

## Safety

- ◉ **Zoonoses**
  - › Diseases that can be transmitted from animals to humans
- ◉ **Parasite**
  - › Organism that lives on or within another host organism and derives its sustenance from the host

## roundworms



- ◉ Examples: Hookworms and ascarids
- ◉ Contact with soil or surfaces contaminated with feces of infected animals
- ◉ Children at most risk



## Toxoplasmosis



- ◉ Handling raw meat or contacting cat litter
- ◉ Symptoms
  - › Fever, headache, cough sore throat, nasal congestion, skin rash
- ◉ Affects those with compromised immune systems
  - › Pregnant women and children

## Ringworm



- ◉ Caused by fungus, not a worm
- ◉ Spread by direct contact with infected person
- ◉ Round, scaly, encrusted lesions on skin
- ◉ Treated with antifungal drugs



## Psittacosis

- ◉ Contracted from birds (especially feces)
- ◉ Preventative measures
  - › Wearing gloves and mask when cleaning
  - › **Quarantine** new birds
    - to isolate animals while determining if they have a disease or ailment

## Cat-scratch fever

- Affected area becomes swollen and slow to heal
- Lymph nodes swell and are painful
- Prevent by learning to handle cats properly



## Salmonellosis

- Salmonella bacteria
- Children and elderly at risk
- Digestive disturbances 12-72 hours after infection
- Carried by many pets
  - turtles and reptiles are a common source
- Prevent with proper sanitation

## Streptococcal bacteria

- Sore throats (strep throat)
- **impetigo**
  - Blisters that seep fluid
- Transmitted by dogs
- Prevent with proper sanitation
- Treat with antibiotics



## Animal attacks

- Children 5-9 are primary victims
- 9 % of the population, 30% of animal bites

## Animal attack injuries

- Wounds
  - **Lacerations** – cut with rough edges
  - **Evulsions** – a tear pulled out wound
  - Punctures
  - Scratches
- Dog bites – 5 % become infected
- Cats bites – 50 % become infected



## Animal attacks diseases

- Tetanus
  - Very few reports
  - US population is mostly vaccinated
- Rabies
  - US domestic cat and dogs are low risk
  - Biggest risk = wild animals
    - 93% of reported cases

## Rabies

- Common sources:
  - > Bats, fox, coyotes, skunks, bobcats, ferrets(feral), raccoons
- 1940s – vaccination programs began for pets
- Today vaccines are available for animal care workers

## Rabies

- If you are exposed to a potentially rabid animal, should you undergo treatment?
  - > Species?
  - > Frequency of rabies in your area?
  - > Provoked or unprovoked attack?
  - > Behavior of biting animal?
  - > Is the animal quarantined?
  - > Can the animal's head be sent in for examination?

## Rabies

- Treatment
  - > 5 intramuscular injections of rabies vaccine
  - > 1 rabies antibodies injection

## Ticks

- Rocky Mountain spotted fever
  - > Transmitted by American dog tick
  - > Fever, headache, nausea, rash, death
- Lyme disease
  - > Deer tick is carrier in the Midwest
  - > Arthritis like symptoms



## Tapeworms

- Usual hosts
  - > Fox, coyotes, mice
- Can be carried by dogs and cats
- Causes Alveolar hydatid disease (AHD)
  - > Rare but potentially fatal



## Tapeworms

- Human infection - AHD
  - > Accidentally ingested eggs
  - > Hatch in small intestine and penetrate the intestine wall
  - > Migrate to liver, produce parasitic cysts



## Tapeworms

- Treatment : surgical removal of cysts
  - 50-75% fatal without surgery
- Prevention
  - Hygiene/sanitation
  - Prevent hand to mouth transmission of eggs



## Physical restraint of animals

- Examinations
- Blood samples
- Administration of drugs
- Therapy
- Prolonged restraint should be avoided

## Physical restraint

- Cats
  - Blanket
  - Canvas bag
  - Small carrier
    - Removal – consider gloves if necessary
    - One hand on scruff of neck, one hand on rear legs

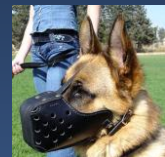


## Physical restraint

- Dogs
  - Hold
    - one arm under dog's neck, forearm holding the head
    - Other arm around the body, holding animal close and tightly
  - Catch pole (used in cats also)
    - Use only until animal can be subdued

## Physical restraint

- Muzzle
  - Prevent bites
  - Different sizes available
  - Can make one out of strip of cloth
- Elizabethan collars
  - Prevent licking, biting, or scratching wounds



## Physical restraint

- Rabbits
  - > Grab scruff of neck and support the rump
  - > Place on towel or carpet, not smooth surface
  
- Rats and mice
  - > Grasp tail close to the body
  - > Grasp loose skin on neck and shoulders