



Handout

The First 60 Minutes: Animal Sheltering's Critical Hour Webcast Presented by Brian A. DiGangi, DVM, DABVP

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Overview:

Objectives

- a. Learn how to use the first 60 minutes to maximize chances of a live release
- b. Create a comprehensive written intake protocol for your organization

Notes:

Intake Planning

- Why do we need intake protocols?

- Who is involved in the intake process?

- **Pathway Planning**
 1. Return-to-Owner

 2. Transfer to Pet Placement Partners

 3. Adoption

 4. Euthanasia

- Microchip scanning

- Animal Identification

1. Collars and tags

2. Photography

- **Intake Housing**

1. Housing size and style

2. Cleaning and disinfection

3. Segregation

- **Traffic Flow Patterns**

1. What is traffic flow?

2. How?

Medical Health

- **Physical Examination**

1. Medical history

2. Description

3. Age

4. Sex & neuter status
5. Body weight and body condition score
6. Signs of disease

- **Intake Treatments**

1. Vaccination

- Is it necessary?

- 1) Impact of health status at intake

- Other findings
- Does it matter when vaccination occurs?
- Does the type of vaccine matter?
- What about intranasal vaccination for respiratory diseases?
- Canine vaccination
- Feline vaccination

- Key points:
 - 1) Vaccinate all animals regardless of health status or source
 - 2) Vaccinate animals before or as soon after intake as possible
 - 3) Use modified-live virus products

2. Parasite control

- **Diagnostic Testing**

1. Canine Heartworm Disease

- Antigen testing of all dogs >6 months of age is ideal

- Alternatives

- Screen and test protocol

2. FeLV/FIV

- Testing of all cats is ideal

- Testing at admission

- Each cat should be individually tested

- Age for testing

Behavioral Health

- **Behavioral Examination**

1. Behavioral history

2. Lifestyle

3. Likes and dislikes

4. Problem behaviors

5. Tricks and talents

- **Stress Reduction and Environmental Enrichment**

1. Stress reduction

- Short-term stress
- Long-term stress
- What is stressful?

2. Environmental enrichment

- **Behavioral Evaluation and Modification**

1. Components:

- Intake
- Veterinary exam
- Temperament assessment
- Daily observations
- Training and behavioral modification
- Interaction with public

2. This is an ongoing process

Documentation and Communication

- **Asilomar Accords**
- **Daily observations, rounds, and treatments**

Conclusions

- **Create and utilize sound intake protocols that:**
 1. Protect the physical health of your animals
 2. Minimize stress and meet emotional needs
 3. Maximize chances of a live release