



CORE COMPETENCIES OF WILDLIFE HEALTH SURVEILLANCE TRAINING

-Wildlife Health Professionals-

DOMAIN

01

WILDLIFE HEALTH KNOWLEDGE

The Wildlife Health Professional is able to:

- 1.1. Understand concepts and connections between wildlife health and the health of their livestock and themselves.
- 1.2. Understand the term “zoonoses” and why we should perform surveillance of zoonoses in wildlife.
- 1.3. Understand the role they themselves play in wildlife health surveillance.
- 1.4. Understand what “pathogens” are and the basics of disease transmission.
- 1.5. Understand where “interfaces” exist between wildlife and people and/or livestock.

DOMAIN

02

EVENT ASSESSMENT AND ANALYSIS

The Wildlife Health Professional is able to:

- 2.1. Know how to evaluate a wildlife mortality scene and determine whether it is safe to approach and investigate further.
- 2.2. Document and record accurate information about the scene and the animal(s).

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03

PERSONAL SAFETY PRACTICES

The Wildlife Health Professional is able to:

- 3.1. Understand who should wear personal protective equipment when sampling an animal.
- 3.2. Understand why, with respect to zoonoses and pathogen transmission, they must wear a mask, an apron, gloves, eye protection, and other PPE indicated in the field.
- 3.3. Don and doff personal protective equipment (PPE) properly and in the correct order in accordance with their Wildlife Health Surveillance SOP (or other policy).
- 3.4. Disposes of contaminated/soiled PPE appropriately

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04

POLICY IMPLEMENTATION

The Wildlife Health Professional is able to:

- 4.1. Report wildlife morbidity/mortality events to the appropriate government officials according to their Wildlife Health Surveillance SOP (or other policy document) reporting line.
- 4.2. Recognize when an Outbreak Investigation is indicated and which government agencies must be mobilized to perform such an investigation.



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SAMPLE COLLECTION, STORAGE, AND TRANSPORT

The Wildlife Health Professional is able to:

- 5.1. Identify which types of scenarios warrant sample collection
- 5.2. Take an oral sample correctly and without contamination of swab.
- 5.3. Take a rectal/cloacal sample correctly and without contamination of swab.
- 5.4. Take a fecal sample correctly.
- 5.5. Label samples accurately.
- 5.6. Bag/pack samples correctly and safely.
- 5.7. Bag whole carcass correctly (with morbidity/mortality form) and safely.
- 5.8. Understand basic concepts and instructions for maintaining cold chain.

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06

NECROPSY

The Wildlife Health Professional is able to:

- 6.1. Follow necropsy protocols correctly and systematically for each taxa.
- 6.2. Confidently take the necessary samples correctly and store them in the appropriate media/ container.
- 6.3. Label samples correctly.
- 6.4. Accurately record information gathered from gross findings and document properly with photos.
- 6.5. Dispose of carcass safely and in accordance with Wildlife Health Surveillance SOP (or other policy document).

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07

OUTBREAK INVESTIGATION

The Wildlife Health Professional is able to:

- 7.1. Confidently recognize when an Outbreak Investigation is indicated.
- 7.2. Follow their respective Standard Operating Procedures for wildlife health surveillance and/ or Outbreak Investigation guidelines/manual to prepare and pack for an Outbreak Investigation.
- 7.3. Support government partners in leading the Outbreak Investigation and provide guidance when needed