Introductory Course for Commercial Dog Breeders

Part 4: Program of Veterinary Care
Learning Objectives

By the end of this unit you should be able to:

1. Describe the role of the attending veterinarian
2. Describe which written records need to be maintained and available for inspection
3. List the main components of a Program of Veterinary Care
4. Complete the APHIS Plan of Veterinary Care form
Program of Veterinary Care: Purpose

Program of Veterinary Care helps ensure:

- The facility has an attending veterinarian
- Measures are in place for disease and injury prevention
- Appropriate and timely treatment of diseases and injuries
- Proper storage and use of medications and vaccines
- Euthanasia is conducted appropriately
- The facility has a plan for emergencies
Compliance with the Animal Welfare Act

- Attending veterinarian
- Written Program of Veterinary Care
- Sufficient facilities
- Trained personnel
- Program updated with changes in operations
The Attending Veterinarian
Attending Veterinarian

- Graduate of an accredited veterinary school, or equivalent
- Training/experience in the care and management of dogs
- Direct or delegated authority for activities involving animals at the facility
Formal Arrangements

Formal arrangements:

- Either full time employee or part time consultant
- Formal agreement
- Written program of veterinary care
- Regularly scheduled visits to facility
- Given authority to provide adequate care to animals
Role of the Attending Veterinarian

- Regularly scheduled visits to the premises at least once a year
- Written records of veterinarian visits include comments or recommendations of the attending veterinarian or other veterinarians
# Role of the Attending Veterinarian

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Licensee’s Role</th>
<th>Veterinarian’s Role</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Consult with the attending veterinarian to:</td>
<td>Provide guidance concerning:</td>
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<td>– Develop and review program of veterinary care</td>
<td>– Animal handling</td>
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<td>– Determine the method(s) of euthanasia for animals</td>
<td>– Medication dosages/frequencies</td>
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<td>– Change the frequency of offering drinking water</td>
<td>– Immobilization/anesthesia</td>
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<td>– Analgesia/tranquilization</td>
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<td>– Pre- and post-procedural care</td>
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The Program of Veterinary Care
Main Components

Program documented in writing must provide:

– Daily observation of animals
– Direct and frequent communication with attending veterinarian
– Appropriate methods of preventing, treating and controlling diseases and injuries
– Appropriate facilities, personnel, training, equipment and services to carry out programs
– Plans for providing animal care on weekends, holidays and in emergencies
Documentation
Documentation

- **APHIS Form 7002**
- Not required, but contains all required information
ATTENDING VETERINARIAN DOCUMENTATION SHEET FOR APHIS FORM 7002

This sheet may be used as a means to document your attending veterinarian’s visit to your facility. If you choose to use it for that purpose, have your attending veterinarian sign and date this sheet during each visit to your facility. Your attending veterinarian must visit your facility at least one each year. This sheet should be kept with your PVC.

The enclosed Program of Veterinary Care (PVC) should be completed and signed by your attending veterinarian and must be signed by you.

Keep your properly completed PVC as part of your records that will be reviewed by your USDA inspector.

DO NOT send the completed PVC form to the Animal Care Regional Office.

A new PVC form is needed only if you have changed your attending veterinarian.

Update your PVC form and have it re-signed by your attending veterinarian any time you add a new species of animal to your facility or make any other change in the veterinary care you are providing.

(Veterinarian Signature) Date

(Veterinarian Signature) Date

(Veterinarian Signature) Date

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(Veterinarian Signature) Date

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(Veterinarian Signature) Date
Daily Observation of Animals
Daily Observation of Animals

• Observe all animals every day for health or behavioral problems.

• Observations can be made by:
  – Attending veterinarian
  – Other personnel if there is a procedure for direct and frequent communication with the attending veterinarian
Means of Communication

- Direct and frequent communication with attending veterinarian to address problems
  - Phone calls
  - Log books
  - Medical records
- Accurate and timely
- Record veterinarian’s comments or recommendations in writing
Animal Health Records
Animal Health Records

- Written health records help demonstrate that dogs have received adequate medical care.
- Written health records can document:
  - Preventative health care
  - Identification and treatment of illnesses/injuries
  - Surgeries and other procedures
Animal Health Records: What’s in Them?

Dates, details and results of:
- Physical exams
- Medical tests

Diagnosis – by veterinarian
- Official name of illness or injury

Prognosis – by veterinarian
- Predicted outcome
- A prognosis may not always be available, depending upon type of injury or illness
Health Records: What’s in Them?

