** DEPARTMENT OF VETERINARY MEDICINE **

**SECTOR OF VETERINARY CLINICAL STUDIES**

**POULTRY PATHOLOGY CLINIC**

**1. BIOSAFETY OF PRODUCTION ANIMAL UNITS AND SAFETY OF STUDENTS AND STAFF**

Familiarity with and respect for the basic hygiene and safety rules by students, veterinarians, and other staff members are considered essential for the efficient and safe operation of the Avian Clinic**.**

**General instructions**

**1.1 Footwear**

• The use of rubber boots or shoe covers (booties) is required in all working areas of the Clinic where birds are hospitalized. In the central areas of the clinic, where pet and songbirds are examined, the use of regular footwear is allowed.

• The use of rubber boots or covers is PROHIBITED in the classroom.

• Rubber boots should have suitable surface that facilitate cleaning and prevent the transfer of bedding or soiled materials.

• Rubber boots must be cleaned regularly.

• The presence of individuals with inappropriate clothing in the Clinic is not allowed, and they cannot enter if not complying with the dress code.

**1.2 Clothing**

• The use of an overall or medical gown is required, depending on the type of work and the area of the Avian Clinic.

• Those entering the Clinic must take the necessary precautions to prevent the inadvertent transfer of infectious diseases to people and animals outside the Clinic.

• All visitors to the Clinic’s hospitalization areas must wear disposable shoe covers. These covers must be replaced in the event of heavy contamination.

**1.3 Clothing & Other Measures in the Bird Experimentation and Hospitalization Areas:**

• Proper hand washing with antiseptic solutions and sterile application of gloves before the visit is required.

• Head covers and masks during the visit should be used.

• Shoe covers or boots should be used during the visit.

• Clean gowns during animal handling before and after the visit in the areas should be used.

**1.4. General Cleanliness and Hygiene**

• Those entering the Clinic must use the main entrance.

• Hand cleaning with alcohol-based disinfectants is required before and after examining each animal patient.

• The use of examination gloves is mandatory when handling animals, particularly those considered high-risk (e.g., suspected infectious diseases).

• Surfaces and equipment contaminated with feces, secretions, or blood must be cleaned and disinfected immediately.

• Staff must use the disinfectant "footbaths" provided at the Clinic entrances during experiments, bird hospitalization, and inspections. The disinfectant in the shoe disinfectant basins is renewed on Mondays, Wednesdays, Fridays, and Sundays.

• Necessary equipment must be sterilized after use to be ready for the next use.
• Mobile equipment supporting the Clinic (e.g., water pressure devices, etc.) must be thoroughly cleaned before being moved to a different area of the Clinic.

• Thermometers, scissors, scales, hemostatic forceps, etc., must be disinfected between use on different animals with 70% isopropyl alcohol or 0.5% chlorhexidine. Disinfectant solutions are available at various points in the Clinic.

• Food and Drinks: The consumption of food and drinks is PROHIBITED in all areas of the Clinic, except in the staff and student rest areas.

**1.5. Guidelines for the Admission and Management of Animal Patients Animal Admission**

• The admission of pet and songbirds is done through the main entrance of the Clinic, and they remain in the examination room for evaluation.

• The vehicle used to transport sick birds should not remain at the Clinic entrance, as it may obstruct the Clinic's operations.

• Animals with a history of or clinical symptoms of contagious diseases must be examined in the transport vehicle.

**1.6. Guidelines for the Admission and Management of Animal Patients Animal Admission**

**• Management of Hospitalized Animals**

• The Clinic staff assigns the hospitalization area for the sick birds.

• In each area, a Hospitalization Card is placed, which includes:

* Information about the breeder/animal patient
* Names of responsible students and veterinarians
* Current health status of the animal and any suspected or diagnosed disease
* Instructions for medication

• Hospitalized animals must have free access to water unless otherwise indicated by the attending veterinarian.

• The cleaning of the cages is done every morning by the responsible staff.

• Before and after examining each animal, hands must be washed with water and soap, then disinfected with alcohol-based disinfectants.

• The use of examination gloves is mandatory, and they should be replaced between different cages.

• Care should be taken to disinfect surfaces that have come into contact with feces, blood, etc.

• Shoe disinfection is mandatory.

• Samples of biological materials from high-risk sick animals must be placed in containers (boxes or bags) with the appropriate color coding and clear labeling/indication of the risk.

• Special care must be taken when placing samples in the appropriate containers to prevent the spread of infectious agents into the environment.

• First Aid: For minor injuries, there is a first aid kit in the Laboratory room.

