

Circumstances of Admission

Definitions

CWHI Updated 2/2016

- Circumstances of admission are any and all reasons the animal was brought in.
- Some are known by the finder on admission (ie cat brought it to owner = animal interaction-domestic animal-cat) and some are discovered after exam/diagnostics at the rehabilitation center (ie projectiles seen on radiographs = projectile-weapon-gunshot...).
- All options would have an “observed” vs “suspected” check box/option as some circumstances are observed (ie finder actually saw the animal get hit by car) and some are assumed (ie finder found animal on the road).
- You can choose one, many or undetermined. You do not have to finish each list; for example, if you knew some wild animal attacked your patient but not if same or different species, you could choose animal interaction-nondomestic and stop. You do not *need* to pick down to the final options.

1) **Animal Interaction** – Contact with another animal leads directly or indirectly to the wildlife patient being admitted to a rehabilitation facility.

a) Domestic animal – A form of animal interaction where wildlife had either direct or indirect contact with one or more of a variety of animals that have been tamed and made fit for a human environment. This term includes animals that were domesticated as a species but may now be feral.

i) *Dog* – Wildlife injury caused by a domesticated dog. May be feral.

ii) *Cat* – Wildlife injury caused by a domesticated cat. May be feral.

b) Non-domestic animal – A form of animal interaction where wildlife had either direct or indirect contact with an animal not made tame or fit for a human environment.

i) *Same species* – Wildlife injury caused by a non-domesticated animal of the same species.

ii) *Different species* – Wildlife injury caused by a non-domesticated animal of a different species. This may also include wild yet non-native animals kept as pets (ex. escaped boa constrictors, roaming Serval cats, etc)

2) **Behavioral Stranding** – Referring to events other than weather leading to single or multiple animals cut off from their natural habitat and cannot be returned unassisted. Often caused by altered behavior such as marine mammal stranding.

3) **Collision** – Injury resulting from an impact with either a stationary or a moving object.

a) Moving object – Collision with an object that is in motion such as a vehicle or an object

being swung purposefully or accidentally at the animal.

- i) *Car/Truck/Motorcycle* – Impact with any part of a moving car, truck, motorcycle, all terrain vehicle, snow-machine, etc.
 - ii) *Train* – Impact with any part of a moving train.
 - iii) *Plane* – Impact with any part of a moving plane.
 - iv) *Watercraft* – Impact with a type of a moving watercraft such as a boat, jet ski, ferry, etc.
 - v) *Bicycle* – Impact with self-propelled vehicles including bicycles, scooters, etc.
 - vi) *Motorized Farm Equipment* – Impact with a variety of farm equipment including tractors, mowers, ploughs, harrows, balers, etc.
 - vii) *Motorized Yard Equipment* – Impact with a variety of yard equipment including weed-eaters, lawnmowers, rototillers, etc.
 - viii) *Natural features, moving*: impact with natural features (ie boulders, tree limbs, etc) that are moving, such as rocks falling off a cliff, tree falling over during a storm onto a ground nest, etc
 - ix) *Human Propelled Object* – Collision with a moving object handled by a human either accidentally or with the intent of impact. The colliding object must not be thrown or it becomes a projectile. Examples: shovel used to hit a snake, tennis racket used to strike a bat, etc.
- b) Stationary object – Collision with an object that is stationary that may be either manmade or a natural feature. The stationary object may have moving parts such as a windmill or hydro dam.
- i) *Walls/Windows* – Injury resulting from an impact with a building, wall, window, etc.
 - ii) *Wind Turbines* – Injury resulting from an impact with the stationary pole or the moving blades of a wind turbine. Also includes damage caused by the negative pressure associated with the blades as is often found in wind turbine/bat interactions.
 - iii) *Powerlines/Wires* – Collision with any form of electrical or communication line or permanent wire fence structure that results in physical damage but NOT entrapment.
 - iv) *Natural Features* – Injury resulting from an impact with a natural feature such as a stationary tree, rock-face or the ground, such as when an animal injures itself falling from a nest.
- 4) **Entrapment** – A confining circumstance from which escape is difficult. Entrapment may occur from devices meant to capture animals, from devices or objects whose primary

function is something other than to capture animals, or from spaces where the animal's body is free to move yet full escape to a natural setting is being impaired. When questioning which subcategory to use, the user should first define the intended purpose of the entrapping object or circumstance.

