Shelter Intake Best Practices: Part 1

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Shelter Intake: Part 1

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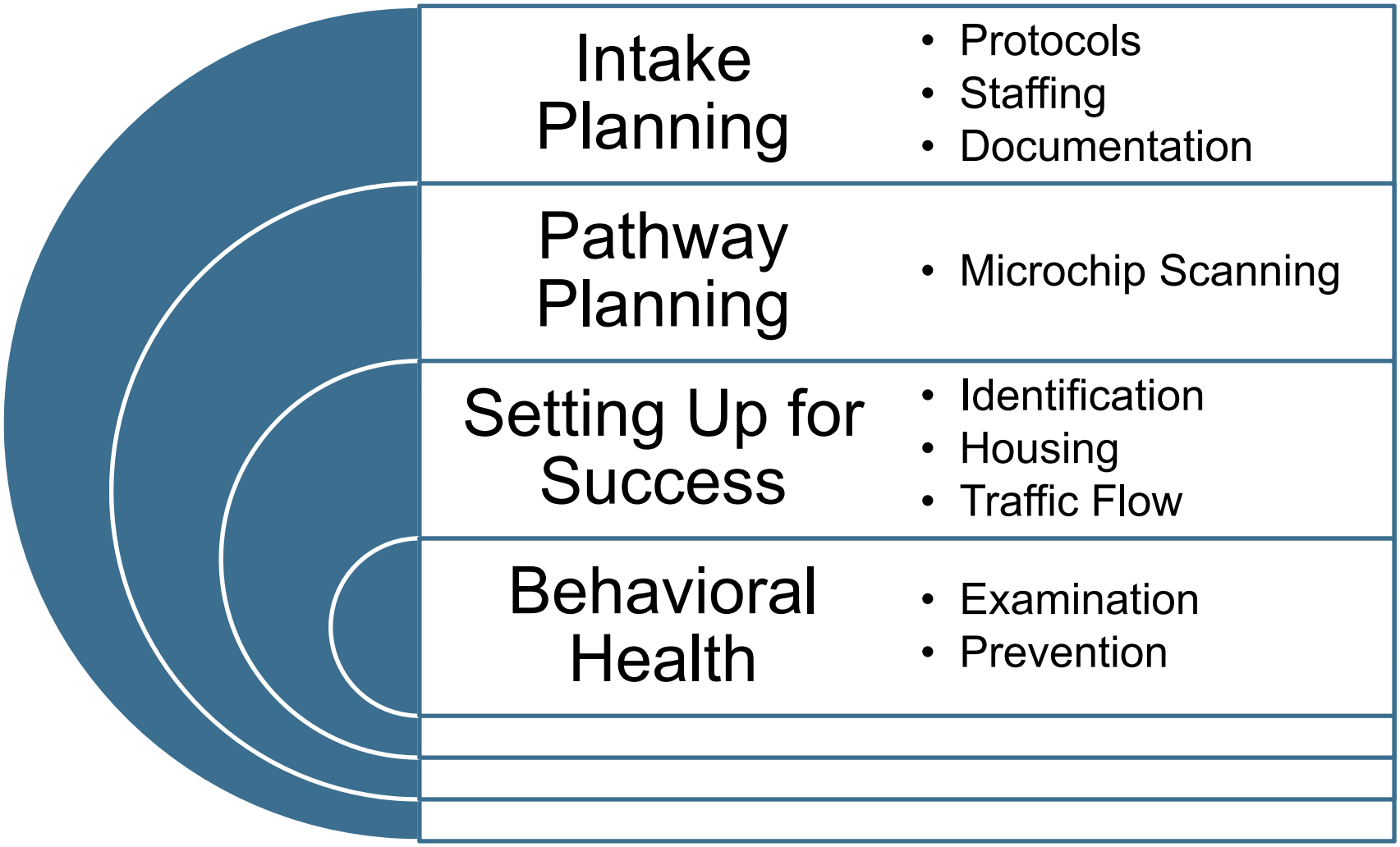
Outline



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Why do we need protocols?

Problem Prevention

Consistency

Accountability

Minimize Stress

Sound intake protocols ensure the health and welfare of ***individual animals*** *and the* ***shelter population****!*

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Write it down!

