

BEHAVIOUR RULES IN ECOGRAPHY AND ECOCARDIOGRAPHY ROOMS

Prof. Paola Paradies

Ultrasound and echocardiography rooms are working environments in which patients (dogs and cats), who are often not sedated, undergo an instrumental examination in a darkened environment. In the same rooms, minimally invasive diagnostic procedures (ultrasound-guided cytology and biopsy, centesis) or minimally invasive procedures (thoracentesis, pericardiocentesis) are performed. The room is only accessible to owners with the authorization of the practitioner, otherwise, the patient enters with the trainees or internal students of the section, who will also be responsible for containment during the examination. If deemed necessary, the examination is performed under sedation in the presence of a doctor from the anesthesia staff who remains present throughout the procedure. Access is permitted to a limited and variable number of students, depending on the specific situation and subject to verbal authorization of the practitioner. Access is permitted to graduates who have applied for and are in possession of formal authorization, or who are carrying out a course or internship at this Campus (i.e. Short Master's degree).



GENERAL BEHAVIOUR RULES

Practitioners, PhD students and undergraduate students must wear greens or medical scrubs, maintain conscientious and respectful behavior, and turn off the volume of mobile phones or other electronic devices. In particular, they should maintain a calm attitude as possible and low voice tones. Students handling the animal for containment must wear the appropriate PPE (i.e. disposable gloves) and wash their hands at the beginning and end of each activity with soap and water or alcohol-based disinfectants, following the procedures described on the appropriate signs. If the animal shows signs of illness of unknown origin or is visually smeared with excrement, additional PPE (i.e. disposable scrub) must be used. All those present should remove their PPE before leaving the room, wash their hands and apply disinfectant using the disinfectant dispenser.

RULES FOR CLEANING THE ENVIRONMENT

The tabletop, the table on which the animal is placed, and the echocardiographic examination table must be disinfected with appropriate disinfectant solutions after use (sodium hypochlorite 2%), after cleaning with appropriate detergents (tens active soap). The echograph used and the probes must be appropriately cleaned after each examination between patients.

It is forbidden to place mobile phones, sheets, forms, notebooks, pens, steatoscopes and other similar materials on the worktables in the presence of animals.

The room must be cleaned and disinfected at the end of the activity by the staff in charge and appropriately dressed, through the removal of dirt with cleaning solutions and subsequent disinfection with disinfectant solutions (if necessary).

WASTE MANAGEMENT RULES

At the end of each examination or ultrasound procedure, disposable PPE and special waste, such as anything that has come into contact with organic material (cloth, paper, cotton wool, syringes without needles, catheters, etc.) will be disposed of in the appropriate containers. Sharps (needles, slides, deflectors, etc.) will be disposed of in the appropriate needle box.

The scientific supervisor Prof. Pagia Paradies