A treatment plan:

– Names of medications
– Dosage
– Route of administration of medications, such as:
  • Oral (pills, some liquids)
  • Topical (on the skin)
  • Injection
  • Other (intranasal, intraocular)
– Frequency of administration (how many times a day?)
– Duration of treatment (how many days?)
– Date the problem was resolved
Dog ID/USDA ID____________ Name ______________
Date of illness/injury: ___/___/____ Symptoms: ______________
______________________________________________________
Diagnosis:____________________ Made by: ______________

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<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Medication</th>
<th>Route</th>
<th>Amount Given</th>
<th>AM</th>
<th>PM</th>
<th>Other</th>
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Date problem resolved:____________________
Preventative Health Care

• Vaccinations
  – Date, type of vaccine, where given on animal

• Parasite Control Measures
  – Treatments:
    • Deworming/flea and tick treatments
    • Date, name of treatment medication and dose, how administered (oral, topical, dip)
  – Testing
    • Fecal exam for intestinal parasites
    • Blood exam for blood parasites
Records of Preventative Health Care

Records of preventative care:

- Individual animal records
  - Must include individual animal identification name or number

- Group animal records
  - Such as for a litter of puppies
    - Must include identification, such as “Litter born on March 23, 2008 to female #15”
## LITTER HEALTH RECORDS

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Litter #/ID</th>
<th>Vaccinations Product/Exp date</th>
<th>Parasite Control Product/Exp date</th>
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Keeping Records

• Health records may be held by:
  – The licensee
  – The attending veterinarian

• Must be available at all times for inspection
  – Licensee’s responsibility to ensure records are available and complete

• Must keep records for least 1 year after the final disposition of the animal

• If animal is sold/transfered: copy of medical records must accompany the animal
Treatment, Diagnosis and Prevention of Illness and Injuries
Vaccination and Parasite Control

Vaccinations
- Vaccine type
- Frequency: different animals/ages
- Diseases:
  - Rabies
  - Parvovirus
  - Distemper
  - Hepatitis
  - Leptospirosis
  - Bordetella
  - Others

Parasite control
- Parasites:
  - Internal: heartworm, worms, blood parasites
  - External: fleas, ticks, flies
- Treatment type, dose & frequency
- Tests and testing intervals (fecal floatation, blood work)
Nutrition

Proper nutrition is essential for:

- preventing illnesses
- supporting the immune system
- preventing obesity, which can lead to many health problems
  
  - Joint pain, diabetes, heart failure, breathing difficulties, difficult births, shortened life span
- successful reproduction: gestation, lactation
- growth of puppies

Develop plan with the attending veterinarian
Mental Health

Signs of mental illness

- Stereotypic behaviors:
  - Spinning,
  - Pacing,
  - Excessive licking of paws or legs,
  - Excessive barking,
  - Fearfulness/aggression

Develop prevention program:

- Socialization
- Enrichment (toys)
- Exercise
Individual Animal Hygiene

- Individual animal hygiene:
  - Nail trims
  - Bathing/grooming
  - Dental cleaning/exams

- Skin, nail and dental care programs should be developed with the attending veterinarian
Dental Care

Dental care is important to good health

- Plaque and tartar build up on teeth
- Gum disease – painful, tooth loss, may lead to systemic disease

Discuss with attending veterinarian

- Regular examinations
- Cleaning and treatment
Facilities, Equipment, Personnel and Training
Facilities

• Clean areas for administering medications, treatments and vaccinations
• Clean, quiet kennels for surgical recovery
• Appropriate storage of medications and vaccines
  – Vaccines must be kept refrigerated
  – Some medications must be refrigerated (e.g. insulin)
  – Prevent medications and vaccines from freezing
Facilities (cont’d)

• Isolate sick dogs
• Quarantine new dogs
  – Dogs in isolation or under quarantine must receive adequate husbandry, medical care, socialization, and exercise
• Keep kennel visitors to a minimum
• Consult attending veterinarian to develop plans
Trained Personnel

People working with the animals must consult the attending veterinarian to learn to properly:

- Handle animals
- Administer medications
- Administer vaccinations and parasite preventatives
- Euthanize animals
- Take care of wounds
- Care for animals recovering from surgery
Euthanasia

Veterinarian must be consulted to ensure:
- Properly performed in a legal and humane manner
- Properly trained personnel conduct euthanasia

Methods must be approved in the AVMA Guidelines on Euthanasia
- Gunshot is NOT an acceptable method of routine euthanasia
Euthanasia (cont’d)

Include in Program of Veterinary Care:

– Methods of euthanasia to be used at the facility
– Names of personnel who have been adequately trained and authorized to perform euthanasia
Appropriate Equipment

- Brand new needles and syringes for each dog
- Non-expired vaccines and medications
  - Do NOT use expired medications or vaccines
  - Properly dispose of outdated drugs and vaccines
Prescription Drug Labels

- Name, address and phone number of prescribing veterinarian
- Owner’s name
- Identification (name, id number) of animal(s) treated
- Date prescription filled
- Name and active ingredient of medication
- Medication strength (i.e. mg, units)
- Number of pills/amount of liquid/cream dispensed
- Dosage and duration (how much, when, and for how long)
- Route of administration (oral/topical/injection)
- Number of refills
- Cautions (e.g., give with food)
- Medication expiration date
Medications

• Extra label use of medications
  – Use of medications in ways other than written on the original label is illegal, unless approved by a veterinarian

• Laws regulate how and when a drug may be used extra label.

