



TOUCHPOINTS & CARRIERS

Background:

Humans are often vehicles for carrying a wide variety of animal viruses into a facility. They may have other sick pets at home, have recently visited an animal shelter or other animal care facility, touching a variety of surfaces along the way. Unclean hands, shoes, clothes and other inanimate objects can transfer viruses and bacteria to animals from surfaces touched by customers and staff. Even protective gloves, that are designed to protect your hands, can transfer viruses and bacteria from one surface to another.

Touchpoints:

Think about the number of surfaces that we touch daily, that other people touch or surfaces that we touch that animals may also touch. We call these surfaces **“Touchpoints”**. Touchpoints should be the focus, when implementing an effective disease prevention protocol. Here are a few Touchpoints:



Doorknobs & Handles

Counter Tops

Waiting Area Furniture

Pet Scales

Cage Handles

What are some other Touchpoints in your facility?

Carriers:

There are several infectious agents, including Canine Parvovirus and Feline Panleukopenia, that can live on mobile surfaces for a very long time. We call these surfaces, **“Carriers”**. These carriers can make it very easy for an infectious agent to travel from one area to the next, one person to the next and one animal to the next. Here are a few “Carriers”:



Shoes & Boots

Clothing

Cleaning Tools

Cart/Cage Wheels

What are some other Carriers in your facility?

Good Practice Ideas for the Pet and Worker:

Make cleaning and disinfecting **“Touchpoints”** and **“Carriers”** part of your daily cleaning and disinfecting protocol.

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