



Medical and Husbandry access in Protected Contact.

Below are listed husbandry access behaviours that are required in a fully operational free or protected contact training program and might be recognized by the BIAZA, EAZA and AZA as the foundation of elephant welfare at a zoo.

1. Blood draws, blood assays, health & viability testing.
2. Tail access, removal of in-growing hairs tail soaks removal of dead skin and immediate treatment if bitten.
3. Foot access, for foot trims, inspections and washes.
4. Mouth access & inspections possibility, for temperature testing, teeth transition evaluation and oral health.
5. Eye inspections, ability to recognize & treat eye ailments.
6. Full body washes, skin care and removal of dead skin.
7. *Rectal access, delivery of large doses of antibiotics and other medications also repro-exams.
8. *Tracheal lavage on sedated elephant.
9. Stretch position & lie-down, back inspections and dead skin removal.
10. Injection training.
11. Radiograph training, foot structure knowledge.
12. Urine collection training.
13. *Vulva & penis inspections & access.
14. Tusk washing and trimming in tusk carrying elephants and tusk socket washing in females if they have broken there tush.
15. Weighing of the elephant so pregnancies can be followed and so illness and weight loss can be detected.
16. Movement and exercise programs. A to B's in PC and the keeping of a daily exercise log are important.
17. Restraining behaviour, in case restricted movement is necessary.
18. *Skin biopsies.
19. Foot soaking if necessary.
20. Saliva testing.
21. Introductions using a particular approach and equipment.
22. Baby elephant access using a specially design desensitisation creep.
 - a. Blood draw.
 - b. Mouth access for temperature testing and oral inspections.
 - c. Saliva collections.
 - d. Rectal access for herpes treatments.
 - e. Eye access.
 - f. Tail access.
 - g. Minor restraint training potential.
 - h. Full body access.
 - i. Position training while in the creep.

* Rectal, vulva, penis & skin biopsy access will probably only be possible for PC handled elephants when there is an ERC, (Elephant Restraint Chute) available. TB testing can now be achieved via blood samples.