In the absence of a consistent veterinary relationship, limited medical care should be provided by all shelters… under the direction of a written protocol…

Vaccination

Parasite prophylaxis

Diagnostic testing

http://www.sheltervet.org/position-statements

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Intake Staffing

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Documentation & Communication

Minimum

- Monthly intake by source
- Monthly outcome by type
- Daily animal census

Ideal

- Evaluation by age group, health, behavior status
- At intake and outcome

Best

- Disease prevalence at intake
- Incidence of disease during shelter stay

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Basic Data Matrix

SHELTER ANIMALS COUNT
BASIC ANIMAL DATA MATRIX
(vrs 04-2015)

BASIC DATA MATRIX (Đđ 201ọ)

	Species By Age	Canine		Feline		Total	
		Adult	Up to 5 months	Adult	Up to 5 months		
A	Beginning Animal Count (date:)					0	Age at Intake Should include animals in shelter and animals admitted but currently in foster care or other offsite facility.
Live Intake							
B	Stray/At Large					0	Admitted through animal control/stated to be unowned or freeroaming
C	Relinquished by Owner					0	Admitted by owner
D	Owner Intended Euthanasia					0	Limited to this definition: Admission of pets whose owner brought the pet to the shelter with the INTENT of requesting euthanasia
E	Transferred in from Agency					0	An admission from another agency - for adoption, large scale seizure support, etc.
F	Other Intakes					0	Impounds for cruelty cases & protective custody. Also, pets born while in care, and others types of admission not captured above.
G	**TOTAL LIVE INTAKE**	0	0	0	0	0	***Sum of B, C, D, E and F***

http://www.ShelterAnimalsCount.org

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Pathway Planning

- Proactive approach to animal disposition
- Identify likely outcome and get there efficiently

