

**FACULTY OF VETERINARY MEDICINΕ**

**DEPARTMENT OF CLINICAL VETERINARY STUDIES**

**CLINIC OF MEDICINE-COMPANION ANIMALS**

* All students, veterinarians and all academic staff of the clinics are required to be fully aware of and comply with the basic principles of hygiene and personal safety and to ensure that the clinics are kept clean.

**Appropriate clothing for the hospitalization areas and examination rooms of the Companion Animal Clinics**

* Staff is required to wear clean professional healthcare attire, clean protective clothing and clean appropriate footwear while working in the outpatient departments of Companion Animal Clinics.
* Approved medical uniforms intended for hospital use may be used as an alternative to protective clothing.
* Protective clothing and footwear must be changed or cleaned and disinfected whenever they get contaminated by feces, urine, blood, nasal discharge or other bodily fluids. For the above reasons it is a good practice to have an extra protective clothing available for use.
* Staff must wear closed-toe shoes and ensure that they are disinfected before and after work.
* Usage of medical clothing is recommended for all the staff in the clinic, aiming to minimize the possibility of transferring infectious agents into home where people and animals might be exposed to them.

**General cleanliness and hygiene**

* Maintaining the cleanliness of the clinic and the appropriate personal hygiene is under the responsibility of the Clinic staff.
* Hands must be washed or cleaned with an alcohol-based hand antiseptic before and after the examination of each animal patient.
* Clean disposable examination gloves must be used on patient animals especially those suspected of infectious diseases.
* Surfaces or equipment soiled with feces, bodily emissions or blood must be cleaned and disinfected immediately under the responsibility of the veterinarian examining the animal. This is extremely important for sick animals suffering from or suspected of infectious diseases.
* Equipment used on a sick animal (e.g. muzzles, forceps and others) must be cleaned and disinfected with 70% isopropyl alcohol or 0.5% chlorhexidine (0.5% is for mouthwash, for equipment may need more) available in various parts of the clinic, before being used on the next patient. Alternatively, once cleaned the used equipment may be brought in for sterilization when appropriate.
* Students could use their own personal tools (scissors, hemostatic forceps, thermometer, stethoscope, light source), while it is necessary that all these are cleaned and disinfected on a regular basis.
* If the examined animal is parasitized by fleas or ticks, spray with fipronil from the pharmacy of the clinic is applied, following the rules of safe spraying procedure according to the manufacturer, after previously charging the animal's owner.

**Food and drinks**

* Food and drinks must not be stored or consumed in the animal examination rooms or hospitalization areas.
* Food and drinks intended for human consumption must not be stored in refrigerators used for food and medicines of patient animals.
* **Handling of machinery:** Must be carried out in accordance with the manufacturer's instructions as regards handling and operator safety.
* **First aid:** In cases of minor injuries there is a pharmacy in the Clinic.
* **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.**