- a) Trap – A confining object, device or circumstance whose primary function is to capture animals. Traps capturing animals other than the intended species of interest are included (by-catch).
 - i) *Fishing Gear* – Any fishing gear that traps or restricts the movement of an animal and was intended to capture fish.
 - Hook
 - Line
 - Net
 - Pot
 - ii) *Leg/body hold trap/snare* – Devices often used by wild game trappers that are intended for the harvest of fur-bearing animals. These devices include leg hold traps, conibear traps, pitfall traps, deadfall traps, snares, etc.
 - iii) *Humane/Cage Trap* – Cages that are designed to capture live animals.
 - iv) *Glue Trap* – Traps made using a natural or synthetic adhesive applied to cardboard or similar material and used for the intended capture of rodents. The capture of unintentional species is common.
- b) Non-trap – A confining object, device or circumstance whose primary function is something other than the capture/restraint of animals.
 - i) *Sporting/Landscaping Netting* – Any net or mesh-like material used in a variety of day-to-day functions but NOT intended to capture animals. Examples include garden/landscape netting, netting found in sports activities such as soccer and basketball, etc.
 - ii) *Fence* – Entrapment in any material used to prevent the movement of animals or humans either into or out of an area. Common examples include barbed wire, snow fencing, chain-linked fence, etc.
 - iii) *Litter/Garbage* – Entrapment in any waste material that has been carelessly left in the environment. Common examples include plastic wrappers or packaging, cans, bottles, string or rope (NOT INCLUDING fishing line or nets)
- c) Spaces – Entrapment in a defined area where the body is free to move clear of restrictions however, escape away from the enclosed area is difficult.
 - i) *Building*: Entrapment within a building or room within a building

ii) *Chimney* – Entrapment within or through a chimney.

iii) *Window Well/Outdoor stairwell* – Entrapment in a window well.

iv) *Duct Work* – Entrapment in or through duct work of a building.

v) *Vehicle* – Entrapment within or on a vehicle meant for human transportation. Examples include animals trapped within the wheel well of a plane, nests with young animals built under car bumpers, animals trapped within the bilge water on boats, etc.

vi) *Pool* – Entrapment within any kind of swimming pool.

vii) *Storm drain/sewer* – entrapment in or through a storm drain or sewer.

d) External Substance Contamination - Exposure to any foreign substance leading to the inability of the animal to escape. Often, a petrochemical circumstance will also be chosen.

5) **Petrochemicals**: oil, grease, paint or other petrochemical products that may affect the animal in many ways. Some examples include the animal ingesting these chemicals, the chemicals causing external contamination of an animal (if the animal becomes entrapped by the substance, also choose Entrapment, non-trap) or any other presence of the chemical on/in the animal.

a) Oils

i) Fish oil

ii) Cooking oil

iii) Unrefined petrochemicals: oil or gas spill

iv) Refined petrochemicals: such as motor oil, liquid gas, diesel fuel, kerosene, heating oil, etc

b) Grease

c) Tar

d) Paint

e) Glue trap

6) **Botanicals**: presence of botanicals, such as tree sap, burrs or other natural plant products on the animal or in some other way contributing to its capture. May be used with Entrapment

7) **Electrocution/electric shock** – Injuries resulting from contact with more than one wire or a

wire and a grounding object resulting in clinical signs associated with electrocution.

- 8) **Environment** – Conditions caused by environmental factors that lead directly or indirectly to the animal being found and admitted for rehabilitation.
- a) Algal blooms – Animals admitted from an area affected by a known algal bloom and have clinical signs consistent with such an event. This circumstance requires an already determined diagnosis to select.
 - b) Fire: Injuries sustained from exposure to flames. Examples include: forest fires and grass fires, campfires, structural fires.
 - i) *Gas Flare* – Exposure to a gas flare associated with methane burners, refineries, oil and gas rig, etc.
 - c) Smoke: Direct exposure to smoke resulting from a fire.
 - d) Seismic Event – Any event associated with a seismic event leading to an animal being injured or displaced. These factors may include: earthquake, tidal wave, volcano, etc.
 - e) Weather – Inclement changes in the physical environment leading directly or indirectly to an animal being injured or displaced.
 - i) *Temperature* – Extreme hot or cold temperatures leading to an animal being injured or displaced.
 - ii) *Precipitation* – Any event associated with precipitation leading to an animal being injured or displaced. These factors may include: flooding, rain, hail, sleet, snow, avalanche, or draught conditions.
 - iii) *Wind* – Any event associated with wind leading to an animal being injured or displaced. These factors may include: hurricane, tornado, high winds, etc.
 - iv) *Lightning* – Direct or indirect exposure to lightning resulting in injury.
- 9) **Foreign Body/Object** – Pertaining to the presence of a foreign object attached to an animal or when an animal has been observed swallowing a foreign object. This animal is not entrapped by the foreign object. Examples of this include fishhooks stuck on the limb of a heron, incidental fishing net found on the back of a sea turtle, a golf ball known to be ingested by a snake etc.
- a) Fishing Tackle: Ingestion of any tackle intended to capture fish such as hooks, lurers, artificial bait, lead weights, line, etc. The ingested tackle DOES NOT physically restrict the movement of the animal (see Entrapment/Traps/Fishing Lines/Traps.)
- 10) **Projectile** – Any object propelled by a force through the air or water that eventually comes to rest.

