



# MANOR COLLEGE



Program of Veterinary Technology

## **MANOR COLLEGE VETERINARY TECHNOLOGY PROGRAM HEALTH RISK ACKNOWLEDGEMENT AND RELEASE OF CLAIMS**

Assumption of risk: All VETERINARY TECHNOLOGY PROGRAM students working in Manor College veterinary facility, (and in any other areas, including but not limited to the horse farm and their externship,) encounter animals that may cause traumatic injury and/or expose them to infectious agents and zoonosis that cause disease. They will also be exposed to ionizing radiation (e.g. X-rays), volatile anesthetic gases, and chemical substances which can cause bodily harm. By enrolling in the VETERINARY TECHNOLOGY PROGRAM courses, students voluntarily acknowledge that these risks exist and assume the responsibility to act safely and responsibly at all times.

It is the policy of Manor College to maintain a healthy and safe environment for all persons working with animals in conjunction with the Program of Veterinary Technology including, but not limited to, members of the Horse Care Team (HCT), students, faculty, volunteers and staff. Everyone is expected to act responsibly and in a safe manner at all times. However, because there are inherent risks in working with animals, it is not possible to avoid all risk. If you wish to participate in activities that involve working with animals, you must be willing to assume the risk that such participation could result in injury, or even death. The College has the right to make decisions concerning an individual's participation in any activity and may deny or limit such participation when it determines, in its sole discretion, that there may be a safety risk involved, that it does not have the capability to handle an individual's needs, or for any other appropriate reason. The College may request medical certification and input from a participant's physician. Everyone in the program is asked to respect our decisions as we strive to act in the best interests of all concerned.

Pregnancy: For the purpose of this Policy, pregnancy shall be considered a condition for which there are definite health concerns and considerations. These concerns and considerations include, but are not limited to: unseen risks to the developing fetus and/or expectant mother from exposure to radiation from x-rays and exposure to anesthetic gases or other chemical substances, as well as physical risks of injury from a kick, blow, bite, or other physical impact from an animal under examination or treatment. Therefore, it is for the safety of the fetus that pregnant students should notify a clinical instructor of pregnancy status. A medical release signed by a physician, NP, or PA may be required for continued clinical practice.

Reportable Health Conditions: Any health condition, including pregnancy that might incapacitate the student and/or interfere with the student's ability to successfully perform essential functions should be reported to the clinical instructor as soon as the student is aware of such condition. A medical release signed by a physician, NP, or PA may be required for return to clinical practice.

Rabies: The level of risk for rabies exposure is dependent upon the geographical location of the Clinical Instruction Site, the type of animals to which the student is exposed, and the degree of contact with animals potentially carrying the rabies virus. The VETERINARY TECHNOLOGY PROGRAM student should be aware that all students enrolled in the Manor College Veterinary Technology Program were recommended to receive rabies pre-exposure vaccination series or sign a waiver of responsibility. The VETERINARY TECHNOLOGY PROGRAM student is expected to consult with and be advised by his/her physician and appropriate public health authorities regarding rabies immunization.

Tetanus: If a student has never received tetanus immunization, the student should receive such immunizations as advised by his/her physician. If the student has had the initial series, they should consult with their physician as to whether a booster immunization is required.

#### Policy on Student Professional Liability

Procurement of professional liability insurance for students and preceptors participating in the VETERINARY TECHNOLOGY PROGRAM is the responsibility of the student and their preceptor(s). Manor College and its' officers, members, agents or employees cannot be held liable for student liability arising out of real or alleged wrongful acts or for payment of court costs, expert legal counsel, and claims adjusters from such acts.

I further state that I have read and understood the policy on student professional liability insurance and responsibilities and agree to the terms of that policy.

#### ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF STUDENT/APPLICANT

I, the undersigned student or applicant, have read the above information of the potential health risks involved with my participation in the VETERINARY TECHNOLOGY PROGRAM. I understand that Manor College shall not be responsible for paying medical bills, costs, or expenses for injuries sustained by me while participating in the VETERINARY TECHNOLOGY PROGRAM. I understand that all medical bills, costs, or expenses are my responsibility.

\_\_\_\_\_ I am currently covered by health insurance that will cover treatments for potential injuries and illnesses resulting from my participation in the VETERINARY TECHNOLOGY PROGRAM.

Printed Name of Student/Applicant \_\_\_\_\_

Student number \_\_\_\_\_

Signature of Student/Applicant \_\_\_\_\_

Date \_\_\_\_\_



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**MANOR COLLEGE  
AGREEMENT AND RELEASE OF LIABILITY**

By enrolling in the Veterinary Technology Program (hereinafter referred to as the Vet Tech Program) at Manor College, I recognize that I am cognizant of all the dangers inherent in the veterinary medical profession and of the basic safety rules for activities conducted in association with this program.

I further acknowledge that I have familiarized myself with any additional dangers associated with working at a veterinary clinical site for instruction and/or an externship site.

