

socially isolated. This presentation describes a risk-based approach to analyzing the factors that should be considered when managing the companion animals of this special population. The application of these principles will be demonstrated through discussion of a US Public Health Service veterinary mission, in a US Health and Human Services Federal Medical Station established for evacuees of Hurricane Ike, which struck the US Gulf coast in September 2008.

Methods: A structured approach was applied to develop the most effective method for managing each pet that presented, which included a hazard identification based on owner, pet, environmental, and animal interaction factors. Based on an analysis of these factors, a method was developed to manage each animal, which could include hospitalization, quarantine, or regular on-site visits. An unforeseen byproduct of this approach was an improvement of morale for shelter residents and medical personnel.

Results: Approximately 300 evacuees presented with about 30 companion animals (dogs and cats). The mission resulted in 100% rabies vaccination, 100% reunification, veterinary care as needed, zoonotic disease risks identified and mitigated, and the human animal bond maintained for the duration of the evacuation.

Conclusion: The case study demonstrated that public health pet management is important to the animals, patients, and staff in a disaster scenario. A structured hazard identification process requires a team approach including medical, mental health, veterinary, sanitarian, and community partners.

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The Promoting of Wellbeing Before, During, and After an Animal Health Emergency Response

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Study/Objective: Animal health disease responses can expand to become emergencies that affect responders and agricultural workers differently. The effects of stress from long days, uncertainty, decision making or new duties can manifest themselves during and well after an event is concluded. As many emerging and notifiable diseases are zoonotic, the use of One Health principles are required for effective leadership and decision making to protect human and animal health.

Background: Utilizing the pillars of emergency management, the preparedness phase is to assess response needs and to develop protocols that should include human resources that minimize risks to responders for their safe return to normal duties. Also part of the assessment is the continuation of business, and decisions will be required for the prioritizing of tasks. Wellbeing is defined by the World Health Organization (WHO) as 'a state of mind in which an individual is able to realize his or her own abilities, cope with the normal stresses of life, can work productively and fruitfully, and is able to make a contribution to his or her community'.

Methods: During preparedness and tabletop disease simulations, all potentially affected parties should be included for the sharing of knowledge, discussion, modelling, and prioritization

for response and business continuity. The sharing of responder experiences is an effective method to introduce the topic of wellbeing and good practices that support resilience. Additional time should be scheduled for group discussion and good practices, for the development of protocols that support wellbeing as part of responder health and safety.

Results: Normally well-being may be taken for granted; however, during an extended response it is necessary to support and encourage good wellbeing practices for all of those affected the response.

Conclusion: The self-monitoring of staff during and after a response is a good practice to be supported by awareness training.

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An Emergency Exercise in the Veterinary Diagnostic Laboratory - Preparing for a Foreign Animal Disease Outbreak

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Study/Objective: The objectives of this simulation were to design and conduct an operational exercise to test the Standard Operating Procedure (SOP) for management of a suspected Foreign Animal Disease (FAD) case in the postmortem laboratory, and to evaluate joint coordination and communication networks between the veterinary diagnostic laboratory and regulatory agencies involved in outbreak response.

Background: In this era of heightened awareness of the risks of emerging and transboundary diseases, postmortem facilities remain a problematic site for potential exposure and spread of high-risk pathogens. A producer experiencing high mortality on a farm is likely to bring a carcass to a laboratory for postmortem examination. Should this animal be infected with a Foreign Animal Disease (FAD) such as foot and mouth disease, the biosecurity and notification procedures implemented in the first few hours following a tentative diagnosis by the pathologist will assist in containment of the disease, and limit potential spread to other clients using diagnostic laboratory facilities.

Methods: Employing templates developed by the Justice Institute of British Columbia, exercise and evaluation guides were developed to describe scope, objectives, expected actions, and desirable timelines during the simulation.

Results: This FAD simulation was deemed a success, based upon formal feedback provided by the evaluator. All exercise participants fulfilled their respective roles and worked as a cohesive team, remaining calm and handling challenges as they arose. An informal "hotwash" networking session held immediately following the exercise included partners from several animal health regulatory agencies. A gap analysis was performed, and after-action plans were developed to resolve the identified deficiencies.

