

Animal Training Plan Approval Form San Francisco Zoo

Department - Primates Species – Chimpanzee

Animal name - Maggie Accession number

Behavior to train or modify - hand injection with two people

Reinforcers – High value approved food items, verbal praise

Trainer/Mentor - Debbie

Assistant trainers - Amy, Sarah

Curatorial approval _____

Vet approval, or Director of Training (if needed) _____

Safety concerns if any – none, follow established safety protocols

Start date _____ Completion date _____

Training Goal (Please describe the completed behavior and its criteria.)

Hold for a hand injection with two people

Shaping Plan Approximations (List the training steps in sequential order).

1. Continue to work the shoulder present behavior with one person. Strengthen the “Steady” to hold in position for 15-30 seconds.
2. Have a second person stand nearby while you train.
3. Have the second person stand next to you while you train.
4. Have the second person touch the Maggie with a blunt object
5. Increase pressure with the blunt object
6. While applying pressure with the blunt object poke with a blunt needle.
7. Practice with all safety equipment needed during the procedure (i.e. goggles, mask)
8. Puncture the skin with a small needle while applying the blunt pressure (jackpot if she holds until the bridge/release)
9. Practice the behavior without puncturing the skin 7-10 times before injecting.
10. When ready inject the animal

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***NOTES: You don't want to work on more than one criteria change at a time but you can work different elements of the behavior during different sessions or responses.**

You want to practice all aspects of what will be expected when the injection is given including time of day, food or no food, and safety equipment to be worn.

Make sure the reinforcers used are high value. Motivation to participate is important.

Don't over work a behavior. If you get 1-3 good responses in a session move on to something else or end the session.

When we give injections we are only inserting the needle one time. Do not poke an animal multiple times during a set up. One poke will allow her to relax and keep the behavior positive.

Minnie reacts to the sight of the needle even when it is used with other animals. Continue bringing out your medical kit and letting her see the practice syringe and blunt needle on a daily basis. She has greatly improved since you started this practice. Keep it going!