

STONEHILL
COLLEGE
Animal-Related Injury

The intent of this standard operating procedure (SOP) is to describe how to treat relatively minor animal related injuries. This SOP is intended for use by all personnel, researchers, and students who handle animals, or materials that come into contact with animal bodily fluids or tissues. Any exemption must be approved by the IACUC prior to its application.

1. Introduction

This standard operating procedure outlines what to do when there is an animal related injury. Animal related injury implies bite, kick, scratch, and break in the skin or mucous membrane and/or exposure to animal tissues, fluids, or excretions.

2. Materials

a. First-Aid kit:

Must be located in an obvious, readily available location.

The facility manager or their designee is responsible for maintaining the first-aid kit and checking the expiration dates.

Contents must include:

Surgical scrubs impregnated with antiseptic soap

Sterile gauze pads

Adhesive tape

Band-aids

Exam gloves

b. Eye wash

(at proximity of the first-aid kit; location must be obvious)

c. Emergency contact numbers

Health Services: 5-1307

Public Safety (non-emergency): 5-5555

Easton Police (emergency): 9-911

Facilities Manager; 5-1000

IACUC office 5-1766

3. Procedures

a. Stop any procedure or manipulation. If possible, secure the animal in a cage or enclosure.

b. For major injuries such as broken bones, fall or kick injury or cardiac arrest call 9-911 (from a campus phone).

- Provide first aid to the best of your ability.
- Use precautions to prevent exposure to bodily fluids.
- If you determine that the patient is pulseless and non-breathing, begin Cardiopulmonary Resuscitation (CPR)

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NOTE: Do not attempt CPR unless trained to do so.

Stay calm; do not get excited. This will reassure the patient that help is on the way.

Refrain from moving the patient unless it is absolutely necessary for safety reasons.

Make the patient as comfortable as possible.
Gather all of the medication that the patient may be taking. This will help Emergency Responders better determine the medical history of the patient.

Remember the time, this is very important. When was the last time you talked to the patient? How long has this medical condition existed? How long has the person been unconscious?

Meet the Emergency Responders and direct/lead them to the patient.

c. For minor injuries:

Let the wound slightly bleed under running water and gently scrub with the surgical sponge and antiseptic soap. Wash the wound until visible dirt and debris are gone.

Apply gauze and firm pressure to control bleeding. Apply a band-aid if the wound is superficial and not bleeding.

Thoroughly rinse exposed mucous membranes under running water or using the eyewash.

Notify the Health Services Office at **extension 1307** to determine if further care is needed. Report the accident to the facility manager. If the exposure involves an animal intentionally infected with a pathogen, the IACUC must be notified as well. Patient and supervisor must fill out an Accident Report within 24 hours.

4. References

Stanford EH&S

http://wwwgroup.slac.stanford.edu/esh/emergency/whattodo/guides_medical.htm