

List of Zoonotic Diseases and Small Animal Communicable Diseases

Zoonoses are diseases that can be transmitted to humans from animals. It is important for us as massage therapists to know these diseases and the signs and symptoms of these diseases. If you come into contact with an animal that is displaying the signs and symptoms of any of these disease please get the animal to a DVM immediately and make sure you sanitize all surfaces that have come in contact with the animal including yourself. Like nurses in the human health field veterinary doctors, technicians, veterinary assistants and other animal health care professionals have a higher risk of infection than the general public so follow all safe sanitary guidelines when working with animals that are infectious to humans or contagious to other animals. Wash all surfaces that have come into contact with the animal with a 10% bleach solution. All fomites should be thoroughly cleansed.

Go to this link to find a list of zoonotic diseases. <http://www.merckvetmanual.com/mvm/index.jsp?cfile=htm/bc/220100.htm>. You should save this link to the Merck Veterinary Manual to a folder on your computer that is named Veterinary Pathology. The Merck manual is free online and whenever you have an animal presenting a pathological condition that has been diagnosed by a DVM you will be able to read up on the condition and become better informed about the recommended treatment for these conditions.

The major canine infectious diseases are as follows:

1. Canine Infectious Gastroenteritis
2. Infectious Canine Hepatitis
3. Canine Distemper
4. Infectious Tracheobronchitis
5. Rabies
6. Canine Papillomavirus Infection
7. Canine Herpesvirus Infection
8. Leptospirosis
9. Canine Brucellosis

Major feline infectious diseases are as follows:

1. Feline Infectious Respiratory Disease
2. Feline Panleucopenia
3. Feline Coronavirus
4. Feline Leukaemia Virus Infection
5. Feline Immunodeficiency Virus Infection
6. Feline Cowpox
7. Feline Spongiform Encephalopathy

The link to more information to these infectious diseases and their common treatments is: <http://www.provet.co.uk/infectiousdiseases/5a57ea5.htm>. Put this in your pathology bookmark folder and you will have an accurate reference link to a list of infections and treatment protocols for viral, bacterial and protozoal infections. When in doubt refer out to the DVM and follow the DVM's suggestions for treatment and sanitation.

The most common zoonoses we will run into is ringworm and mange. We should not treat these animals until they have been cured of these diseases. If for some reason we do come into contact with these two diseases we should actually isolate any fomites that have come into contact with the animal and either discard them in the trash or clean all of the fomites with an agent that is recommended by the DVM. What are fomites? Fomites are objects or materials that are likely to carry infections such as clothes, utensils, and furniture.

Zoonoses that can be passed from animals to humans through contact with the animals, fomites or fecal matter contact are:

1. Cowpox
2. Foot-and-Mouth diseases
3. Rabies
4. Chagas' disease
5. Giardiasis
6. Leishmaniasis
7. Microsporidiosis

8. Toxoplasmosis (spread by sand fleas)
9. Candidiasis
10. Blastomycosis
11. Dermatophytosis (ringworm)
12. Sporotrichosis
13. Tick Bite Fever
14. Ehrlichiosis
15. Q Fever
16. Rocky Mountain Spotted Fever
17. Spotted Fever group
18. Cryptosporidiosis
19. Hantavirus
20. Mange
21. Bordetella
22. Campylobacter Enteritis
23. Capnocytophaga infection
24. Cat Scratch Disease
25. Leptospirosis
26. Listeriosis
27. Pasteurellosis
28. Plague
29. Salmonellosis
30. Streptococcal infection
31. Tuberculosis
32. Yersiniosis