



Isolation Protocols



Ideally, an isolation area will be used only for that purpose and should be located where animals can be moved in and out without exposing healthy animals.

- Animal Shelter Lead are to assign specific individual to care for isolated animals
 - Alternate species workers if available
 - Reports any concerns to the species Shelter Lead

- General Procedures: These will be decided on a case by case or room by room situation
 - Post clear Isolation Signage to indicate that infectious animals are housed within
 - Post Isolation Time Sheet on clipboard outside the room, use military time
 - Designate in writing on wall or door name and AR# of who is taking care of the room with date
 - Attach Animal Care Schedule on clipboard attached to each cage

- An animal should be moved to an isolation area as soon as possible according to shelter SOGs (i.e. must be approved by Animal Shelter Lead and shelter veterinarian prior to move) when believed to be an animal showing signs of illness
- Limiting the people who come into contact with infectious animals to only essential animal care personnel will help reduce disease spread
- Follow specific Isolation procedures per individual animal
- A sink for hand washing and treatment purposes
- Air flow with exhaust separated from other animal housing areas
- Appropriate lighting; ideally, windows or other natural light sources
- Materials/surfaces that are easy to clean and disinfect, and items that are either disposable or easy to sanitize
- Isolation areas (areas as far from the general population and other isolation areas as possible, also if possible, make sure that these areas don't have to be traveled through to get to other areas of the shelter) should be set up for the following groups of animals:
 - Expectant animals and / or newborn
 - Diarrhea, vomiting, etc.
 - Coughing, sneezing, any ocular/nasal discharge
- Cages and kennels that prevent direct contact between animals
 - Use disposable pee pads
- Measures to reduce stress (noise abatement, species separation, etc.)
- Separate equipment and supplies used exclusively in the isolation area
 - (Scrubs, Tyvek suit, gowns/aprons, rubber boots, gloves, eyewear, disposable shoe covers); hand soap/sanitizer; paper towels; garbage bags; lidded garbage can; thermometers, face masks and other specific equipment
 - Dedicated space for storage of items needed for biosecurity, such as a treatment cart personal protective equipment

- Leaving Isolation
 - Remove plastic boot covers last, avoid touching the outer surface of your shoes
 - Remove gloves prior to leaving isolation room
 - Remove any other isolation equipment
 - WASH HANDS before leaving the Isolation facility, washing them for at least 30 seconds using antibacterial soap, then use alcohol gel
 - Large garbage can for inside room to contain all used isolation items
 - Contain all waste and dirty bowl etc. to Isolation room until disposed of properly
- Specific Procedures: These will be decided on a case by case or room by room situation