

**FACULTY OF VETERINARY MEDICINΕ**

**DEPARTMENT OF CLINICAL VETERINARY STUDIES**

**CLINIC OF SURGERY**

**Rules in Diagnostic Imaging**

**Entrance Regulations**

* Entrance is prohibited without a medical apron.

**Food and Drink**

* Consumption of food and drinks is strictly prohibited.

**Hygiene and Protection**

* All hygiene and individual protection rules must be strictly adhered to.
* The use of examination gloves is mandatory.

**Protective Equipment**

* Protective equipment (lead apron and collar) must be placed in designated areas (hangers) and maintained in a clean condition.

**Animal Handling**

* The responsibility for holding the animal in the Radiological Bank lies with the owner, who must follow guidance from the staff at the Diagnostic Unit.
* In the absence of the owner, special straps and sand sacks may be utilized, or calming/anesthesia procedures may be performed.
* The person holding the animal must wear suitable attire, including an apron and lead collar.

**Access Restrictions**

* It is forbidden for pregnant individuals, persons under 18 years of age, or those with thyroid conditions to enter the radiological machine area for animal restraint.

**Personnel Requirements**

* Staff employed at the Diagnostic Unit must carry individual dosimeters and possess the appropriate training.

**Hygiene Protocols**

* Hands should be washed between incidents, and both the radiological bank and restraint equipment must be disinfected with an appropriate disinfectant.

**Daily Equipment Maintenance**

* All equipment must be cleaned and disinfected daily using a chlorhexidine solution.
* The staff are responsible for overseeing or performing the cleaning and disinfection of the radiological equipment.

**Limiting Personnel**

* The number of individuals involved in imaging exams should be kept to a minimum.

**Laboratory Cleanliness**

* The Radiological Laboratory area and machinery must always be kept clean.

**Biooperations in Diagnostic Imaging**

**General Principles**

1. **Imaging Tests**
	* Imaging tests should not be performed on animals suspected of having infectious diseases unless deemed necessary. If possible, these tests should be conducted at the end of the working hours.
2. **Notification Responsibilities**
	* It is the primary responsibility of the clinical veterinarian who examined and referred the animal to inform the Diagnostic Unit about the procedures to prevent the spread of infectious diseases.
3. **Referral Protocols**
	* The referral for imaging examinations must clearly indicate the potential risk of infection.
4. **Animal Transfer**
	* Organizing the transfer of animals for imaging examinations, including the provision of protective clothing (aprons, gloves) and outlining the necessary procedures, falls under the responsibility of the attending clinician.
5. **Contact Precautions**
	* Everyone who comes into contact with a sick animal must wear gloves and special clothing. Hands must be washed thoroughly after the examination is completed.
6. **Infectious Waste Disposal**
	* Protective clothing that may be contaminated must be placed in designated bags, clearly marked with the suspicious infectious factor, and returned to special facilities for proper disposal.
7. **Cleaning and Disinfection**
	* Facilities and equipment must be cleaned and disinfected as soon as possible.
	* The staff should oversee or perform the cleaning and disinfection of the radiological equipment.
8. **Post-Examination Protocol**
	* After completing imaging examinations on potentially infected animals, the radiography area must remain closed, and a signal for special disinfection must be communicated to the competent department.

**Guidelines for Animal Handling and Radiography**

**1. Animals of Pets**

* If an animal is suspected of having an infectious disease, it must remain in its designated hospitalization area until the imaging space is prepared.
* A travel or transport cage must be used to minimize contact with other areas of the clinic during the animal's transport.

**2. Incidents of Productive Animals**

* Whenever possible, a portable radiological machine should be used for the radiography of animals suspected of having an infectious disease.
* Small ruminants should be transported to the Diagnostic Unit (MD) using a carrier or stretcher, if feasible.
* MD staff entering large animal residences must adhere to the required clothing protocol for that area.

**3. Space and Radiography Equipment**

* After an incident involving a suspected infectious disease, the floor must be sprayed or mopped with an appropriate disinfectant (e.g., Vircon-A456N solution).
* Lead aprons and gloves must be sprayed with the appropriate disinfectant solution after use in any incident involving a suspected infectious disease.

**Additional Safety information**

* **First Aid:** A pharmacy is available in the Laboratory/Clinic room for minor injuries.
* **Medical assistance is provided at General Hospital of Karditsa (Emergency Care Unit). Telephone: 2441351520 / ΕΚΑΒ (National Service of Emergency Care) Telephone: 166.**
* **In case of fire. A Dry powder extinguisher exists on the room / Fire Service Telephone: 199.**

**Keep the Clinic/Laboaratory areas and equipment always clean**

**These guidelines are essential for ensuring safety and proper handling of animals in the Imaintive Diagnostic environment**.