**Physical Examination**

**Temperature taking**

Temperature is the measures of how hot or cold the animal

body is. Temperature can be measured by thermometer .

The body temperature is taken using a mercury or digital

electronic thermometer placed carefully into the rectum.

**How to take temperature and how to recording**

**temperature**

1- The common sites for temperature taking are from

rectum and vagina .

2- The thermometer should be sterilized by disinfectant

(antiseptics) before use.

3- It should be well shaken before recording of temperature

to bring the mercury column below the lowest point

likely to be observed in different species of animals. If

the reading is not below 36°C, shake the mercury down

to the bulb.

4-Care should be taken so that the bulb of the

thermometer remains in contact with the rectal mucous

membrane.

5- The thermometer should be kept in site for at least 3-5

minutes.

6-Pull out the thermometer, clean it and read the number.

touches the mucous membrane of the rectum.

7- Keep the thermometer in this position for one minute.

8- Take it out, wipe the faeces with cotton and read the

temperature directly





**Pulse taking**

Pulse is defi ned as the regular expansion and contraction

of the arterial wall caused by the fl ow of blood through it at

every heartbeat. Pulse gives information with regard to the

cardiovascular abnormalities.

It is infl uenced by exercise, excitement, annoyance,

relative humidity, environmental temperature. Pulse can be

adapted from the number of heart beats per minute by using

stethoscope. The rhythm of pulse

should also be noticed while taking pulse. The pulse rate can

rise rapidly in nervous animals or those which have undergone

strenuous exercise. In such cases the pulse should be checked

again after a period of rest lasting 5 to 10 minutes

**how to take pulse rate of domestic animals:**

► Place the digits of fi ngers on the artery of animals. The

anatomical location for arteries of domestic animal

► Place the tip of the index / middle fi nger on the artery

and applying gentle pressure until the pulse wave .

► Count the numbers of beats per minute, which mean

count up to 15 minute and multiply by four.







**Factors infl uencing pulse**

\* Species: Different species of animal have different pulse

rate, which is number of rise and fall of arterial wall per

minute.

\* Size: Higher in small than in large animals.

\* Age: Higher in young than adult animals.

\* Sex: Male slightly lower than female animal.

\* Parturition &Late stage of pregnancy: Relatively more

pulse rate

\* Exercise: Increase pulse rate.

\* Ingestion of food: Cause momentary increase in

frequency of pulse.

\* Posture: Pulse rate reduced about 10% when animal is

recumbent than when standing .

**Respiration taking**

Respiratory movements can be observed at the right fl ank.

Any change in the rate indicates respiratory involvement.

Types of respiration:

Costal respiration: In this type of respiration thoracic

muscles are mainly involved and the movement of the rib cage

is more prominent. It is seen in dogs and cats.

Abdominal respiration: This type of respiration is seen

in ruminants such as; cattle, goat, sheep and yak. Here

the abdominal muscles are involved and movement of the

abdominal wall is noticed.

Costo- abdominal respiration: In this type of respiration

muscles of both thorax and abdomen are involved so the

movement of the ribs and the abdominal wall are noticed.

The respiration rate is measured through counting of either

contraction or expansion of the thorax and abdomen which

can be observed during clinical examination.

Inspection: Stand behind and to one side of the animal, and

observe the movement of the thoracic and abdominal areas of

the body.

Palpation: Put one hand in front of the nostril, feel the

exchange of the gas; or put one hand on the lung area or the

thorax and feel the respiratory movements

Auscultation: Use stethoscope, listen to the respiration

sound in the trachea or lung area.





**Visible mucous membrane**

The mucous membrane in the eyes, mouth and vagina in

the case of females can be examined to determine the health

status of an animal. Examination of the mucous membrane

should be done in natural light (sunlight) not in the lamplight.

The abnormalities of color of mucous membrane are caused

by :

► **Anaemic mucous membrane.**

1- Blood loss anaemia.

2- Parasitic infestations leading to haemolysis.

3- Tumours or leucosis.

4- Iron defi ciency anemia.

5- Exposure to X-rays and some medications.

► **Congested mucous membrane.**

1- High environmental temperatures and exercise.

2- Any disease resulting in fever.

3- Diseases of the heart, brain and its membranes.

4- Hyperthermia

5-Conjunctivitis

6- Trauma

7- Obstruction of jugular V



► **Yellowish or icteric mucous membrane.**

1- Icterus of jaundice occurs due to increase of

blood bilirubin concentration (blood parasites,

leptospirosis, hepatitis).

2- Infectious anaemia and contagious pleuropheumonia of

horses.

► **Chronic gastric dilatation.**

**Disease like:** Liver diseases, Fascioliasis, Hemolyticanemia



