

Veterinary Exam Station

The Veterinary Examination Station volunteers perform physical exams to identify any conditions that require additional treatment or determine whether euthanasia is appropriate. The exam and medical record should be completed within two minutes or less, thus, extensive notes are not necessary or desired. The Vet Exam Station administers Meloxicam for pain control.

Safety First

- **Monitor the cat for complications resulting from the anesthesia**, in particular, irregular breathing, vomiting or not breathing.
- **Respiration should be >6/minute, heartbeat should be >100/minute, and gum color should be pink.** If the cat is not breathing well, or its gums are blue, take the cat immediately to the Emergency Station. Speaking loudly and calmly say “cat not breathing” to alert vets to converge at the Emergency Station. *Note: Dexmedetomidine causes pale gums.*
- **Discard sharps from each cat in the biohazard container.**
- **Dispose of all needles and syringes according to protocol with no exceptions. Recap the needles.** Place the needle into a sharps disposal container. The syringe can be disposed of in the garbage.

Special Handling

- **When transporting, do not hold the cat from the scruff of its neck alone.** Always support its back and bottom too. Support the cat’s head without flexing its neck, so that the airway remains straight and open.
- **Keep the cat entirely on its peepad, including its tail, head and all of its feet.** Do not allow any part of the cat’s body to contact clothing, skin or anything except the fleece, in order to prevent any contamination from cat to cat.

Veterinary Exam Station Instructions

Anesthetized cats are transported from the Anesthesia Station to the Veterinary Examination Station on their pee pads.

1. **Compare the paw tag and the Medical Record/Veterinary Examination Record to be sure the ID# matches.**
2. **Check the heart rate.** If the rate is < 100 bpm, alert the Lead Vet.

3. **Enter the name of the DVM, name of the student (if present) and time of the exam** at the top of the Veterinary Examination Record.
4. **Record the heart rate, temperature, respiratory rate and mucous membrane color** on the Veterinary Examination Record.
5. **Record** the estimated age, breed, and sex by circling the appropriate observations. Write in the cat's coat color.



PRESURGICAL VETERINARY EXAMINATION

Examined by: _____, DVM _____ Student Time: **F19** –

Please legibly enter the full name of the vet student

PHYSICAL EXAMINATION

Weight (pounds):	_____	Temperature F° (IRT rectal):	_____	HR:	_____	RR:	_____	MM:	_____
Estimated age:	< 3 mo	3-5 mo	6-12 mo	> 12 mo	Coat color _____				
Breed:	DSH	DMH	DLH	Siamese X	Other _____				
Gender:	male	male neutered	male cryptorchid	unknown					
	female	female spayed	pregnant	lactating	vulvar discharge				
Microchip scan:	none found	chip number: _____							
Eyes:	conjunctivitis	dried discharge	rupture	corneal scar					
Ears:	brown debris	tipped	scarred hematoma						
Nose:	discharge	trap trauma							
Teeth & mouth:	stomatitis	abscessed teeth	gingivitis						
Skin & coat:	alopecia	wounds	dermatitis	matted fur	self--trauma behind ears				
Feet & pads & tail:	wounds	pododermatitis	ingrown nail	declawed	polydactyl	bobtail			
Thorax & Abdomen:									
Body condition:	underweight	overweight							
Hydration:	5% dehydrated	8% dehydrated	10% dehydrated	>10% dehydrated					
<input type="checkbox"/> No significant findings to postpone surgery or requiring immediate intervention <input type="checkbox"/> Visual examination without sedation: <input type="checkbox"/> Other significant findings and notes:									

6. **If the cat is already neutered**, ask the Lead Veterinarian to confirm the status:
 - o Note the *legible* initials of the vet who confirmed the altered status on the Veterinary Examination Record as well as how the status was determined (eg, lack of spines on penis, ventral abdominal tattoo, ear tip, etc) .
 - o Place an “Already Neutered” tag on the left front paw.
7. **If the cat is cryptorchid**, ask the Clinic Supervisor to confirm and record on the medical record.
8. **Complete the physical examination**, and record the results on the Veterinary Examination Record:
 - o Record any abnormal findings
 - o **Check** “No significant findings” if none are indicated.
 - o **Include additional notes but limit these to clinically relevant observations.** Keep notes concise, and write small but legibly.