- Pathways are defined at intake and reviewed daily

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Pathway Planning

Return-to-owner

- Microchips
- Lost & found

Transfer/transport

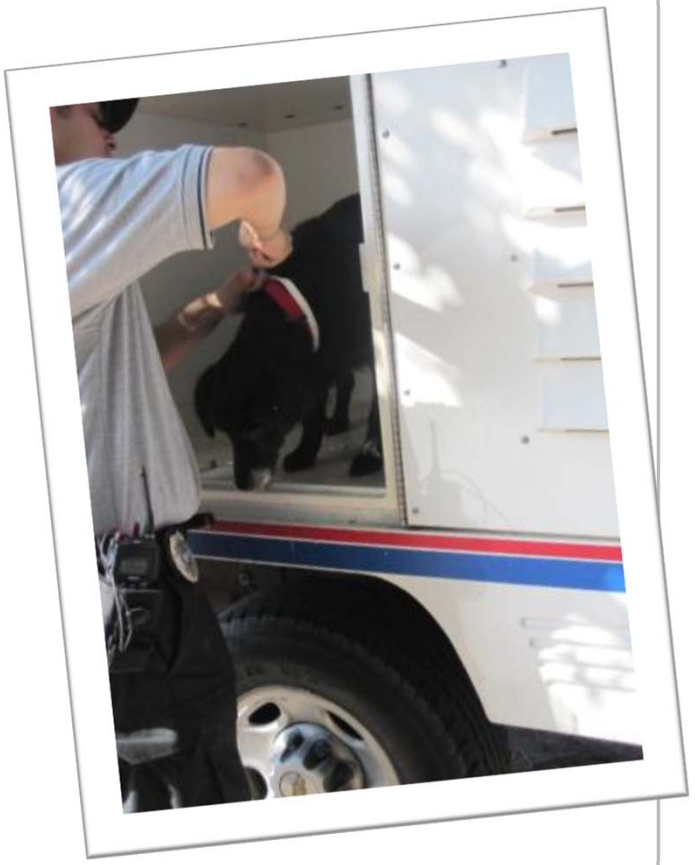
- Timely
- Efficient

Adoption

- Fast track
- Open selection

Euthanasia

- Training
- Scheduling



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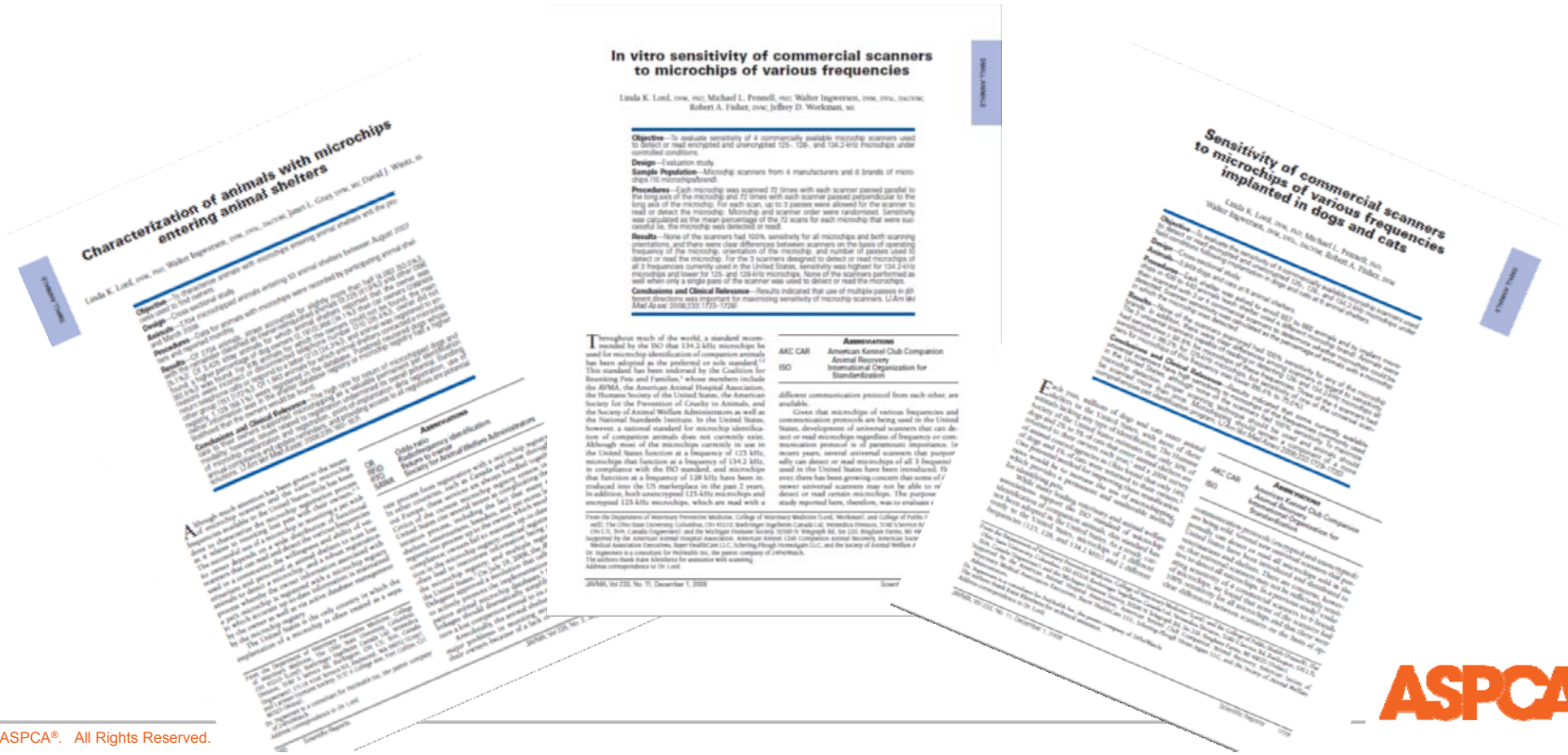
Microchip Scanning

Lord LK, Ingwersen W, Gray JL, et al. Characterization of animals with microchips entering animal shelters. JAVMA 235(2), 2009

Lord LK, Pennell ML, Ingwersen W, et al. In vitro sensitivity of commercial scanners to microchips of various frequencies. JAVMA 223(11), 2008.

Lord LK, Pennell ML, Ingwersen W, et al. Sensitivity of commercial scanners to microchips of various frequencies implanted in dogs and cats. JAVMA 223(11), 2008.



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Microchip Lessons Learned

Frequency

- 21% of shelters scanned animals once
- >900 microchips found during additional scans

Scanners

- 52% of shelters only used 1 brand of scanner

Technique

- No scanner had 100% sensitivity
- Sensitivity changed based on scanner-chip orientation
- Sensitivity improved with multiple scans
- Every 5 lb. increase in weight increased odds of missing a microchip

