Clinical Exaamination of the Individual Animalaa

**A clinical examination has three parts :**

1. History

2. Animal

3. Environment

**History-taking method:**

1. history taking is often the most important of the three aspects of a clinical examination.

2. Good communication skills are an essential component of successful history taking.

3. the veterinarian might be consulting with the sole owner, one of several owners,

the farm manager or animal trainer, or a stable hand or farm worker

**A. Animal data:**

1) Owner’s name and initials

2) Postal address and telephone number

3) Species, type, and breed (or estimate of parentage in a crossbreed

4) Sex, age, name or number, and body weight

5) If necessary, a description, including color markings, polledness, and other identifying marks, of the animal

**B. Disease history:**

1) Present Disease : clinical abnormalities observed by the owner in the

sequence in which they occurred.

2) Morbidity, Case Fatality, and Population Mortality Rates

3) The morbidity rate is usually expressed as the percentage of animals that

are clinically affected compared with the total number of animals exposed

to the same risks.

4) The case fatality rate is the percentage of affected animals that die.

5) The population causespecific mortality rate is the percentage of all exposed

animals that die of the disease of interest.

6) The population mortality rate is the proportion of animals in the population

of interest that die of any cause during the specified period

7) proportion of animals at risk that are clinically normal but show

abnormality on the basis of laboratory or other tests .

8) Prior Treatment: any previous treatment

9) Prophylactic and Control Measures: preventive or control procedures

**10) Previous Exposure**: Is the affected animal an established member of

the group.

11) A reverse situation may occur in which imported animals have no

resistance to endemic infection in the home herd or have not become

adapted to environmental stressors

12) Transit: The possibility of infection during transit is always a

potential risk, and presale certificates of health may be of little value

13) Previous Disease

14) Nutrition: determine how the quantity and quality of the diet the

animals have been receiving compares with the nutrient requirements

recommended for a similar class of animal.

15 Reproductive Management and Performance

16) Breeding History: The existence of a relationship between sires and

dams should be noted

**17) Reproductive History:**

a. Percentage of abortions,

b. Length of breeding season,

c. Percentage of females pregnant at specified times after the onset of

the breeding period,

d. Bull/cow ratio

e. Size and topography of breeding pastures.

18) Climate

**C. Examination of the environment:**

1. Outdoor environment: Topography and Soil Type,

Feed and Water Supplies, Waste Disposal

2. Indoor environment: Hygiene, Ventilation, Flooring, Floor Plan, Lighting.

**D. Examination of the animal:**

a. General Inspection (Distant Examination):

1. Behavior and General Appearance:

- **Bright**: animal responds normally to external stimuli, such as

sound and movement

- **dull** or apathetic animal reactions are sluggish and exhibits

relative indifference to normal stimuli.

- **dummy syndrome**: pronounced state of indifference in which

the animal remains standing and is able to move but does not

respond at all to external stimuli.

- **coma** is the terminal stage of apathy or depression, in which the

animal is unconscious and cannot be roused.

**2. Excitation States**

- A state of anxiety or apprehension is the mildest form here the

animal is alert and looks about constantly but is normal in its

movements indicate moderate constant pain

- **Mania**: the animal performs abnormal movements with vigor:

violently licking at its own body, licking or chewing inanimate

objects, and pressing forward with the head

- In **frenzy** the actions are so wild and uncontrolled that the

animals are a danger to anyone approaching them

3. Voice

4. Eating

5. Defecation

6. Urination

7. Posture

8. Gait

9. Body Condition

10. Body Conformation

11. Skin

**Inspection of body regions )particular distant examination):**

1) Head

2) Neck

3) Thorax

4) External Genitalia

5) Mammary Glands

6) Limbs

**Physical Examination:**

**A. Palpation:**

Direct palpation with the fingers or indirect palpation with a probe is aimed at

determining the size, consistency, temperature, and sensitivity of a lesion or

organ.

- Terms used to describe palpation findings include the following

1) Doughy: When the structure pits on pressure, as in edema

2) Firm: When the structure has the consistency of normal live

3) Hard: When the consistency is bonelike

4) Fluctuating: When the structure is soft, elastic, and undulates on pressure

but does not retain the imprint of the fingers

5) Tense: When the structure feels like a viscus distended with gas or fluid

under some considerable pressure

6) Emphysematous: When the structure is puffy and moves and crackles

under pressure because of the presence of gas in the tissue

**B. Percussion:**

In percussion, the body surface is struck to set deep parts in vibration and cause

them to emit audible sounds.

C. **Ballottement:**

Is a technique used to detect floating viscera or masses in the abdominal cavity.

Using the extended fingers or the clenched fist the bdominal wall is palpated

**D. Auscultation**

Direct listening to the sounds produced by organ movement is performed by

placing the ear to the body surface over the organ. Indirect auscultation by a

stethoscope is the preferred technique.

E. Percussion and Simultaneous Auscultation of the Abdomen

F. Succussion:

Moving the body from side to side to detect the presence of fluid,

G. Special physical techniques including biopsy and paracentesis

**Sequence used in the close physical examination:**

1) Vital signs: Temperature, heart and pulse rates, respirations, and state of

hydration

2) Thorax: Heart sounds (rate, rhythm, and intensity) and lung sounds

3) Abdomen: Nasogastric intubation

4) Head and neck: Including eyes, oral cavity, facial structures, and the jugular veins.

5) Rectal examination

6) Urinary tract

7) Reproductive tract

8) Mammary gland

9) Musculoskeletal system

10) Nervous system

11) Skin: Including ears, hooves, and horns