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Breed:	DSH	DMH	DLH	Siamese X	Other _____				
Gender:	male	male neutered	male cryptorchid	unknown					
	female	female spayed	pregnant	lactating	vulvar discharge				
Microchip scan:	none found	chip number:	_____						
Eyes:	conjunctivitis	dried discharge	rupture	corneal scar					
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Thorax & Abdomen:									
Body condition:	underweight	overweight							
Hydration:	5% dehydrated	8% dehydrated	10% dehydrated	>10% dehydrated					
<input type="checkbox"/> No significant findings to postpone surgery or requiring immediate intervention <input type="checkbox"/> Visual examination without sedation: <input type="checkbox"/> Other significant findings and notes:									

9. Administer Meloxicam

10. Select any special surgical preparation orders, on the Veterinary Examination Record:

- o Flank prep (lactating)
- o Cryptorchid prep
- o Enucleation prep
- o Wound care needed

11. If a special surgeon is requested (frail, unstable, pyometra, etc.), select the appropriate box on the Veterinary Examination Record and fill in the requested surgeon's name on the medical record

12. Request other procedures, if indicated.

SPECIAL ORDERS (attach alert tags)

- | | |
|--|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> FLANK PREP (lactating) | <input type="checkbox"/> WOUND CLIP/CLEAN |
| <input type="checkbox"/> CRYPTORCHID PREP | <input type="checkbox"/> SPECIAL SURGEON (frail, unstable, etc): _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> ENUCLEATION PREP | <input type="checkbox"/> OTHER PROCEDURES ORDERED: _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> SQ FLUIDS (advanced pregnancy, lactating, dehydrated, fever, URI, etc) → ENTER <u>FLUID VOLUME</u> ON REVERSE SIDE | |

13. If SQ fluids are indicated (late pregnant, lactating, dehydrated, URI, fever, other), record the volume to be given on the front of the Medical Record. Affix a yellow fluids tag to left front paw.

14. If Convenia® is administered (severe wounds, pyometra, enucleation, amputation, fever, URI, etc.), record the dose in the Medical Record, then administer the injection and initial

the record after administration has been done. Also, record convenia, dosage given, time and initials of the person giving the injection on the front of the medical record.

TREATMENTS GIVEN DURING EXAMINATION (record on reverse side)

CONVENIA _____ ml SQ (0.04 ml/lb) (wounds, pyometra, pyoderma, abscess, enucleation, amputation, fever, URI) Admin by: _____

15. **Dispose of used needles** in sharps container. Do not reuse needles.
16. **If indicated, select TO GO HOME orders. If delayed release is selected, write in the number of days to wait before releasing the cat.**
17. **Summarize significant findings and any post-release home instructions** in the box in the lower right corner of the Veterinary Exam Record. Be careful to use language that cat caregivers will be able to understand and follow.

TO-GO-HOME ORDERS

- Delayed release** (pyometra, advanced pregnancy, enucleation, amputation, major wounds, etc) Wait _____ days before release
- Dermatitis** (circle) ringworm flea allergy ear mites
- Minor or inactive wound** (no treatment needed)
- Wound or abscess** (treated, needs monitoring)
- Oral** – stomatitis
- Oral** - tooth extraction
- Flank spay**
- Lactating**
- URI**
- Consultation needed at discharge**

NOTES TO CAREGIVER (findings, instructions):

18. **Place Medical Record and Veterinary Examination Record** into the plastic sleeve.
19. **Tip the left ear:**
 - o Cut straight across the top of the hemostat using a #15 blade
 - o Leave the hemostat in place until surgery is complete.
20. **Transport the cat** on its fleece with the Veterinary Examination Record to:
 - o Females and Cryptorchid Males to Prep Tech A
 - o Males to Prep Tech C

All Station Images



Station Closing and Cleanup

When the clinic is concluded:

- Inventory the remaining supplies and repack the station kit.
- Return all drugs to the Clinic Supervisor.
- Clean the area and dispose of all trash in the dumpster.
- Sweep or vacuum and mop the floor.