



Avian Health Care Recommendations

We strive to provide you and your bird with the best quality of care available today!

Physical Examination

Your bird will be examined to determine its external health status. Visual observation and a “hand’s-on” assessment will be made. We will also obtain your bird’s body weight. If your bird’s regular cage is easily transported, please bring it with your bird. Day-old cage papers are preferable!

Consultation

Each visit is tailored to the individual needs of the bird and owner. We will discuss the physical exam findings as well as any questions you may have. Important issues, such as your bird’s housing, diet and any behavioral challenges will be discussed as well.

Routine Laboratory Testing

Several blood tests may be selected to determine your bird’s internal health status. We are proud to have same-day, in house chemistry and blood cell capabilities. A microscopic examination may be made of your bird’s feces for abnormal bacteria, yeasts or parasites.

Special Laboratory

If indicated, we may recommend your bird be tested for several infections diseases that may pose a risk to humans or other birds.

- **Chlamydiosis (Psittacosis)**, This bacterial disease is transmissible to nearly all birds and mammals, including people. There are several tests available.

- **Polyoma**, This viral disease may be carried without clinical signs, often causing rapid death in young birds. Disease may follow a period of stress. A blood test screens for polyomavirus DNA. A vaccine is available for at-risk birds.
- **Pacheco’s Disease**, Most parrots are susceptible to this life-threatening herpesvirus. Some birds carry the disease without clinical signs. A blood test screens for antibodies to Pacheco’s Disease Virus.
- **Beak & Feather Disease**, Psittacine Beak and Feather Disease (PBFD) is a viral disease that causes chronic deterioration of the feathers, beak and immune system. A blood test screens for virus DNA.
- **Proventricular Dilatation Syndrome**, Proventricular Dilatation Syndrome is a fatal viral disease that causes maldigestion, weight loss and neurologic signs. An x-ray may alert us to the possibility of this disease.

Wing & Nail Trim

We recommend most birds have their wings trimmed. This is a painless procedure that is tailored to the individual bird. Birds receive a courtesy wing or nail trim at their annual visit.



Follow-Up Appointments

Because owning a bird is a life-long commitment, we often suggest a follow-up appointment to cover additional concerns and needs you and your bird may have. A yearly physical examination is very important for the ongoing health of your bird. Appropriate laboratory testing may be performed and nutritional and behavioral issues may be addressed. Semi-annual examination for birds with special needs is strongly recommended.

General Care

Grooming, For a reasonable fee, we will maintain your bird's wings and nails as needed. Since wing trimming is not for every bird, it is important to discuss whether your bird would benefit from restricted flight.

Weigh-ins, All birds should be weighed often. Small changes in body weight may represent big problems. There is no charge to obtain your bird's weight and you are free to stop in anytime for a "fun" weigh-in visit.

Other Services

Educational Resources, Each new client is provided with a new bird folder, which includes several informative brochures and articles on a variety of health care topics.

Sex Determination, A blood test can identify your bird as male or female in species in which both sexes look identical.

Microchip Identification, An AVID microchip is an affordable, permanent way to identify birds that weight at least 80 grams.

Polyomavirus Vaccine, We encourage vaccination against Polyomavirus for parrots that are exposed to other birds.

Special Hospital Facilities, We have a STORZ endoscope for advanced diagnostic and therapeutic procedures. A LYON intensive care unit provides heat, humidity and oxygen to critical patients. An AIRSEPT ultrasonic nebulizer allows for administration of antibiotics for birds with respiratory distress. Please ask a staff member to give you a tour of our facilities!

Aviary Visits, Special arrangements can be made for larger collections of birds to provide practical, on-site flock health management.

Behavioral Consultation, We can help provide solutions for birds with special behavioral concerns such as feather picking, screaming and biting. Often, a home-visit is highly beneficial.

Special Diets, We carry *Harrison's* certified organic pelleted diets in a variety of sizes and formulations.

Emergency Care, The emergency support staff at the Greater buffalo Veterinary Emergency Clinic works closely with us should extra assistance be needed when our hospital is closed. If your bird experiences changes in behavior or appetite such as: excessive sleepiness, fluffing up, coughing, sneezing, vomiting, diarrhea, discharge from the eye or nostrils, lameness, swellings, or bleeding, please call 839-4043. Our doctors provide on-call service if needed.

Our Staff, Our friendly and knowledgeable receptionists, technicians and assistants have been carefully selected to provide compassionate, quality care for your beloved pet.