



Use cases from the clinic and field

Transport of Lion at Six Flags Discovery Kingdom

Background

Kelly is a senior RVT that has been with Six Flags for more than 11 years. Working with a variety of big cats, large mammals and marine mammals (dolphin, sea lions, etc.) poses a number of unique needs and challenges. Very often they must treat animals away from the convenience of an exam or operating room. A small, portable and reliable monitor was needed to provide a better level of care for animals of Discovery Kingdom.

Clinical Story

Working with large animals in their enclosures for quite some time, we have been looking for a portable and convenient device to monitor vitals. With the VetCorder we now have a solution that we carry with us to monitor heart rate, SpO2, and ECG.

When we need to work on a big cat, we have to blow dart them. This means two darts to tranquilize and one as a distraction until the cat goes down after 10-20 minutes and we can start the procedure.



The sedatives we use give a good 45-minute range so there is no need for supplementary anesthesia. We get blood and radiographs, deliver vaccines and or medicines if needed, then wake up and release.

Results

The VetCorder is perfect for use in the lion's enclosure. The small size, ease of use and only 2-lead connection as well as battery power match up perfectly with our needs. Also, the Bluetooth option, allows us to monitor the animal a short distance away with another display. Prior to the VetCorder, when we'd transport an animal, we had to take a big bulky monitor on a stand with us and then lay down in the back with the animal to hold the monitor, as we'd drive across the park.

“Our vets love the VetCorder for dealing with big cats. Now when they go out and do tracking research with mountain lions, they automatically take the VetCorder into the field with them”

*Kelly Smith-Goulet, RVT
Six Flags Discovery Kingdom*