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Microchip Lessons Learned

Datamars iMAX+

Datamars ISO Max V Universal Scanner

Use global scanners

Use multiple scanners

Scan many times

HomeAgain Universal Worldscan

AKC CAR ProScan 700

PetPoint Scanflex AFX-100

AVID 1034 MiniTracker 3

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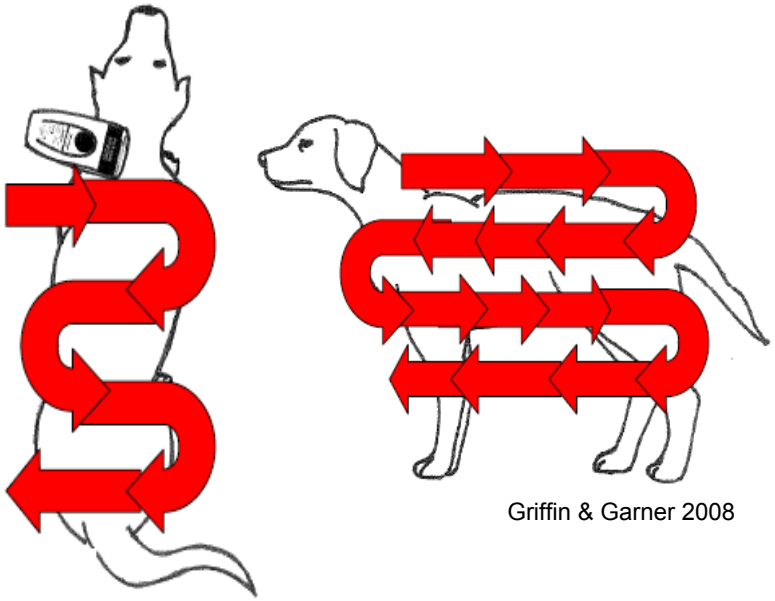
Scanning Technique



Griffin & Garner 2008

Slow → **C**lose → **A**rea → **N**ext steps

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Scanning Technique

Other considerations

- Avoid metal tables, fluorescent lights, computers, metal collars
- Use fresh batteries
- Look it up now!

http://petmicrochiplookup.org

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Microchip Scanning

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Setting Up for Success: Animal ID

A unique identifier must be established for each animal upon intake.

Identification should be physically affixed to the animal unless this poses a safety risk.

Guidelines for Standards of Care in Animal Shelters, 2010

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Setting Up for Success: Housing

Housing

- Size
- Style

Sanitation

Segregation

- Species
- Age
- Sex
- Health status

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Setting Up for Success: Traffic Flow

What?

- Planned movement of people and animals
- Goals: minimize disease transmission, stress

How?

- Most susceptible to least susceptible
  - Puppies and kittens *before* adults
  - Healthy animals *before* sick animals

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Setting Up for Success: Traffic Flow

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Behavioral Health

To really care for any animal in captivity, we need to know about how that species lives in the wild, how they make use of their environment, **and the signs that indicate when we are doing it wrong**.

Melissa Kaplan www.anapsid.org

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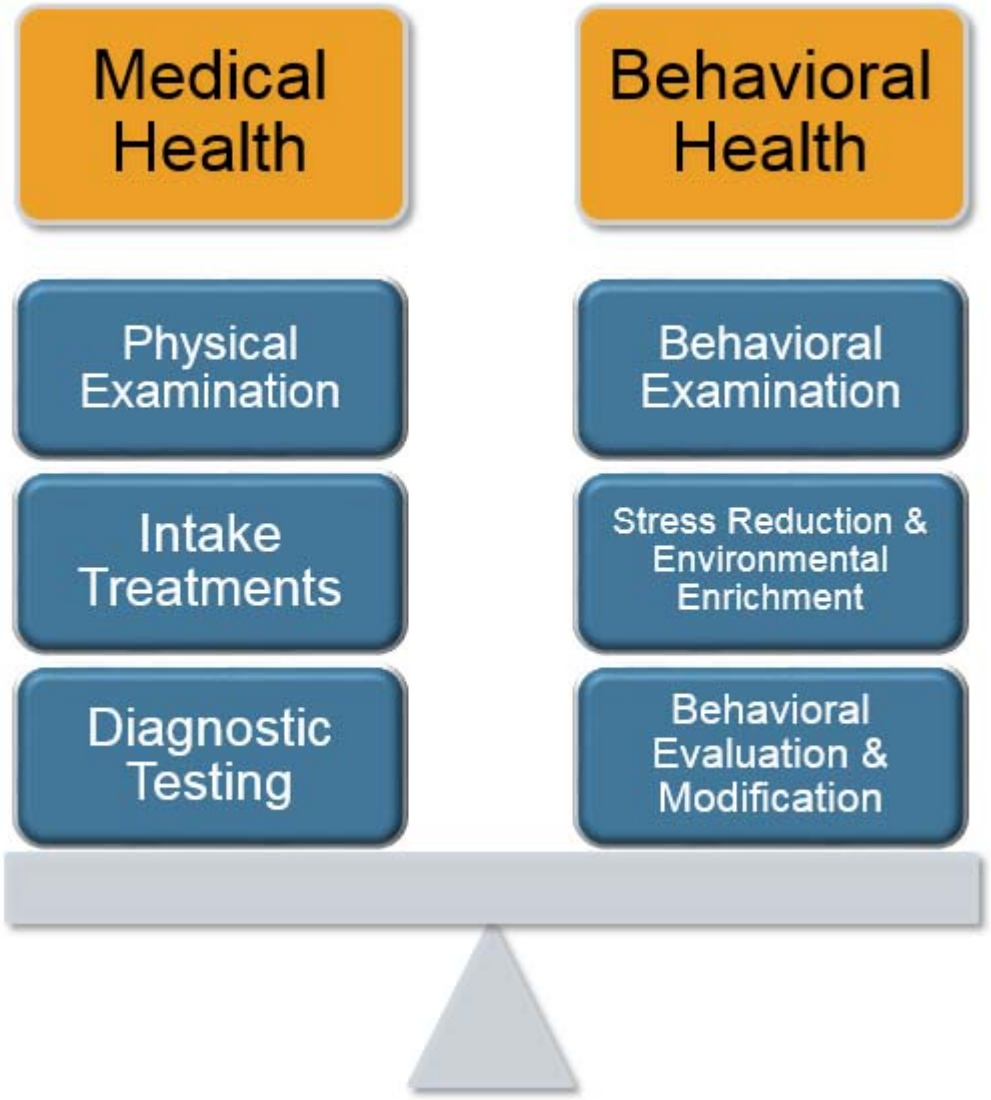
Behavioral Health



