



Cornell University
Cornell Center for Animal Resources and Education

CARE 604.01 Preventative Health Program for Dogs

The intent of this standard operating procedure (SOP) is to describe preventative veterinary care of dogs. This SOP is intended for CARE personnel tending dogs. This SOP is approved by the Cornell Institutional Animal Care and Use Committee (IACUC) and the Cornell Center for Animal Resources and Education (CARE). Any exemption must be approved by the IACUC prior to its application.

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1. Introduction

Dogs will be obtained from approved vendors (class A dealers such as, but not limited to, Marshall Bioresources, Covance, etc). Under approval of a facility veterinarian after review of health records a dog may be transferred from another research institution.

2. Materials

- a. Vaccines as indicated in 3.b.
- b. Dental equipment
- c. Physical exam materials (e.g., stethoscope, thermometer, etc.)
- d. Syringes, needles and blood collection tubes as appropriate.

3. Procedures

- a. **Incoming animals**— from other institutions or dogs received because of specific medical conditions of research interest.
 - i. Obtain a copy of the medical records prior to shipment of the dog(s).
 - ii. A CARE veterinarian must review the health records and approve receipt prior to shipment of the dog (s)

- b. **Incoming dogs from any source.**
 - i. Review health certificate and vaccination history.
 - ii. Quarantine incoming dogs in isolation (i.e. isolated air flow relative to resident animals) for 2 weeks prior to introducing into an existing colony.

Note: Research related activities performed during the quarantine period are subject to approval from a CARE veterinarian.

c. Upon arrival

Perform a physical exam

- i. Collect and submit a fecal sample for parasitologic exam.
- ii. Provide vaccination according to schedule below or per required need in adults
- iii. Deworm puppies at 6 and 8 to 9 weeks of age with an appropriate worming agent and one month later check a fecal exam to be sure that any parasites have been eliminated

Vaccine	Age	Note
Canine Distemper (ML) Adenovirus Type 2 (ML) Parainfluenza (ML) Parvovirus (ML)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 6 – 8 weeks • 10 –12 weeks • 14 – 16 weeks 	Booster 12 months after the initial vaccine & then every 3 years there after Avoid vaccinating pregnant females but you may want to vaccinate them at the time of breeding
Rabies (K)	Not younger than 12 weeks and best at 16 weeks	Booster 12 months after initial vaccination then every 1-3 years*

ML = Modified Live; K = Killed; *per manufacturer’s FDA labeling

d. Resident animals

- i Collect and perform a fecal if dogs are experiencing diarrhea otherwise perform a fecal parasite exam on a biennial basis.
- ii Deworming is to be performed with any appropriate worming agent.
- iii Physical exams will be performed at least annually on all dogs by a facility Veterinarian.
- iv If indicated because of health deficiency or a PI’s research protocol a Complete Blood Count (CBC) and Serum Chemistry profile will be performed at the discretion of the examining veterinarian.
- v During the annual physical, the dental status will be evaluated by the veterinarian performing the physical exam and, if deemed appropriate, the dog’s teeth will be cleaned. Consideration will be given to the PIs research and the dog’s health status so as to not jeopardize either.

4. Safety

- See Sharps [SOP 711 “Sharp Precautions”](#)
- Precaution – Dogs can carry zoonotic organisms.
- Proper personal hygiene including but not limited to hand washing should be followed.
- PPE will be determined by current CARE policy and [SOP 715](#)

5. Contingencies

- In case of injury from dogs, follow [SOP 707 “Animal Related Injury”](#)
- Consult the CARE veterinary staff for any animal health issues

6. References

Cornell University, Center for An. Resources & Ed.; Occupational Health & Safety,
<http://www.research.cornell.edu/care/zoonoses.html>
(Accessed 13 Feb 09)

CARE SOP 707.01 Animal Related Injury:
<http://www.research.cornell.edu/care/documents/SOPs/CARE707.pdf>
(Accessed 13 Feb 09)

CARE SOP 715 Personal Protective Equipment:
<http://www.research.cornell.edu/care/documents/SOPs/CARE715.pdf>
(Accessed 13 Feb 09)

CARE - OH&S - Zoonoses:
<http://www.research.cornell.edu/care/zoonoses.html>
(Accessed 13 Feb 09)

CARE SOP 542 Maintaining Clinical Records for Animal Research Models
<http://www.research.cornell.edu/care/documents/SOPs/CARE542.pdf>
(Accessed 13 Feb 09)

CARE SOP 538 Vermin Program
<http://www.research.cornell.edu/care/documents/SOPs/CARE538.pdf>
(Accessed 13 Feb 09)

2006 AHA Vaccination Guide:
<http://www.aahanet.org/PublicDocuments/VaccineGuidelines06Revised.pdf>
(Accessed 13 Feb 09)

UC Davis VMTH Canine and Feline Vaccination Guidelines (Revised 12/07)
<http://www.vmth.ucdavis.edu/vmth/clientinfo/info/genmed/vaccinproto.html>
(Accessed 13 Feb 09)

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