



The Role of the Veterinarian in Conservation and Welfare

Gidona Goodman

DVM MSc Wild Animal Health MRCVS
Lecturer in exotic animal and wildlife medicine
University of Edinburgh

Veterinary Advisor to European Penguin TAG
Member of the European Group of Zoo Animal Contraception
Independent veterinary advisor European beaver reintroduction - Scotland

Regulatory requirements

- Notifiable disease
- Zoonoses
- Home office

Notifiable disease

| Disease factsheet | | |
|---|----------------------------|--------------------------------|
| Notifiable Disease | Species Affected | Occurred last in Great Britain |
| African Horse Sickness | Horses | Never |
| African Swine Fever | Pigs | Never |
| Anthrax | Cattle and other mammals | 2006 |
| Aujeszky's Disease | Pigs and other mammals | 1989 |
| Avian Influenza (Bird flu) | Poultry | 2008 |
| Bovine Spongiform Encephalopathy (to BSE home page) | Cattle | Present |
| Bluetongue | All ruminants and camelids | Present |
| Brucellosis (Brucella abortus) | Cattle | 2004 |
| Brucellosis (Brucella melitensis) | Sheep and Goats | 1956 |
| Classical Swine Fever | Pigs | 2000 |
| Contagious agalactia | Sheep and Goats | Never |
| Contagious Bovine Pleuropneumonia | Cattle | 1898 |
| Contagious Epididymitis (Brucella ovis) | Sheep and Goats | Never |
| Contagious Equine Metritis | Horses | 2010 |
| Dourine | Horses | Never |
| Enzootic Bovine Leukosis | Cattle | 1996 |
| Epizootic Haemorrhagic Virus Disease | Deer | Never |
| Epizootic Lymphangitis | Horses | 1906 |
| Equine Infectious Anaemia | Horses | 2010 |
| Equine Viral Arteritis | Horses | 2010 |

<http://www.defra.gov.uk/foodfarm/farmanimal/diseases/atoz/notifiable.htm>

Zoonoses

The screenshot shows the WHO website interface. At the top, there is a navigation bar with language options: عربي, 中文, English, Français, Русский, and Español. Below this is the WHO logo and the text 'World Health Organization'. A search bar is present with a 'Search' button and radio buttons for 'All WHO' and 'This site only'. The main content area is titled 'Zoonoses and veterinary public health' and includes a sidebar with navigation links such as 'Home', 'About WHO', 'Countries', 'Health topics', 'Publications', 'Data and statistics', 'Programmes and projects', 'Zoonoses and veterinary public health', 'Outbreak alerts', 'Diseases', 'Veterinary public health', 'Collaborating institutions', and 'Information resources'. The main text area is titled 'Diseases' and contains an introductory paragraph: 'There are over 200 zoonotic diseases. The major zoonotic diseases WHO deals with are listed below. You will find an introduction to the disease and links to related information on the internet.' Below this is a 'List of diseases' section with two columns of links: Anthrax, Animal influenza, Bovine Spongiform Encephalopathy (BSE), Brucellosis, Foodborne zoonoses, Haemorrhagic fevers, Hydatidosis/Echinococcosis, Leishmaniasis, Leptospirosis, Neglected zoonotic diseases, Prion diseases, Rabies, Taeniasis/Cysticercosis, Trematodosis, Trypanosomiasis, Tularaemia, and Variant Creutzfeldt-Jakob disease (vCJD). On the right side, there are three additional sections: 'Leptospirosis Burden Epidemiology Reference Group (LERG) Full information', 'Global Early Warning System for Major Animal Diseases, including Zoonoses (GLEWS) Full information', and 'Mediterranean Zoonoses Control Programme (MZCP) of the World Health Organization More information'. At the bottom right, there is a 'MORE INFORMATION' section with a link to 'Veterinary public health Future trends in veterinary public health'.

<http://www.who.int/zoonoses/diseases/en/>

Home office ASPA

- A home office licence may be required
- Ethical Review Committee
- Training and assistance from a veterinarian

Release criteria

- Health status
 - Which diseases do we screen for?
 - What health status do we aim for?
 - Completely disease free
 - Allow certain pathogens (if in local population)

Release criteria

- 'Fitness'
 - Demeanour
 - Weight
 - Age/gender
 - Body condition

Monitoring

- Frequency and duration
- Type of monitoring
 - Observation
 - Hands on (clinical examination, biometrics, sampling)
- Return animal to captivity if sick or injured?

Recommended reading

- http://www.aazv.org/associations/6442/files/guidelines_for_veterinarians_working_in_in_situ_conservation.pdf

Woodford, M.H. (Ed.) 2000

Quarantine and Health Screening Protocols for Wildlife prior to Translocation and Release into the Wild

Published jointly by the IUCN Species Survival Commission's Veterinary Specialist Group, Gland, Switzerland, the Office International des Epizooties (OIE), Paris, France, Care for the Wild, U.K., and the European Association of Zoo and Wildlife Veterinarians, Switzerland.

- Welfare guide-lines for the re-introduction of captive bred mammals to the wild. 1992. Published by the University Federation for Animal Welfare, Potters Bar, UK.