I understand that it is not the purpose of Manor College to serve as guardians of my safety while enrolled in the Veterinary Technology Program. I further understand and agree that Manor College, and any of its' officers, members, servants, trustees, agents, insurers or employees, may not be held liable in any way for any occurrence which may result in injury, death or other damages to me or my family, heirs, assigns or agents, in connection with my participation in the Veterinary Technology Program.

In consideration of my enrollment in the Veterinary Technology Program. I hereby personally assume all risks in connection with the program. I will release and discharge as well as fully, defend, indemnify, and hold harmless, Manor College and its officers, members, servants, trustees, agents, insurers or employees (the Released Parties,) from any and all claims, lawsuits, demands, causes of action, liability, loss, damage and/or injury, of any kind whatsoever that may befall me while I am enrolled as a student in the Vet Tech Program at Manor College (including without limitation all claims for monetary loss, property damage, equitable relief, personal injury and/or wrongful death) whether foreseen or unforeseen. This release and indemnification applies to and includes, without limitation, the payment of all penalties, fines, judgments, awards, decrees, attorneys' fees, and related costs or expenses, and any reimbursements to Manor College for all legal fees, expenses, and costs incurred by it. I further hold harmless the Released Parties against any and all losses, liability, penalties, fines, damages, expense, including legal fees and expenses of counsel, caused by any third party claims arising from any occurrence, from any claim for injury by me, my family, estate, heirs or assigns, arising out of my enrollment and participation in the VETERINARY TECHNOLOGY PROGRAM at Manor College.

I further state that I am of lawful age and legally competent to sign this affirmation and release, and I understand that the terms herein are contractual. I have fully informed myself of the contents of this affirmation and release by reading it before I signed it and know that I can consult an attorney to review and advise me regarding this document. I am aware that this is a release of liability and a contract drawn between myself and Manor College and including but not limited to its officers, members, servants, trustees, agents, insurers or employees. I have signed this affirmation of my own free will.

Printed Name of Student \_\_\_\_\_

Signature of Student \_\_\_\_\_

Address of Student/City/State/Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Witness \_\_\_\_\_

Date \_\_\_\_\_



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## **MANOR COLLEGE AGGRESSIVE ANIMAL/ BITE PROTOCOL AND AGGRESSIVE ANIMAL POLICIES**

1. Take all necessary precautions to prevent animal-related injuries. Preventive measures include reliance on experienced veterinary personnel rather than owners to restrain animals and the use of physical restraints, bite-resistant gloves, muzzles, and sedation or anesthesia as necessary. Aggressive tendencies and bite history should be recorded in the patient's record, communicated to personnel, and indicated with signage on cages and enclosures. Remain alert for changes in patients' behavior, and when working with large animals have an escape route in mind at all times.
2. Attempt to escape if attacked by a large, aggressive dog. If not possible to escape or use other means of self-defense, cover throat area using your hands and arms, and lie in a fetal position.
3. Concerning Equine:
  - A. When performing procedures on horses, remember to remain close to the animal to minimize the injury potential of a kick. If remaining in close proximity is out of the question, move away from kicking range.
  - B. A halter and lead rope must be used when grooming or restraining horses.
  - C. Do not hold the halter of a rearing horse.

### **ANIMAL BITE PROTOCOL**

Animal bites must immediately receive medical attention and be reported to the proper authorities, who will supervise the response. Information about the incident should be transferred with the animal and its paperwork at every point along the path to and from an Emergency Animal Care Center.

1. As soon as a bite is observed or suspected, place the suspect animal in a secure cage or crate that is clearly tagged: "This cage/crate contains an animal that has been involved in a bite."
  - a. Isolate the caged animal.
  - b. No one is to handle this animal except professional staff who are specifically authorized to do so.
2. Immediately direct the person who has been bitten to medical attention.
  - a. As necessary, apply pressure to stop bleeding.
  - b. Wash wounds thoroughly with plenty of soap and warm water. Run water over the wound for several minutes to make sure it is clean and all soap is rinsed out.
  - c. After a thorough wash and rinse, apply an antiseptic solution, such as iodine or other disinfectant.
  - d. See a physician as soon as possible. If a physician of choice is unavailable, go to the nearest emergency-care facility. Explain how the bite occurred, and follow the physician's advice.

3. Determine and clearly document the incident in the animal's paperwork. Include:

- a. The date and time of the bite,
- b. The identity of the person who was bitten,
- c. The rabies vaccination status of the person who was bitten,
- d. The rabies vaccination status of the animal involved,
- e. The identity of people who witnessed the bite,
- f. Any special circumstances associated with the bite,
- g. The identity of the owner of the animal,
- h. The time/date of notification of the owner.

4. Make proper notifications.

- a. If the bite occurred at the Clinical Site, notify the Supervisor or Office manager immediately.
- b. Notify the Director of FSCC Veterinary Technology program

Note: Once a bite has occurred, options (such as euthanasia, movement, or return of an animal to its owner) are limited by Pennsylvania laws and regulations.

Student's Signature \_\_\_\_\_

Date \_\_\_\_\_