- a) Weapon – Any projectile discharged from an instrument whose primary design or intention is as a weapon.
- i) *Gunshot* – A wound or injury caused by any projectile discharged from a firearm or similar device.
- Rifle/Handgun – An injury typically caused by a single metallic projectile propelled by gunpowder and discharged from a firearm having a rifled or helical groove pattern on the inner surface of the barrel. This also includes rifled slugs from shotguns and bullets or balls from smoothbore (non-rifled barrel) muskets/pistols.
 - Shotgun – An injury typically caused by multiple metallic projectiles propelled by gunpowder and discharged from a firearm having a barrel with a smooth inner surface (smooth bore). Ex. birdshot, buckshot, etc.
 - Air Gun/BB Gun – An injury typically caused by a single metallic projectile propelled by pressurized gas (air, CO₂) or compressed spring, from a firearm with either a rifled or smooth inner surface to the barrel. These typically include pellet guns and BB guns.
- ii) *Bow/Arrow* – An injury caused by a sharp-pointed shaft (arrow or bolt) that is projected by the elastic force from a bow or the spring-loaded force from a crossbow.
- b) Non-weapon – Any projectile causing injury to an animal that originates from an instrument, structure, environment or being whose primary design OR intention is not weapons related. Examples may include baseballs, javelin, objects falling from buildings, etc.

- 11) **Nest/Habitat Destruction** – The destruction or disturbance of a nest, burrow, or essential habitat resulting in the animal being injured or displaced.
- 12) **Maladaptation/Failure to Thrive** – Pertaining to any animal that has not acquired the necessary skills in order to function within the environment in a species appropriate manner. Initial assessment of this condition may depend on the rescuer's biological knowledge/experience of/with the animal. This term typically applies to animals that have not learned the necessary skills to hunt or forage (first year juvenile raptors), build or seek appropriate shelter, or interact with their environment in a manner that considered "normal" for that species.
- 13) **Orphan, true** – Any circumstance in which displaced healthy or injured young animals, still dependant on parental care for survival, are found and there is a high probability that the parents are dead or not available. This may include situations where the parents have rejected the young, are known or suspected to be deceased, have not returned to the young after a significant amount of time or when attempts to unite the young with parents have failed.
- 14) **Inappropriate Human Possession** – A circumstance where an animal of any age is

inappropriately removed from its natural habitat and is in human possession due to either i) perceived risk by the rescuer, ii) to be kept as a pet, iii) to be treated for injuries by a person lacking appropriate training, authorization, or assistance, or iv) being considered a nuisance animal.

a) Abduction With Intent of Rescue – Any animal that is brought for rehabilitation with the intent of rescue, that has been removed from its natural habitat without warrant due to either i) perceived risk to the animal by the rescuer, ii) disregard or ignorance of the animal’s natural history, or iii) when no attempt or an inappropriate attempt has been made to reunite a young animal with its parents. This term replaces the traditional “kidnapped” and generally takes place within 48 hours of the “rescue”

b) Pet – Any animal inappropriately removed from its natural habitat and kept and cared for by a human as a “pet”. These animals are often surrendered when they become a burden or are confiscated by authorities

c) Unauthorized or Untrained Rehabilitation – Any animal removed from its natural habitat and kept and treated by a person lacking appropriate training, authorization, or assistance without seeking formal rehabilitation aid and with the intent of release.

d) Nuisance Animal - Any animal removed from a property because it is considered destructive or menacing. The primary goal of the person admitting the animal is removal, not rescue.

15) **Confiscation** – A patient admitted for rehabilitation that has either been legally seized by an authorized person, organization or agency or is rescued by a Good Samaritan from another person due to perceived abuse.

a) Legal confiscation - A patient admitted for rehabilitation that has been legally seized by an authorized person, organization or agency for any reason.

i) *Illegal possession* – The animal has been legally seized due to illegal possession.

ii) *Abuse* – The animal has been legally seized based on perceived or documented abuse.

iii) *Violation of permit conditions* – The animal has been legally seized based on a violation of permit requirements.

b) Good Samaritan confiscation - A patient admitted for rehabilitation that has been rescued by a Good Samaritan from another person for any reason.

i) *Illegal possession* - The animal has been seized by a Good Samaritan due to illegal possession by another person.

ii) *Abuse* - The animal has been seized by a Good Samaritan due to perceived or documented abuse by another person.

16) **Referral** – Any patient being transferred from one rehabilitation facility to another for the

purpose of further rehabilitation or medical work-up.

a) *Permit holding facility* – Any patient being transferred from a State or Federally permitted rehabilitation facility for the purpose of further rehabilitation or medical work-up.

b) *Non-permit holding facility* – Any patient being transferred for the purpose of further rehabilitation or medical work-up from a facility lacking a State or Federal rehabilitation permit.

17) **Born/hatched in Captivity** - Any animal being born/hatched in captivity as a result of natural or assisted incubation/birth.

18) **Undetermined** – Any unknown event whose origin is not specifically known or has not yet been decided. Also includes indeterminate causes where the circumstances may never be known.

19) **None of the above**: The circumstances of admission ARE known, however, the option is not present in the above list. Please check with CWHI representatives before choosing this option. Please comment so common trends can be identified.