

2025 HPAI Guidelines: Quarantine

Guide to Setting Up an Effective Quarantine Space for Wildlife Rehabilitators

Purpose of This Document

This guide is designed to help wildlife rehabilitators establish an effective quarantine area within their facility or home-based care setting. Quarantine is a critical measure that protects both new admissions and existing patients from the introduction and spread of disease.

What is Quarantine?

Quarantine is both a **physical space** and a **set of biosecurity practices**. It is not an indication that an animal is known to be diseased, but rather a **preventive measure** that allows for safe observation and assessment of new arrivals. Effective quarantine is built on understanding **disease transmission pathways**, including:

- Direct contact
 - Aerosols
 - Bodily fluids
 - Contaminated surfaces or equipment
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Core Requirements for Effective Quarantine

An effective quarantine setup should include the following components:

- ✓ A **separate, enclosed quarantine area** — ideally with independent or controlled airflow
 - ✓ **Clear signage** indicating quarantine status and restricting access
 - ✓ **Dedicated PPE** (gloves, gowns, masks) used only within the quarantine zone
 - ✓ A **hand hygiene station** at entry/exit points (soap, disinfectant, or hand sanitiser)
 - ✓ Readily available **disinfection supplies** for surfaces and equipment
 - ✓ **Dedicated feeding, cleaning, and handling equipment** that stays within the quarantine area
 - ✓ **Entry/exit protocols** that include correct donning and doffing of PPE
 - ✓ Appropriate **waste disposal systems** for contaminated materials
 - ✓ Consistent **record-keeping** of animal health status and daily observations
 - ✓ **Staff and volunteer training** in disease transmission and quarantine protocols
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Visual Aids and Signage

Clear, visual reminders improve compliance and understanding. Use posters and signs throughout the facility to reinforce best practices. Examples include:

- **Handwashing Instructions**
[How to Handwash in a Clinical Setting \(HQSC\)](#)
- **PPE Donning and Doffing**
[Correct PPE Protocol \(Hartmann Science Center\)](#)
- **Cleaning and Disinfection Protocols**
Include: what products to use, required contact times, and task order
- **Facility Marking Tools**
Use tape on the floor to indicate:
 - Direction of movement
 - Clean vs. dirty zones
 - PPE donning/doffing areas

Important Reminder

An effective quarantine space **does not need to be complex or expensive**—it simply needs to meet the objective of **preventing disease transmission**. Simple, well-thought-out measures that are **consistently applied** are often the most effective.

Recommended watching:

HPAI in the USA: Wildlife rehabilitation perspective from the trenches, Dr R Duerr, IBR, 6 Dec 2023

<https://youtu.be/EpiMcG-lfs4>

Info session: Wildlife Health Australia HPAI Risk Mitigation Toolbox

<https://vimeo.com/966294097/4e0ce9e78e?share=copy>