

## **Nursing the Exotic Patient Agenda**

Exotic species are becoming more frequently presented to both veterinary surgeons and veterinary nurses, with the expectations of owner being incredibly high. The care of these species whilst hospitalised can be dramatically different to the requirements of domestic species. These lectures will take you through the best possible ways we can hospitalise these exotic species, basic nursing techniques of small mammals, reptiles, birds and aquatic species, and finally the safe anaesthesia of a variety of exotic patients.

**09:00-09:05: Delegates log on to zoom platform**

**09:05-09:45: Hospitalisation of exotic mammals**

During this lecture you will be introduced to exotic mammals (rabbits, rodents and ferrets), how to provide the best environment for them, tailoring your hospitalisation facilities, providing enrichment, the most suitable diets, the importance of companions, and special care considerations for various conditions and disease processes.

**09:45-10:30: Hospitalisation of reptiles**

During this lecture you will be introduced to the most commonly seen reptiles in practice. You will be taken through how to set up suitable enclosures for various reptile species, the importance of heating, lighting, substrate, humidity, water and dietary provisions and supplementation. The importance of hygiene in practice as well as potential zoonotic diseases will be discussed.

**10:30-11:15: Hospitalisation of birds**

During this lecture you will be introduced to the most commonly seen avian species in practice. We will discuss the best ways we can approach avian patients in a fear free way. The general environment and the hospitalisation facilities, as well as enrichment, diet, water provision, the importance of companions as well as the importance of biosecurity and zoonotic diseases will be discussed in length.

**11:15-12:15: Nursing techniques of small mammals**

This lecture will take you through the absolute essentials of looking after exotic mammals whilst they are hospitalised. From the suggested monitored parameters and what is normal, the importance of warmth and oxygen therapy and potential drug interactions. To clinical examinations, handling essentials, possible injection sites, blood sampling techniques and how to gain intravenous access, fluid therapy and the importance of nutritional therapy. These topics will be discussed for rabbits, various rodent species and ferrets.

**12:15-12:30: Q and A**

**12:30-13:00: Lunch**

### **13:00-14:00: Nursing techniques in reptiles**

This lecture will take you through the absolute essentials of looking after and hospitalising the most commonly seen reptiles species seen in practice. How to perform a suitable clinical examination in lizards, snakes and turtles/ tortoises as well as handling essentials, possible injections sites, blood sampling techniques and how to gain intravenous access, fluid therapy and the importance of nutritional therapy will be thoroughly discussed.

### **14:00-15:00: Nursing techniques in birds**

This lecture will take you through the absolute essentials of looking after and hospitalising the most commonly seen bird species seen in practice. How to perform a suitable clinical examination in these species as well as handling essentials, possible injections sites, blood sampling techniques and how to gain intravenous access, fluid therapy and the importance of nutritional therapy will be thoroughly discussed. We will also touch on how to crop feed birds, how to perform faecal tests and basic blood smear assessments, including estimated white blood cell counts.

### **15:00-16:00: Nursing the aquatic patient**

Aquatic species are more commonly being presented to vets and nurses in practice, and as such it is important to ensure we provide them with the best possible care whilst they are hospitalised. This lecture will take you through the appropriate ways to transport aquatic species, how to handle them, perform a suitable clinical examination, various clinical techniques, the importance of nutritional support, anaesthesia and resuscitation of aquatic species such as fish and amphibians.

### **16:00-16:45: Anaesthesia of exotic animals**

Our day finishes with an overview of exotic species anaesthesia, drugs, doses, routes, as well as the importance of intubation and how to intubate many species is discussed. We will discuss in length the essentials and ways of monitoring anaesthesia in various species and the pitfalls many encounter in doing so. Specifics tailored to the most common exotic species seen in practice will be discussed extensively from admit through to recovery.

### **16:45-17:00: Q and A & closing remarks**

# Just Exotics



For more information and for a wide variety of webinars on exotic species,  
please visit our website at [www.justexotics.co.uk](http://www.justexotics.co.uk)