



North Valley Animal Disaster Group Standard Operating Guidelines

Title: SANITATION

Objective: To provide clear direction on proper sanitation protocols

Description:

Proper Hand Washing Technique:

- Remove all hand and arm jewelry
- Wet hands with running water
- Place soap in palms
- Rub hands together to make a lather
- Scrub hand thoroughly for 20 seconds
- Rinse soap off hands
- Dry hands with a disposable towel
- Turn faucet off with the disposable towel to avoid contact

Proper Use of Hand Rubs

1. Place alcohol-based hand rub in palms
2. Apply to all surfaces of hands, concentrating on finger tips, between fingers, back of the hands, and base of the thumbs. These are the most commonly missed areas.
3. Rub hands together until dry. Hands must be fully dry before touching the next animal or equipment to be effective and to reduce flammability.

Cage and Surfaces Cleaning/Disinfecting

- Have all safety data sheets or product safety data sheets for cleaning and disinfection materials available. Follow instructions for proper mixing, disposal, and PPE (e.g., gloves, eye protection). Ensure the area is well ventilated.
- Cages and examination area should be cleaned and disinfected immediately following use. Place signs stating it should not be used until cleaning/disinfection is completed.

- Remove all bedding and organic material (e.g., feces, feed, hair, linens, bandage, etc.) and dispose in designated waste bin. The presence of gross contamination will inactivate most disinfectants. Gloves should be worn during this procedure.
- “Dry”-clean surfaces (e.g., sweeping, wiping with disposable towel) to remove loose organic material.
- “Wet”-clean surfaces with warm water and detergent. Scrubbing surfaces is often necessary to remove feces or bodily fluids, and stubborn organic debris, especially in animal housing areas.
- Rinse with clean water. For all rinsing and product application procedures, care must be exercised to avoid overspray.
- High-pressure washing should be avoided. Higher pressures can help remove stubborn organic debris but may also force debris and organisms into crevices or porous materials, from which they can later emerge. High pressure also sprays infectious material widely.
- Allow the area to dry or manually do so. If excess water remains, subsequently applied disinfectants may be diluted to the point of inefficacy.
- Apply disinfectant solution at the indicated concentration and ensure the appropriate contact time to kill the pathogens of interest; time is based on the product, concentration, and targeted pathogens but is generally 5–10 min. Rinse thoroughly with clean water; this is especially important for disinfectants that leave a residue or for surfaces vulnerable to damage from the disinfectant. Always follow the disinfectant label for appropriate use, concentration, and contact time.
- Gloves and appropriate attire should be worn whenever using disinfectants. Nitrile or rubber gloves provide adequate protection when using disinfectants. Additional personal protective equipment (mask, face shields, goggles, impervious clothing, boots) should be worn only when there is a probability of splash from the disinfection process resulting in contact that is not merely incidental.
- Allow the treated area to dry before reintroducing animals or reusing the area.
- In known contaminated or high-risk areas, a second application of a disinfectant with wide spectrum (e.g., accelerated hydrogen peroxide product) should be considered as a final decontamination step. Ensure appropriate contact time, rinse with clean water, and allow the treated area to dry, as stated above

Food and Water Bowls:

- Wash in hot soapy water to remove all food and saliva
- Allow to air dry or manually dry
- Soak or apply appropriately diluted disinfectant- allow 5-10 minute contact time
- Rinse and dry before next use

Disinfection Protocol for Equipment and potential fomites (brushes, collars, halters, etc.):

- All instruments, equipment or other objects, including thermometers, collars, etc. must be sterilized or disinfected between uses on different animals with confirmed or suspected infectious diseases.
- Thermometers:
 1. Electronic thermometers - use disposable thermometer covers at all times, discarding after each use.
 2. Electronic thermometers should also be thoroughly disinfected daily using alcohol and/or chlorhexidine wipes. Plastic thermometer cases should be regularly soaked in disinfectant solution.
- Collars/leashes/halters
 1. Wash in laundry using hot water and bleach possible

Laundry

- Items from infected animals should be presoaked in diluted bleach (9 parts water:1 part household bleach) for 10 min to disinfect prior to machine washing. Isolation-room laundry should be washed in hot water with bleach, per manufacturer's instructions. After bleaching and washing, laundry should be completely dried in a separate load from any other laundry and returned to isolation.
- Laundry dried at high temperatures (65–70°C)

Entering and Exiting an Isolation Area

- Before entering the isolation area, remove outerwear and any equipment (e.g. thermometer, watch, cell phone) and leave outside the isolation unit.
- Gather any necessary supplies and medications before putting on PPE.
- Wash hands or use alcohol hand rub, and then put on booties, gown, and gloves before entering the isolation room
- Attend to the patient in isolation as needed. DO NOT bring treatment sheets, pens, or electronic devices such as laptops, cell phones into the isolation room.
- Clean and disinfect any equipment used while caring for the patient.
- Before leaving the isolation room, remove PPE -remove booties last as stepping out of the isolation room and avoid touching the outer surface of the boots. Clean and disinfect non-disposable PPE if used. Place used disposable PPE in the trash container lined with a biohazard bag in the isolation room. Avoid contact with external portions of the door when exiting the isolation room.

Related Documents Attached: n/a