• Always discuss the use of any medications with your veterinarian to be sure you are using them properly and legally.
Cleaning and Sanitization

1. Physically remove (scoop or scrape) as much solid waste as possible
2. Apply appropriate detergent
3. Scrub
4. Rinse well until all detergent gone
5. Allow area to dry completely
6. Apply appropriate disinfectant
7. Rinse well until all disinfectant gone
8. Dry surface well (squeegee)
Emergency Plans

All animals in your facility must receive daily care, even during:

– Weekends
– Holidays
– Emergencies
  • Personal emergencies that take you away from the facility
  • Natural disasters
Emergency Plans

Plan for care of the animals if you cannot:

– Names and phone numbers of persons that can take care of the animals
– Name and phone number of attending veterinarian, and a back-up veterinarian
– Plans in case of power outage, loss of water service
– Evacuation of animals from the kennel due to heater failure, natural disaster, fire, etc.
APHIS Form 7002
APHIS Form 7002

- Must have a written Program of Veterinary Care
- Use of Form 7002 is not required
- Using Form 7002 has advantages:
  - convenient
  - standardized
APHIS Form 7002: Program of Veterinary Care

• Use of this form is not required, but all of the information on the form is required.

This is a form that may be used for the Program of Veterinary Care. Also, this form may be used as a guideline for the written Program of Veterinary Care as required.

The attending veterinarian shall establish, maintain and supervise programs of disease control and prevention, pest and parasite control, pre-procedural and post-procedural care, nutrition, euthanasia and adequate veterinary care for all animals on the premises of the licensee/registrant. A written program of adequate veterinary care between the licensee/registrant and the doctor of veterinary medicine shall be established and reviewed on an annual basis. By law, such programs must include regularly scheduled visits to the premises by the veterinarian. Scheduled visits are required to monitor animal health and husbandry.

Pages or blocks which do not apply to the facility should be marked N/A. If space provided is not adequate for a specific topic, additional sheets may be added. Please indicate Section and Item Number.

I have read and completed this Program of Veterinary Care, and understand my responsibilities.

Regularly scheduled visits by the veterinarian will occur at the following frequency: (minimum annual).
**Section I**

Name, address, phone number, license information of licensee and attending veterinarian

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I have read and completed this Program of Veterinary Care, and understand my responsibilities.

Regularly scheduled visits by the veterinarian will occur at the following frequency:

__________________________________________________________ (minimum annual).

C. SIGNATURE OF LICENSEE/REGISTRANT  DATE

D. SIGNATURE OF VETERINARIAN  DATE

APHIS FORM 7002
(JUN 92)
Section II

Information about:

- Vaccinations
- Parasite Control Programs
- Emergency Care
- Euthanasia
- Additional Program Topics
Vaccinations

- **Juveniles**
  - ages at which the pups will receive each vaccine
- **Adults**
  - interval of vaccination
- Consult veterinarian to determine vaccines needed at facility
Parasite Control Programs

“As needed” is not acceptable

Ectoparasites (fleas, ticks)

- Name of products
- Dose & frequency
- Age of animals to receive treatments
  - “Adults and puppies over X age: BugBeGone flea dips every X months”

Consult veterinarian for guidance
Parasite Control Programs

Blood parasites (heartworm)
- Testing intervals
- Age at testing
- Name/type of test
- Name of preventative medication
- Frequency & dose
- Age of animals to receive preventative medicine

Consult veterinarian for guidance
Parasite Control Programs

Intestinal parasites
- Testing intervals
- Age of animals to be tested
- Name of preventative/treatment medication
- Frequency and dose of preventative/treatment administration
- Age of animals to receive preventative/treatment medicine

Consult with your veterinarian for guidance
Emergency Care

Names and contact phone numbers:

- Persons to provide care to animals on weekends, holidays or during emergencies, include duties
- Veterinarians (in addition to attending veterinarian) who should be contacted in an emergency.
Contingency Planning

Good business practice to have emergency plans
  – Power outage
  – Severe storms
  – Floods

Proposed rule will change the regulations to require contingency plans
Euthanasia

Part 1:
- Check the box(es) to indicate who will perform euthanasia

Part 2:
- Describe:
  - Method of euthanasia
  - Name of drug used, and dosage
  - How you will know that an animal is dead
Euthanasia (cont’d)

- Must consult veterinarian when an animal needs to be euthanized to determine acceptable method of euthanasia.
- Gunshot is NOT an acceptable method of routine euthanasia
Additional Program Topics

E. ADDITIONAL PROGRAM TOPICS - THE FOLLOWING TOPICS HAVE BEEN DISCUSSED IN THE FORMULATION OF THE PROGRAM OF VETERINARY CARE

- Congenital Conditions
- Quarantine Conditions
- Nutrition
- Anthelmintic alternation
- Other (Specify) ____________________________

- Exercise Plan (Dogs)
- Proper Handling of Biologics
- Venereal Diseases
- Pest Control and Product Safety
- Proper Use of Analgesics and Sedatives

APHIS FORM 7002
Conclusion

You should now be able to:

1. Describe the role of the attending veterinarian in your business
2. Describe what type of written records need to be maintained and available for inspection
3. List the main components of a Program of Veterinary Care
4. Accurately complete APHIS Form 7002: Plan of Veterinary Care
Questions?
Acknowledgments

This presentation was prepared by the Center for Food Security and Public Health, Iowa State University through a cooperative agreement with USDA APHIS Animal Care.