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Examination & History

Lifestyle

- Indoor/outdoor?
- Adults/children?

Likes & Dislikes

- Couch potato or athlete?
- Scratching ears? Touching feet?

Problem Behaviors

- Aggression?
- House soiling

Tricks and Talents

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Stress Reduction

An **abnormal** or extreme adjustment in **physiology** and/or behavior in response to aversive stimuli.

B Griffin & KR Hume, Consultations in Feline Internal Medicine V, 2006

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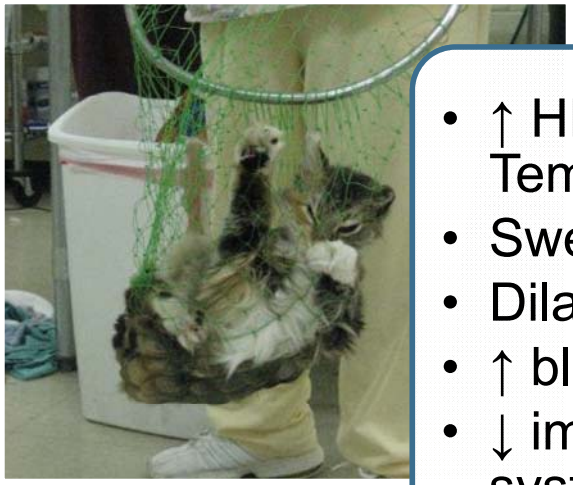
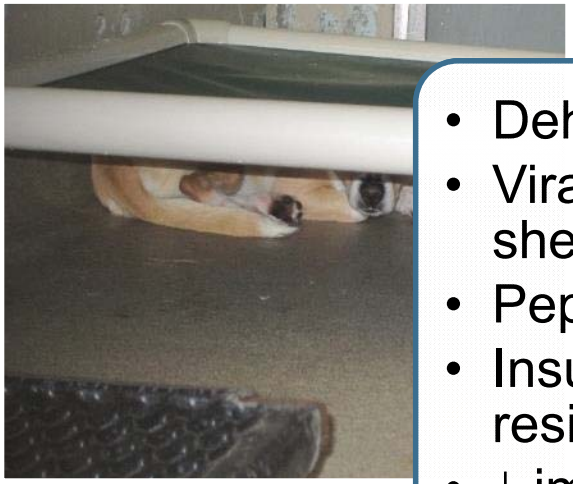
The Stress Response

Short Term Stress



- ↑ HR, RR, Temp.
- Sweating
- Dilated pupils
- ↑ blood sugar
- ↓ immune system

Long Term Stress



- Dehydration
- Viral shedding
- Peptic ulcers
- Insulin resistance
- ↓ immune system

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What is stressful?

