in laparotomic operations performed on standing cattle.
- A clean white coat should be worn over the operating room gown in preoperative and postoperative patients.
- In the Ruminant Clinic, it is mandatory for all students and all personnel in the patient examination/treatment care area to wear washable, clean boots. Boots should be strong enough to protect the foot against trauma.
- Boots should not be entered in offices and classrooms, and should not be walked around non-clinical areas.
- Personnel and students without boots should not be admitted to the clinic.
- Boots should be cleaned and disinfected regularly or when they are visibly soiled, contaminated.
- The owner or caretaker who assists the restraint of the animal must also abide by these rules.

### General Cleaning and Hygiene

- Before and after examining each patient, hands should be washed in accordance with the rules (See: Hand
- Washing and Glove Usage Instructions) and alcohol-based hand disinfectant.
- Clean gloves should be used in the examination and treatment of patients with high risk levels such as infectious diseases or newborn calves.
- Surfaces and equipment contaminated with faeces, urine, blood and other secretions should

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## RUMINANT CLINIC BIOSAFETY INSTRUCTIONS

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be promptly cleaned and disinfected by the personnel caring for the patient or the personnel assigned for this task.

- It is mandatory for all personnel to use the disinfectant-boot bath, which is placed at the necessary places in the hospital. In boot baths, not only the sole of the boot, but the whole of the boot should be immersed in the solution. In order to clean the boots that are contaminated with feces or similar substances, they should be washed with a brush before disinfection. Necessary apparatus or equipment for this should be available at the clinic entrances.
- After use, instruments such as rumen probes, pads, endoscope, stethoscope and thermometers should be disinfected before being used on another patient.
- Tools such as buckets, probes, funnels, speculums should be cleaned after each use and disinfected with an appropriate disinfectant. Instruments suitable for sterilization should be sent for sterilization.
- Wheels and sides of equipment contaminated with feces or patient exudates should be cleaned and disinfected.
- The desks, tables and floor in the meeting room or classroom open to students should always be kept clean. It should be ensured that the "General Cleaning, Disinfection and Sterilization Instruction" is followed.

### Ruminant Clinic Hospitalization Unit

- Sick animals should be housed in paddocks where basic hygiene is provided.
- The litter must be changed before a new patient is accepted.
- Personnel in charge of this task should wash paddocks and halls twice a day. Cleaning and disinfection procedures should be recorded in the "Horse and Ruminant Animal Hospitalization Cleaning-Disinfection Follow-up Form" on a daily basis.
- Feces or wet litter in newborns' compartments should be removed immediately.
- When using disinfectants in the disinfection process of paddocks, gloves or similar protectors must be used. Latex gloves used in patient examination are sufficient for this job.
- Other protective instruments such as laboratory goggles or face shields should be used in situations where there is a possibility of splashing such as using pressurized water.
- All feces and litter material must be removed before starting disinfection. If pressurized water is to be used, care must be exercised as water splashes will contaminate other areas.
- Walls, doors and floors should be washed with a brush, using soap or detergent. Brushing or similar mechanical cleaning is very important to remove the formed films or residual dirt.
- After cleaning with detergent, the surfaces should be rinsed thoroughly. Care should be taken not to leave any detergent residue. These residues can destroy the effectiveness of disinfectants. It should also be noted that there is no water pool in the environment, these deposits may cause the disinfectant to be diluted and thus not be effective.
- All surfaces should be washed with a suitable disinfectant or sprayed on all surfaces and possible cracks with the help of a suitable disinfectant pulverizer to ensure that they remain in contact with the surface for an appropriate time.
- At the end of the period, the disinfectant should be rinsed or left to dry according to the disinfectant feature.
- After disinfection, the clothes used by the personnel should be removed and hands should be washed.
- Multi-purpose areas such as examination rooms, where animals are examined and treated,

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should be cleaned and disinfected by the personnel responsible for cleaning and disinfection according to the same principles.

### Boot Baths and Disinfection Mats

- The solutions of these baths or mats should be changed every morning by the staff or interns.
- In case of excessive contamination or reduced amount of solution, it should be changed immediately.
- It is essential that the boots are completely immersed in the boot baths. For these reasons, it should be ensured that there is a sufficient level of solution.
- Staff and students should wear waterproof shoes or boots.

### Disinfection Protocol of Tools and Equipment in Clinics

- All kinds of instruments used in different patients and in the transition from patient to patient must be disinfected before use.
- Surgical materials sterilized before use should be cleaned with soapy water after each use, disinfected with an appropriate disinfectant, and then sent to the sterilization unit.
- Stethoscopes owned by clinicians and students can be used in non-infectious areas and should be disinfected regularly with alcohol.
- Stethoscopes belonging to the faculty should be available to be used in the examination of high-risk patients. These stethoscopes should be cleaned and disinfected immediately after use.
- Electronic thermometers should be used in clinics. It should be wiped with alcohol cotton after each use.
- Thermometers used in animals with suspected enteric infections such as BVD, Salmonellosis should have boxes.
- Other equipment such as scissors and hemostatic forceps used in patients should be disinfected with 70% alcohol or 0.5% chlorhexidine.
- Tables, benches, sinks, floors, meeting rooms in clinics should always be kept neat and clean.
- Students should not have bags in the clinics. They should keep their bags in their lockers.