• Medical assistance is provided by the General Hospital of Karditsa (Emergency Department). Contact phone: 2441351520 / Ambulance Service (EKAB) contact phone: 166.

• In case of fire, there is a water-based fire extinguishing system as well as dry powder fire extinguishers in the hallway of each floor / Fire Department contact phone: 199.

**2. BIOSAFETY OF THE MOBILE CLINIC VEHICLE FOR VISITS TO FARMS AND THE AGRO-ECONOMICS FARM OF THE UNIVERSITY OF THESSALY**

• The use of disposable covers over boots is required.

• A different cover should be used for each breeding facility visited. The number of students participating in the visit should be scheduled, and a timetable should be set.

• Students must carry a scalpel, hemostatic forceps, and scissors with them.
• The use of disposable examination gloves is recommended for each animal patient case. Hands should be thoroughly washed at the end of each task.

• Equipment must be cleaned and disinfected after each use.

• The consumption of food and water is allowed only with the permission of the attending veterinarian and in designated areas of the facility.

• Samples of biological materials from high-risk sick animals must be placed in containers (boxes or bags) with the appropriate color coding and clear labeling/indication of the risk.

• Special care must be taken when placing samples in the appropriate containers to prevent the spread of infectious agents to the breeding facility.

• At the end of the visit, disposable covers are discarded, boots are cleaned and immersed in disinfectant solutions. Upon return, boots and overalls are stored separately from pharmaceutical materials (vet box) inside the Mobile Clinic Vehicle.

• The Mobile Clinic Vehicle must be cleaned and disinfected after each use.

• Visits to breeding facilities with suspected contagious diseases should be avoided.

**3. BIOSAFETY OF POULTRY FARMING UNITS AND SAFETY OF STUDENTS AND STAFF**

Familiarity with and respect for the basic hygiene and safety rules by students, veterinarians, and other staff members are considered essential for the smooth and safe operation of the Mobile Clinic.

**General Instructions**

**3.1 Footwear**

• The use of closed shoes or rubber boots is required in all working areas of the Mobile Clinic.

• The presence of individuals wearing inappropriate footwear (open shoes) at the Mobile Clinic's partner facilities is discouraged for safety reasons, and they will be asked to leave until they comply with the footwear rules.

**3.2 Clothing**

• The use of a full-body suit or medical gown is mandatory, depending on the type of work and the area of the Mobile Clinic.

**3.3. Clothing & Management Measures**

• The use of disposable examination gloves is recommended for each animal patient case. Thorough hand washing at the end of each task is required.

• Different covers should be used for each unit. The number of students participating in the visit should be scheduled, and a timetable should be set.

• The use of shoe covers, and disposable gloves is mandatory during visits to units suspected of having infectious diseases.

• At the end of the visit, disposable covers are discarded, and shoes are cleaned. Upon return, shoes and overalls are stored in a separate area from the pharmaceutical materials (vet box) inside the Mobile Clinic Vehicle. Visits to another unit on the same day after a visit to a unit suspected of having an infectious disease are prohibited.

• Proper hand washing with antiseptic solutions and sterile application of gloves before inspections and sampling.

• Head covers and masks must be worn during sampling.

• Clean surgical gowns should be worn when handling birds before and after sampling.

• Equipment must be cleaned and disinfected after each use.

• Samples of biological materials from high-risk sick animals must be placed in containers (boxes or bags) with the appropriate color coding and clear labeling/indication of the risk.

• Special care must be taken when placing samples in the appropriate containers to avoid spreading the infectious agent to the breeding facility.

• The Mobile Clinic Vehicle must be cleaned and disinfected after each use.

• Visits to breeding facilities with suspected Contagious Diseases should be avoided.

**3.4 General Cleanliness and Hygiene**

• Hand cleaning with alcohol-based disinfectants is mandatory before and after the inspection or clinical examination of the birds.

• The use of examination gloves is mandatory when handling high-risk animals (e.g., suspected of infectious diseases).

• Equipment must be sterilized after use to be ready for the next use.

• Food and Drinks: The consumption of food and drinks is PROHIBITED in the Mobile Clinic facilities during examination, except in the designated rest areas for staff and students.

• First Aid: A first aid kit is available in the Surgical Clinic Laboratory room for minor injuries.

• Medical assistance is provided by the General Hospital of Karditsa (Emergency Department). Contact phone: 2441351520 / EKAB Contact phone: 166.

• In case of fire, there is a water-based fire extinguishing system and dry powder fire extinguishers in the corridor of each floor. FIRE DEPARTMENT Contact phone: 199.