



Animal Welfare

During Animal Health Emergencies


Equine



KANSAS STATE UNIVERSITY
College of Veterinary Medicine

Animal Welfare

- Ethical responsibility
- Ensuring animal well being
 - Physical and mental
- Consideration of
 - Health
 - Behavior
 - Biological function
- Continuously evaluate



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The Five Freedoms

- Define ideal states of welfare
- Framework for analysis of welfare
 - Freedom from hunger and thirst
 - Freedom from discomfort
 - Freedom from pain, injury, and disease
 - Freedom to express normal behavior
 - Freedom from fear and distress

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Freedom from Hunger and Thirst

- Water
 - 5 gallons water/1000 pound animal
- Feed
 - 1-2% of body weight
 - Hay or grass pastures
 - 10-20 pounds hay/1000 pound animal
 - Possibly grain
- Monitor all feed and water intake

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Freedom from Discomfort

- Appropriately sized confinement space
 - Stalls or outdoor pens
 - Protection from elements
 - Appropriate temperature for time of year
 - Ventilation
- Bedding
 - Saw dust
 - Wood chips
 - Straw
- Waste management



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Freedom from Pain, Injury, Disease

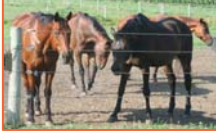
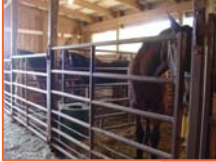
- Examine upon entry/exit
 - Illness
 - Injury
 - Nutritional well-being
- Treat appropriately
 - Medical, surgical
 - Euthanasia
- Monitor
- May have delay in showing signs
 - Stress analgesia



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Freedom to Express Normal Behavior

- Herd animals
 - Social nature
 - Stressed if separated from herd mates
- Separate animals based on
 - Farm of origin
 - Gender
 - Pregnant mares, mare and foals

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Freedom from Fear and Distress


- Elevated stress
- Stressed animals are unpredictable
- Experienced handlers
- Safe transport
 - Avoid overcrowding
 - Familiar groups



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Responders: Mental Health and Animals

- Response stress can affect mental health of responders
- May affect animals welfare
 - Responder apathy
 - Responder fatigue
 - Uncompleted tasks
 - Carelessness of tasks
 - Forgetting overall welfare needs



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Resources

- American Veterinary Medical Association
 - The veterinarian’s role in animal welfare
www.avma.org/products/animal_welfare/welfare.pdf
 - AVMA Guidelines on Euthanasia
www.avma.org/issues/animal_welfare/euthanasia.pdf
- USDA Animal Welfare Information Center
 - <http://awic.nal.usda.gov>
- OIE Animal Welfare Guidelines
 - Terrestrial Animal Health Code
www.oie.int
- American College of Animal Welfare
 - www.acaw.org

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Acknowledgments

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