

# Small Mammal Case History Sheets

## (essential) questions



**Guinea Pig**

Age ..... Sex ..... Male/Female (always confirm by checking)

Species ..... Colour ..... Weight ..... Kg

Other in-contacts ..... Yes/No If Yes, Sex ..... Male/Female

Cage size, material and location.....

Frequency of cleaning ..... Disinfectant used.....

Diet (Full details) .....

..... Last meal .....

Supplements (type & frequency) ..... Source of water .....

Faecal pellets (describe and examine, gross & microscopic) .....

Evident at perineal region ..... Yes/No When were faeces last passed? .....

Evident in box/container ..... Yes/No Passed on examination ..... Yes/No

Urination..... Yes/No Passed on examination ..... Yes/No

Previous history of illness or treatments.....

.....

Owner's current concern .....

.....



**Hamster**



**Gerbil**



**Rat**



**Mouse**



**Ferret**

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## (essential) questions



**Guinea Pig**

**Mouth:-**

Any problems eating?

Any wetness or staining around the mouth (may indicate malocclusion)?

Any discomfort?

For **Hamsters**, are pouches .....Full/Empty/Impacted?

For **Guinea Pigs**, are there any crusting lesions of the lips?



**Hamster**

**Incisors:-**

Are these normal, overlong or missing?

Is there normal occlusion?

Are they loose?

Any signs of abnormal growth?

Any abnormal wearing?

If any problems, radiographs were normal .....Yes/No



**Gerbil**

**Mandible:-**

Are there any lumps on its ventral surface?

If yes,

Firm/Hard/Soft?

Radiographs were normal .....Yes/No

Needle biopsy .....Yes/No



**Rat**

**Molars:-** (will need Sedation/Anaesthesia to examine properly):-

Any history of previous problems or dental treatment?

Any discomfort on palpation through cheek?

Any spurs?

Any displaced teeth?

Any loose or missing teeth?

Any abnormal wearing of crowns?

If abnormalities,

Radiographs were normal .....Yes/No

Blood sample (for Ca & P) taken .....Yes/No



**Mouse**

**Nose:-**

Any discharge or staining?

If yes, Sample (for Culture/Cytology) taken .....Yes/No

For gerbils, any fur loss/rub lesions?



**Ferret**

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## (essential) questions



**Guinea Pig**

**Eyes** (gross and ophthalmoscopic examination required):-

Any discharge or staining of medial canthus/cheek?

If yes,

In **Rodents**, are there "red tears"?

Sample (for Culture/Cytology) taken ..... Yes/No

Any fur loss around orbit?

Any sign of discomfort or blepharospasm?

If yes,

Flourescein was Positive/Negative

Local anaesthetic used to examine ..... Yes/No

Foreign Body present ..... Yes/No

Any corneal lesion?

If yes, flourescein was ..... Positive/Negative

Any conjunctivitis or scleral congestion?

If yes,

Sample (for Culture/Cytology) taken ..... Yes/No

Any opacity of the lens?

Any retinal lesions?



**Hamster**



**Gerbil**

**Ears:-**

Any swelling?

If yes,

Firm/Hard/Soft?

Needle biopsy ..... Yes/No

Any fur loss?



**Rat**

**Chest** (auscultation is required):-

Is breathing normal?

Any crackles/râles?

Any murmurs?

If abnormalities, radiographs were taken..... Yes/No



**Mouse**

**Abdomen** (auscultation is required):-

Any evidence of bloating?

If **Guinea Pig**, Any evidence of pregnancy?

Is abdomen empty?

Any solid mass?

Are there normal gut sounds?

Any abnormal borborygmi?

Are the intestines silent?

If abnormalities, radiographs were taken..... Yes/No



**Ferret**

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**Guinea Pig**

**Fur/Skin:-**

- Any pruritus?
- Any fur loss?
- In **Chinchillas**, any fur slip?
- Any skin lesions?
- Any evidence of self-inflicted trauma?
- Any swelling?
  - If yes (other than oedema),
    - Firm/Hard/Soft?
    - Needle biopsy ..... Yes/No
- Any crusting lesions?
- Any papules?
- Is there excessive scurf?
- Any evidence of obvious parasitic infestation?
  - If any abnormalities,
    - Skin scrapes/brushings ..... Yes/No
    - Skin biopsies ..... Yes/No
    - Samples (for Culture) taken ..... Yes/No



**Hamster**



**Gerbil**

**Perineal area:-**

- Any faecal contamination?
- Any urine staining?
- Any vaginal discharge?
- In **Guinea Pig boars**, any smegma build-up? ..... Yes/No



**Rat**

**Feet & Limbs:-**

- Any lameness/limping?
- Any abnormal angles?
- Any staining of fur on front legs?
- Any evidence of swelling, especially of joints?
  - If yes,
    - Firm/Hard/Soft?
    - Needle biopsy ..... Yes/No
- Are the claws overgrown?
- Any pododermatitis?
  - If abnormalities, radiographs were taken..... Yes/No



**Mouse**



**Ferret**