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Environmental Enrichment

Enrichment should be given the same importance as other components of animal care and should not be considered optional.

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Behavioral Evaluation

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Set Up for Success!

- Create and use sound intake protocols
- Identify and meet basic needs
- Protect physical health
- Minimize stress and meet behavioral needs
- Maximize chances of live release

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Conclusions

*Animal intake is an **opportunity** to protect animal health and welfare…*

*…and it is our **responsibility** to do so.*

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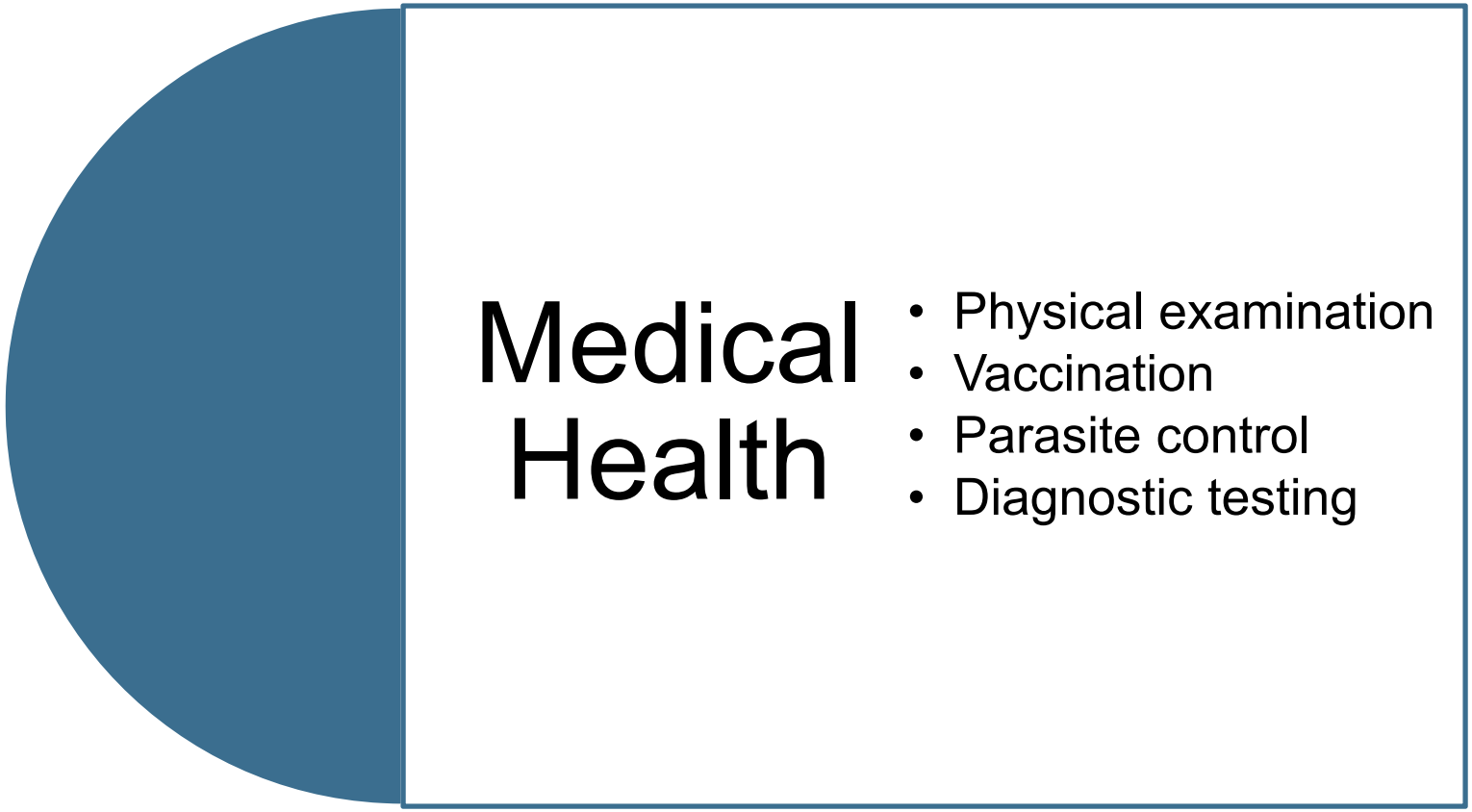
Shelter Intake: Part 2



Tuesday, August 15, 3:00-3:30pm EST

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