Conclusion: A well-designed operational exercise ensures a successful outcome, measured by an opportunity to practice

procedures in real time, thereby validating emergency preparedness plans in the veterinary diagnostic laboratory. Moreover, simulations provide an excellent occasion to interact with local animal health partners, thereby facilitating coordination during an actual emergency.

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Establishment of Safer Animal Rescue Capacity in Turkey

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Study/Objective: The main objectives were to prevent flooding and its effects in the long-term through local institutional capacity building in the Southeastern Anatolian Region. Specific objectives were to improve the capacities of local governmental and non-governmental organizations in flood management, in the prevention of flood, in mitigating infrastructure, and economic and social losses caused by flood.

Background: Regarding the mitigating flood risk in flooded areas in the SAR Project open call, Sanliurfa Disaster and Emergency Management Directorate (DEMD) and SAR Culture, the Research and Development Association prepared a project titled "Capacity Building for Decreasing Animal Losses from Flood in Sanliurfa" and was accepted by the financing authority.

Methods: Activity 1: Establishment of a Project Team. Activity 2: Preparation of Training Materials: Training materials needed include first aid for small and large animals, rescuing animals in dramatic situations with appropriate methods, infectious diseases, proper techniques of animal handling, restraint and evacuation, hygiene, and post-flood animal care and nutrition. Activity 3: Training: The animal welfare training duration was 10 days. Trainers were veterinarians, Sanliurfa emergency personnel, and geographers. It has been emphasized to participants that rescuing animals is important, along with people, in floods or other natural disasters. Some part of training has been carried out by emergency personnel. In this context, rope application for animals is practical. In addition, duties of emergency personnel, fire protection, and humanitarian rescue in the earthquake and flood areas were explained.

Results: The activities that were provided under the project expanded the knowledge of emergency personnel in animal welfare. Animal welfare training has been given to 70 young people engaged in animal husbandry. These volunteers have become aware of intervening animals, together with veterinarians and emergency personnel, using appropriate techniques.

Conclusion: The project is a positive contribution to animal welfare. An Animal Rescue Center has been established within the Sanliurfa fire brigade.

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Veterinary Oversight of a Short-Term Housing and Veterinary Care Facility for Companion Animals Evacuated due to a Wildfire in Alberta, Canada

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Study/Objective: This case study describes veterinary oversight of a short-term housing and veterinary care facility for animals evacuated due to a wildfire.

Background: Under significant threat of a wildfire, a short-notice mandatory evacuation order was issued for the city of Fort McMurray, Alberta, Canada. Eighty-eight thousand residents fled the city. Given the unforeseen nature of the evacuation, many residents had to leave their companion animals behind. With owner permission, animals were retrieved from their homes, examined by a veterinary professional, and staged at a local facility. Stable animals were transported by ground to an 80,000 square foot facility in Edmonton, Alberta for short-term housing, veterinary care, and reunification.

Methods: Under the direction of representatives of the Alberta Veterinary Medical Association, 24 hour veterinary oversight was provided for all aspects of animal care, including intake, triage, housing, and medical treatment. Animals arrived in Edmonton in groups ranging between 16 and 251 animals. Pending anticipated intake volume, a minimum of 2 and maximum of 24 veterinary professionals were at the facility at any given time. Upon arrival, each animal underwent a physical examination by a veterinarian. Animals in good health were cared for in species-specific housing areas. Animals requiring minor medical care were treated by a veterinarian and housed in a medical treatment area. Given a limited scope of diagnostic and therapeutic resources, animals in need of testing or treatment beyond minor care were transferred to local veterinary practices for assessment and medical treatment.

Results: Between May 9 and May 19, 2016, there were 1,192 companion animals (feline, avian, small mammal, reptile, amphibian, canine, and arachnid) received, examined, provided with veterinary care, and housed.

Conclusion: Local veterinary practices contributed essential care to sick and injured animals. Veterinary oversight of the short-term housing facility would not have been possible without the compassion and expertise of 151 volunteer veterinary professionals.

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Animals in Disasters: Lessons Learned from California's 2015 Valley Fire

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