### Patient Admission in Ruminant Clinic

#### Outpatient admission

- Patients who do not show signs of notifiable disease are directed directly to the download ramp. Transport vehicles should not be left in front of the hospital in a way that hinders entry and exit.
- Outpatients can be watered with disinfected buckets belonging to the faculty, but should not be fed.
- Buckets should be cleaned and disinfected with chlorhexidine after each use.

#### Hospitalized Patients

- The paddock where the patient will lie down is determined by the clinic staff.
- The animal's halter and rope should be sent home with the owner of the animal.

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**Rev No.Date:**

- There should be treatment/instruction cards at the paddock door.
- After the patient enters the paddock, a paddock card should be prepared (patient/animal owner information, responsible student and clinician names, detected or suspected infectious disease, feeding instruction) and placed at the paddock entrance.
- Clean tap water should be provided to each patient, unless restricted by the clinician.
- Fulfilling the feeding instruction is the duty of the relevant technical personnel or the assigned student.
- The clinical staff or the student in charge should clean the paddocks every morning and lay new mats when necessary.
- Paddocks in the hospital should be allocated in advance for adult cattle, bedridden cows and calves.
- Appropriate paddock should be allocated for Class 3 infected animals.
- Patients with suspected Class 4 notifiable disease should be housed in the isolation (quarantine) section.
- Minimal litter, roughage and concentrates should be available in the animal hospital to reduce the potential for contamination and prevent wild animals from nesting.
- It is the responsibility of students, caregivers and clinicians to lay the pad on the paddock when patients arrive.
- The paddock in use is cleaned by the paddock attendants in the morning and evening and a new mat is laid.

### Cleaning Protocols

#### Inspection Area

- The area contaminated with feces, urine, blood, saliva or secretions should be cleaned and disinfected immediately by the assigned personnel.
- The on-duty clinician should ensure that cleanliness is maintained in this area.

#### Hospitalization Unit

- Every day, the personnel on duty should change the mats before the end of the working day in the morning and in the evening.
- Patients should be fed with hay and concentrated feed by the staff, milked in the morning and evening unless otherwise stated, and the hospital halls should be swept after the morning feeding.
- All grain feed and concentrates should be stored in capped plastic containers (eg clean garbage drums).
- Equipment whose wheels or side surfaces are contaminated with feces should be cleaned and disinfected before leaving the hospitalization unit.
- All litter material should be disposed of in the trash.
- Dust and other small substances on the floor should be swept.
- Floor and walls should be washed with water, dirty areas should be cleaned with detergent and brush. Then the entire paddock should be rinsed and the floors and walls disinfected with an appropriate disinfectant. Then the paddock should be left to dry.
- Adjacent areas and halls should be cleaned and disinfected in the same way.
- Tools and equipment used in cleaning should be cleaned and disinfected daily.

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- Overalls should be worn while cleaning.
- Appropriate garbage bins should be used.
- Care should be taken that sick animals do not come into contact with garbage bins.
- Cleaning materials should be cleaned and disinfected when passing from one paddock to another, when necessary.
- Garbage bins used for food animals should not be used in the Horse Clinic. The reverse is also true.

### Weekly Routines:

- The floors of the feed tanks should be cleaned (sweep, rinse, brush and rinse with detergent).
- Sewage drains in sinks and halls should be cleaned and disinfected with an appropriate disinfectant.
- Paddocks that have not been used in the last 1 month should be washed with pressurized water against dust accumulation.

### Monthly Routines:

- Areas that are not used frequently (tops of walls, scales, etc.) should be washed with pressurized water against dust.
- Tools used in cleaning and disinfection should be maintained.

### Six-month Routines:

- All surfaces in the hospitalization area, whether used frequently or not, should be cleaned and disinfected with quaternary ammonium compounds.
- Calf boxers should be cleaned and disinfected from head to toe with a brush and detergent.
- The sewage drains in the halls of the infectious disease and normal hospitalization units and examination department should be cleaned and disinfected.

### Annual Routines:

- The entire hospital should be thoroughly cleaned and disinfected once a year, including all equipment.

### General Cleaning:

- Pest control should be provided in feed storage rooms.

### Routine Environmental Contamination Inspection:

- The floor, surfaces that come into contact with the hands, should be analyzed for the presence of Salmonella every 6 months, and units associated with infection more frequently.
- Positive results should be reported to the hospital Biosafety working group.

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### Management of Suspected Infectious Disease Patients

- Special precautions should be applied in the management of patients with detected or suspected communicable diseases. Diseases to be considered in particular are acute gastrointestinal diseases, acute respiratory diseases, BVD, bacterial infections with multiple antibiotic resistance.
- Patients at high risk of communicable diseases should be considered as outpatients or hospitalized in the communicable disease hospitalization unit.
- Appropriate preventive medicine rules should be applied when the patient at risk of communicable disease is admitted to the hospitalization unit.
- Animals with infectious enteric disease, respiratory disease, suspected BVD should be examined in the transport truck. The examining clinician is responsible for deciding whether the patient should be hospitalized and/or accepted for treatment.
- In case of suspicion of a notifiable disease, the Animal Diseases Branch of the Provincial Directorate of Agriculture should be informed.

### 4. RELATED DOCUMENTS:

- BG-FRM.06 Horse and Livestock Hospitalization Cleaning-Disinfection Follow-up Form
- BG-FRM.09 Unwanted Event Notification Form
- BG-TAL.09 General Cleaning, Disinfection and Sterilization Instruction
- BG-TAL.10 Hand Washing and Glove Usage Instructions

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