

Safety measures for trainees

The Professional Practical Training in Diseases of Poultry and Wildlife and Exotic Animals (MODULE 1 -Professional training in Avian Pathology), requires the fulfillment of the following rules and regulations for individual safety. In addition, further specific indications may be provided by the personnel in charge. For the safety regulations relating to the activities carried out in poultry farms or at the DISTAL Poultry Centre, the document "Manuale di Sicurezza e prevenzione nella gestione clinica dei grossi animali" of the DIMEVET is also considered, particularly the section on poultry and rabbit species.

1. Use of personal protective equipment (PPE)

During all the activities (poultry farm visits, animal handling, diagnostic sampling, post-mortem examinations) Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) must be worn: white coat or disposable coveralls, disposable shoe cover, cap and gloves and, possibly, a plastic apron for necropsy examinations. Gloves (latex, vinyl, or rubber) prevent contamination of the hands with blood, other body fluids, or organs, but are unable to prevent injuries from needles and sharp/sharp instruments.

All disposable PPE must be disposed of after each single use in appropriate containers for the collection of "hazardous medical waste with an infectious risk". White coats should be collected and placed in plastic bags before being washed for later reuse.

2. Use of sharps or needles

Pointed, sharp or cutting instruments (scissors, anatomical forceps, surgical forceps, ribs, knives and other) must be considered dangerous and, therefore, must be handled with care to prevent accidental injuries. It is necessary that the scalpel blades and the needles for syringes, after use, are disposed of in special resistant, rigid, impermeable containers with hermetic closure and subsequently disposed of as "hazardous medical waste with an infectious risk".

Any wounds and abrasions must be communicated to the staff and, after careful washing, suitably disinfected with suitable products available in the first aid kits (in compliance with DM 388/03) at the main reception and at the DIMEVET teaching hospital.

3. Hand washing

It is necessary to wash hands with soap and water, possibly followed by hand antiseptics with suitable disinfectant products:

- after handling live animals, collecting diagnostic samples, performing post-mortem examination, or examining an isolated organ;
- before carrying out actions at risk of contamination such as eating, bringing your hands to your eyes or your mouth;
- in any case after removing the gloves.

In case of eye contact with biological material or splashes of biological liquids, it is necessary to wash them using an "eyewash".

4. Best practices

During the training, remember to:

- keep your hands away from your face;
- do not eat, drink and smoke;
- do not use the cell phone;
- do not apply or remove cosmetics;
- do not apply or remove contact lenses, unless hands have been thoroughly cleaned.