ANIMAL RELATED INJURY

1. PURPOSE

1.1. The intent of this Animal Care and Use Procedure (ACUP) is to describe how to respond to animal related injuries. This ACUP is approved by the Cornell Institutional Animal Care and Use Committee (IACUC). Any deviation must be approved by the IACUC prior to its application.

2. SCOPE

2.1. This ACUP is intended for use by all personnel who handle animals or materials that come into contact with animal bodily fluids or tissues.

3. INTRODUCTION

3.1. Animal related injury implies a bite, kick, scratch, crush, or break in the skin or mucous membrane, and/or direct contact with animal tissues, fluids, or excretions.

3.2. Contact the Cornell Center for Animal Resources and Education (CARE) at Cornell University by e-mailing care@cornell.edu for more information or for assistance.

4. MATERIAL AND EQUIPMENT

4.1. Emergency Contact Numbers:

4.1.1. Gannett Health Services

4.1.1.1. Occupational Services: (607) 255-6960
4.1.1.2. After Hours: (607) 255-5155

4.1.2. Cornell University Police Department

4.1.2.1. Emergency: 911
4.1.2.2. Non-Emergency: (607) 255-1111
4.1.3. Facility Manager:
   4.1.3.1. Posted in individual facilities

4.1.4. CARE
   4.1.4.1. CARE Pager: 1-800-349-2456

4.2. Emergency Supplies:

   4.2.1. First Aid Kit
      4.2.1.1. Must be located in an obvious, readily available location.
      4.2.1.2. The facility manager or their designee is responsible for maintaining the
               first aid kit and checking expiration dates of kit contents.
      4.2.1.3. Contents MUST include (at a minimum):
         4.2.1.3.1. Antiseptic wipe(s)
         4.2.1.3.2. Sterile gauze pads
         4.2.1.3.3. Adhesive tape
         4.2.1.3.4. Bandages
         4.2.1.3.5. Examination gloves

   4.2.2. Emergency Eyewash Station

5. PROCEDURE

   5.1. In the event of an animal related injury, stop any procedure or manipulation. If
        possible, secure the animal in a cage or enclosure.
   5.2. For major injuries (e.g., broken bones, fall or kick injury, cardiac arrest, etc.),
        immediately call 911 and follow instructions from emergency personnel.

5.3. Wounds and Exposures

   5.3.1. Wounds:
      5.3.1.1. Apply basic first aid:
         5.3.1.1.1. Wash wound with running water and soap for approximately 15
                     minutes and assure that visible dirt/debris are cleaned away.
         5.3.1.1.2. Pat dry and apply an adhesive bandage or dry clean cloth.
      5.3.1.2. Leave unclean wounds, bites, and punctures open. Wounds that are not
                cleaned correctly can trap bacteria and result in infection.

   5.3.2. Exposure to animal tissues, fluids, or excretions:
      5.3.2.1. Mucous membrane exposure:
5.3.2.1.1. Thoroughly rinse exposed mucous membranes under running water or by using the eye wash for 15 minutes.

5.3.2.2. Non-mucous membrane exposure:

5.3.2.2.1. Wash affected areas with soap and clean water.

5.4. Report the accident to your supervisor and to the facility manager. If the exposure involves an animal intentionally infected with a pathogen, notify the IACUC.

5.4.1. The individual and the supervisor must fill out an Accident Report within 24 hours.

5.5. If there is any question, contact the Occupational Medicine Office at Gannett Health Services at (607) 255-6960 (after hours: (607) 255-5155) to determine if further care is needed.

6. PERSONNEL SAFETY

6.1. Medical Emergencies: CALL 911.

6.2. When working with animals wear appropriate PPE, observe proper hygiene, and be aware of allergy, zoonosis, and injury risks. Refer to the CARE Occupational Health and Safety webpage for more information.

7. ANIMAL RELATED CONTINGENCIES

7.1. None

8. REFERENCES


8.4. Gannett Health Services Occupational Medicine: http://www.gannett.cornell.edu/services/occupational/index.cfm

8.5. CARE Occupational Health and Safety webpage: http://www.research.cornell.edu/care/OHS.html


9. APPENDIX

9.1. None

10. HISTORY

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